

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

TARIFFS AND TRADE

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Special Distribution

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

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COMMUNICATION FROM MEXICO

The following communication, dated 21 October 1992, has been received from Mexico with the request that it be circulated to members of the Committee.

The Government of Mexico published in the Official Gazette of 3 August 1992 a Resolution (Acuerdo) specifying the tariff items of the General Import Tariff which comprise goods subject to Mexican official standards of a mandatory nature and provisions relating to labelling, marking or inscriptions providing commercial information (Annex 1).

The main purpose of this Resolution is to compile the regulatory framework of mandatory Mexican official standards currently in force, which are identified according to the tariff item, product description and date of publication in the Official Gazette in each case. The Resolution also lists tariff items relating to textiles, clothing and accessories; and tanned hides and skins subject to requirements relating to commercial information. The goods subject to mandatory standard NOM-J-503/2-1991 are also listed.

A Public Notice relating to the procedures for demonstrating compliance with mandatory Mexican official standards and provisions on labelling, marking or inscriptions providing commercial information was also published on the same date (Annex 2).

The Mexican Government is making a serious effort to update, improve and clarify its system of commercial standards, as is borne out by the publication of the above-mentioned provisions.

My authorities believe that it would be desirable, for reasons of transparency, to inform the other signatories to the Code concerned of these provisions; such notification is without prejudice to the trade impact of these provisions on third countries. We should therefore be obliged if you would arrange for this letter and the above-mentioned provisions to be given the appropriate follow-up in the Committee.

A copy of the Resolution in question is on file in the GATT Secretariat and can be consulted by interested Parties.