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

1. Party to Agreement notifying: JAPAN

2. Agency responsible: Ministry of International Trade and Industry

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): Water heaters, hot plates, grills.

5. Title: Amendment to the Law Concerning the Securing of Safety and the Optimization of Transaction of Liquefied Petroleum Gas.

6. Description of content:
   A. Registration of foreign manufacturers:
      (1) Those who manufacture class I liquefied petroleum gas apparatus (hereinafter referred to as "LPG apparatus"), etc. in foreign countries in order to export to Japan will be able to be registered by the Minister of International Trade and Industry according to the classification of the apparatus.
      (2) Regulations concerning the procedures for domestic manufacturers' registration, etc. will apply mutatis mutandis to foreign manufacturers.
   
   B. Type approval for foreign registered manufacturers:
      (1) Foreign registered manufacturers will be able to obtain the Minister's approval of the type of the class I LPG apparatus to be manufactured and exported to Japan according to the classification of the type.
      (2) Regulations concerning the procedures for type approval of domestic registered manufacturers and their obligations (the obligations to comply with the standards, etc.) will apply mutatis mutandis to foreign registered manufacturers.

7. Objective and rationale: To ensure in terms of legal systems that there be no discrimination between nationals and non-nationals in certification procedures.


10. Final date for comments: The purpose of this amendment is to proceed further with the opening of the Japanese market by ensuring in terms of legal systems that there be no discrimination between nationals and non-nationals in certification procedures, in the light of the views and requests presented by Japan's trading partners.

   Given the urgent nature of this legislation, it has been decided by the Cabinet to present the legislation promptly to the current session of the Diet. Such being the case, there will be no comment period for this legislation.

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