NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.4.

1. Party to Agreement notifying: JAPAN

2. Agency responsible: Consumers Economy Division, Food and Marketing Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

3. Notified under Article 2.5.2, 2.6.1, 7.3.2, 7.4.1, Other:

4. Products covered (CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading):
Structural plywood (CCCN: 44.15)

5. Title: Amendment to Japanese Agricultural Standards concerning structural plywood

6. Description of content: The following amendments will be made to enable the use of softwood as structural plywood:

   (1) The bonding ability of plywood composed of softwood will be judged on the basis of wood failure and shear strength.

   (2) The quality standards with respect to layer surface will be relaxed on the condition that the strength does not decrease.

   (3) Class 2 plywood must be composed of wood whose strength is equivalent or superior to the strength of Engelmann spruce.

   (4) Component veneers in class 2 plywood will be specified in terms of the number of plies according to the thickness of plywood, thickness of veneer and proportion of the total thickness of veneer.

   (5) With respect to standards relating to the thickness of class 2 plywood, recommended standard thickness shall be applied instead of specified thickness.

   (6) Tolerance between nominal thickness and real thickness will be increased.

   (7) Strength of class 2 plywood will be judged by the bending test method. The test specimens in this case must be full-size panels.

7. Objective and rationale: Consumer protection

8. Relevant documents: Basic document is the Law Concerning Standardization and Proper Labelling of Agricultural and Forestry Products.

   The standards will appear in KAMPO (Official Government Gazette) when adopted.

9. Proposed dates of adoption and entry into force: Not yet determined

10. Final date for comments: 29 November 1982

11. Texts available from: National enquiry point or address of other body: