

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

TBT/Notif.90.165

5 June 1990

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>FINLAND</u>
2. Agency responsible: Ministry of the Environment
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): Protective chemicals
5. Title: Decision of the Ministry of the Environment on Advance Approval and Notifications of Protective Chemicals (available in Finnish, 3 pages + Annexes 7 pages)
6. Description of content: According to Chemicals Act (744/89) the manufacturer or importer shall obtain the approval of the National Board of Waters and the Environment for wood preserving chemical and slimicide (protective chemicals). A protective chemical shall not be manufactured, imported, delivered for sale or used without advance approval. If a wood preserving chemical is intended for use as a paint, it may be manufactured and imported without advance approval. A protective chemical may be manufactured and delivered without advance approval if the chemical is intended only for export. Tests with a protective chemical may correspondingly be made without advance approval in order to determine its properties, effects and utility. In these three cases, however, the National Board of Waters and the Environment shall be notified. The draft decision of the Ministry of the Environment contains the documentation requirements for the advance approval of protective chemicals. Administrative, chemical, physical, technical, toxicological and ecotoxicological information on the protective chemical is required for the assessing of the risk to human health and the environment. The approval is granted for a period of eight years at most.

7. Objective and rationale: Human health and environmental protection

8. Relevant documents: The Decision will be published in the Statutes of Finland.

9. Proposed dates of adoption and entry into force: 1 September 1990

10. Final date for comments: 31 July 1990

11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [x] or address of other body: