

**GENERAL AGREEMENT
ON TARIFFS AND TRADE**

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(94-0202)

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 Housing, Regional Development and Environment
3.	Notified under Article 2.5.2 [X], 6.1 [], 7.3.2 [], 7.4.1 [], other:
4.	Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): 85.06
5.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Draft Order on the Disposal of Batteries, Articles 4, 5 and 6 (25 pages)
6.	Description of content: The draft applies to batteries intended for household use. It concerns all batteries, irrespective of their composition, which are sold separately on the market or which are contained in consumer appliances. The draft also contains the existing national provisions implementing Directive 91/157/EEC. The draft introduces (Articles 5 and 6) a regulation governing deposits on returnable batteries. It concerns all batteries intended for household use in private homes, but also in offices, shops, institutions and companies. The regulation also covers batteries contained in consumer appliances. The batteries shall be provided with the indication "deposit" and the amount involved. The draft also encompasses the provisions already laid down which implement Directive 91/157/EEC (Order of 15 September 1992, Stb. 486), whereby the obligation for the batteries to be removable is extended to cover all types of batteries contained in appliances.
7.	Objective and rationale: The point of departure for Dutch environmental policy on waste is to look for options to avoid or reduce waste. The manufacturer or importer of a product assumes great responsibility in this respect. Within the framework of this policy, the aim concerning batteries is as follows: to be collected separately and recycled as much as possible. The introduction of a regulation governing deposits may prompt a high collection percentage in the short term (current collection percentage: 55 per cent). This regulation is combined with a processing regulation which requires manufacturers and importers to process batteries. This implies the extraction of at least mercury, cadmium, lead and zinc.

<p>8. Relevant documents:</p> <p>(a) Draft Order Disposal of Batteries. The entire draft order is appended to allow assessment of the notified articles in context.</p> <p>(b) Environment Management Act. The draft is based on Articles 10.4, paragraph 2, (a) and (e), Article 10.6, Article 10.8 (a) and Article 15.32, paragraph 1, (b) and paragraph 4 of the Environment Management Act.</p>
<p>9. Proposed date of adoption and entry into force: 1 July 1995</p>
<p>10. Final date for comments: 31 March 1994</p>
<p>11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address and telefax number of other body:</p>