

**GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE**

RESTRICTED
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14 July 1993
Special Distribution

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

NOTIFICATION

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

1.	Party to Agreement notifying: <u>NETHERLANDS</u>
2.	Agency responsible: Bijzondere commissie voor de volksgezondheid van de Benelux Economische Unie
3.	Notified under Article 2.5.2 [X], 2.6.1 [], 7.3.2 [], 7.4.1 [], other:
4.	Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading): 20.09 and 22.02
5.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Draft Ruling by the Committee of Ministers of the Benelux Economic Union to Amend the Ruling on the Harmonization of Legislation Governing Lemonades, m(88) 13 (8 pages)
6.	Description of content: Lemonades, here soft drinks. Relaxation of the Benelux ruling of 21 November 1988 regarding the harmonization of legislations governing lemonades, m(88) 13.
7.	Objective and rationale: To ensure legal certainty and prevent misleading the consumer, the Benelux countries have decided to relax the harmonized legislation governing lemonades. A separate article of the (draft) ruling stipulates that the provisions contained in the regulations attached to the relevant ruling shall be without prejudice to the provisions of the treaty establishing the EEC, more specifically Articles 30 to 36 inclusive of that treaty. In addition, a separate article stipulates that the current Benelux regulation in question shall be withdrawn as soon as the EEC directive governing foodstuff additives, foodstuff hygiene and labelling of foodstuff ingredients in terms of quantity comes into force. So far as the permissible quantities of the additives in lemonades, here soft drinks, have been amended in the current Benelux regulation in respect of the previous Benelux harmonization text, such regulation fully corresponds to that in the most recent version of the draft EEC regulation in question. To avoid any misunderstandings by the European Commission Departments, the preamble to this decision refers to the notifications of the Commission (publication sheets c 271 dated 24 October 1989 and c 270 dated 15 October 1991).

8.	Relevant documents: The relevant Benelux memorandum on the contribution to complete the internal market in the field of foodstuffs, m(88) 117, the decision of the Committee of Ministers of the Benelux Economic Union regarding the harmonization of legislations governing lemonades, m(88) 13.
9.	Proposed date of adoption and entry into force: 6 October 1993
10.	Final date for comments: 5 October 1993
11.	Texts available from: National enquiry point <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or address of other body: