

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

TBT/Notif.90.285
26 September 1990

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>BELGIUM</u>
2. Agency responsible: Special Commission for Public Health of the Benelux Economic Union - Rue de la Régence 39, B-1000 Brussels
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): Foodstuffs
5. Title: Draft Decision of the Committee of Ministers of the Benelux Economic Union Concerning Maximum Content of Certain Heavy Metals in Foodstuffs
6. Description of content: The countries of the Benelux Economic Union intend to harmonize and fix jointly maximum authorized contents of cadmium, lead and mercury, expressed in mg./kg., in a number of basic foodstuffs.
7. Objective and rationale: Pending a Community regulation in this area, the Benelux countries wish, in order to protect consumer health, to set maximum authorized contents for the most dangerous heavy metals from the toxicological standpoint which may be present in ordinary foodstuffs. In the Netherlands, authorized maximum contents have already been fixed by law. These levels have to be adapted to free movement within the Benelux area.
8. Relevant documents: Benelux Memorandum concerning the contribution to the completion of the internal market in the area of foodstuffs, M(88)117
9. Proposed dates of adoption and entry into force: 60 days
10. Final date for comments:
11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address of other body: