

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

TARIFFS AND TRADE

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COMMUNICATION FROM THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

The following communication, dated 5 November 1992, has been received from the delegation of the Russian Federation and is intended to enable the Secretariat and interested parties to become acquainted with the introduction of a certification system of certain goods in the Russian Federation. The same information has been distributed in document L/7117.

I transmit herewith the unofficial translation of information related to the introduction of a certification system for certain goods in the Russian Federation.

CERTIFICATION IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

In accordance with the Russian Federation Law on "Protection of consumers' rights" an obligatory certification system for certain goods has been established. According to this System, the goods which are subject to safety, health or environmental standards as well as means of life and health protection should be certified. The National Certification Body is the State Committee on Standards of the Russian Federation.

The products produced in the Russian Federation or imported into its territory such as foodstuffs, consumer goods coming into contact with foodstuffs, drinking water and exposed parts of the human body, products of engineering and instrument-making industries for everyday necessities, goods for children, perfumes and cosmetics, as well as chemical products for everyday life, livestock farming and plant-growing, are all subject to obligatory certification.

The State Customs Committee and the State Committee on Standards of the Russian Federation adopted "A temporary order for importation of goods subject to the confirmation of its safety". This order will be effective from 1 January 1993.

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The "temporary order " covers all products liable to obligatory certification which are subject to exportation and importation or to countertrade destined for juridical and physical persons importing goods into the Russian Federation as well as organizations which control the safety of imported goods.

The "order" states that:

- the document which confirms the safety of the goods is a certificate of compliance issued upon results of State certification or a document issued as a result of recognition of a foreign certificate by the State Committee on Standards of the Russian Federation or by a body of certification of similar goods or by another body authorized by the State Committee on Standards for these purposes, which confirms the availability of the certificate;
- the above-mentioned documents are to be presented by the importer to the Customs for examination before crossing the customs border;
- the importer of goods which are imported without the safety confirming document has the right to submit during the established customs storage timetable an application to a local or a regional body of the State Committee on Standards of the Russian Federation or to another appropriate body on certification to exercise the work on certification or to recognize a foreign certificate.

"The temporary order" states also that corresponding provisions of safety measures for the goods imported into the Russian Federation and the confirmation of these requirements by means of certification should be introduced in foreign trade agreements and contracts.