

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

TBT/Notif.93.77

4 March 1993

## TARIFFS AND TRADE

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: Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Management and Fisheries
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):
5. Title and number of pages of the notified document: Akk Regulation on Wine Packaging 1992. (10 pages)
6. Description of content: Wine. The regulation prohibits the use of wine capsules of lead or containing lead. Secondly, labels of wine bottled in the Netherlands must be marked with a community logo. Also, a recycling symbol on recyclable glass, paper and cardboard will become compulsory. Finally, as of 1 January 1996, trade in wine bottled in the Netherlands, having a capsule packaging or outer packaging containing poly vinyl chloride (pvc) will be prohibited in the Netherlands. Without prejudice to the provisions contained in Article 9, the regulation will come into force upon Ministerial approval, which will naturally not be given before completion of the current notification procedure.
7. Objective and rationale: In order to protect the environment, the Government and industry signed a covenant in 1991 which stipulates steps to be taken with regard to packaging of wine bottles. The present regulation seeks to ensure that steps are complied with. Part of the measures put forward are based on the Regulations (EEC) Nos. 2356/91, 2357/91 and 3895/91.ee, whilst a further part anticipate the EEC Regulations concerning the use of lead capsules and packaging (waste). As for the use of pvc, so as not to discriminate against Dutch bottlers compared to other EEC member States, a generous transitional period has been accorded.
8. Relevant documents: The Business Organization Act. Establishment (Principal Commodity Board for Arable Products) Act 1954. Staatsblad 451.
9. Proposed date of adoption and entry into force: 10 May 1993
10. Final date for comments: 30 April 1993
11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address of other body: