NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 2.5.2

The following notification, received from the delegation of the United Kingdom, is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.4 of the Agreement.

80.8.1 - The Department of Trade intends to introduce regulations concerning the ignitability of upholstered furniture, (CCCN 94.01). The reason for the introduction of the regulations is the protection of health and safety. The regulations, to be known as the Upholstered Furniture (Safety) Regulations 1980, will require all but certain defined types of domestic upholstered seating furniture supplied in the United Kingdom to be labelled with a prescribed warning if it is not capable of satisfying tests specified in British Standard 5852: Part 1: 1979 for resistance to ignition by cigarettes and a simulated match flame. As from 31 December 1982, all upholstered furniture (apart from the exempted categories) supplied by manufacturers, importers and own-brand dealers will be required to satisfy the cigarette test, but warning labelling will continue to be a permitted alternative option (at least in the initial regulations) for furniture which cannot satisfy the simulated match test.

If approved by Parliament, the proposed regulations (to be made under the Consumer Safety Act 1978) will come into operation on 1 October 1980.