**NOTIFICATION**

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

1. Party to Agreement notifying: **JAPAN**

2. Agency responsible: 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): Formula feeds etc. (CCCN 0507, 2301, 2307).

5. Title: Amendment to the Law Concerning Safety Assurance and Quality Improvement of Feed.

6. Description of content: A. Approval system related to foreign manufacturers

   (1) Approval by the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries to the testing organization.

   Should an organization of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries or a testing organization designated by the Ministry deem it necessary for the smooth implementation of the test of feed under the official standard, the foreign manufacturer (for the purpose of this section, the foreign manufacturer is the person who manufactures in foreign countries the feeds for which standards are established for sale in Japan) of the product shall carry out the sampling and place the certification mark on the product with prior approval of the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, provided that the judgment of whether the said product meets the official standard and other related work are done by the organization of the Ministry or the designated testing organization.

   (2) Permission of foreign manufacturer.

   A foreign manufacturer of a product qualified for a certification mark shall be permitted to indicate said mark on the product as necessary prior to the test when permitted to do so by the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

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

8. Relevant documents: Basic document is the Law Concerning Safety Assurance and Quality Improvement of Feed

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

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 nonnationals 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 or address of other body:

   83-0919