

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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STATE-TRADING

Notification Pursuant to Article XVII:4(a)

SWEDEN

The following communication, dated 10 May 1993, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Sweden.

I. Enumeration of State-trading enterprises

The following enterprise and products seem to be covered by the provisions of Article XVII:

Enterprise

Vin and Sprit AB
(The Swedish Wine and Spirit Corporation)

Products

Alcoholic beverages, liqueur, wine and strong beer.

II. Reason and purpose for introduction and maintaining State-trading enterprises

The State-trading enterprise mentioned above is maintained principally for reasons of a social, temperance, political and financial nature. Trade is regulated basically by the "Lagen om handel med drycker" (Trade in Beverages Act) on 12 May 1977.

III. Description of the functioning of the State-trading enterprises

The State-trading enterprise has, in principle, the exclusive right to import alcoholic beverages into Sweden. The State-trading enterprise also has the exclusive right to produce other alcoholic beverages but wine and beer.

The quantities imported are determined in accordance with commercial considerations.

Prices of imported products are fixed with regard to costs, profit and rates of taxation.

A small quantity of wines and a large quantity of other alcoholic beverages (vodka) are exported by the State-trading enterprise, while small quantities of wine and strong beer are exported by non State-trading wineries and breweries directly.

Prices of exported products are fixed in accordance with commercial considerations. Differences between export prices and domestic prices are due to the fact that export prices are wholesale prices while domestic prices are retail prices, also including taxes.

Long-term contracts are negotiated by the State-trading enterprise. No State-trading methods are used to fulfil contractual obligations entered into by the Government.

IV. Statistical information

Statistics with regard to production, imports and exports of alcoholic beverages are given in the Annex.

V. Reasons why no foreign trade has taken place (if this is the case) in the products affected

Does not apply.

VI. Additional information

None.

(Quantities of Alcoholic Beverages in Million Litres)
(Values in SEK Million)
(Figures for 1992 preliminary)

Commodity	Year	Production			Imports			Exports							
		Total	By State- trading enterprises		Total	By others		Total	By State- trading enterprises						
			Q	V		Q	V		Q	V	Q	V			
<u>Strong beer</u>															
HS 22.03.003	1990	153.4	1,507.3	-	-	153.4	1,507.3	16.9	110.1	1.1	6.0	-	-	1.1	6.0
	1991	n.a.	n.a.	-	-	n.a.	n.a.	21.6	141.1	2.9	8.7	-	-	2.0	8.7
	1992	n.a.	n.a.	-	-	n.a.	n.a.	20.7	142.3	2.8	9.7	-	-	2.8	9.7
<u>Wine</u>															
HS 22.04	1990	53.8	1,125.2	52.9	1,109.4	0.9	15.8	106.9	918.4	0.04	1.0	0.04	1.0	-	-
	1991	51.4	978.7	50.5	960.3	0.9	18.4	101.0	883.0	0.04	1.6	0.04	1.6	-	-
	1992	54.5	989.5	53.6	967.4	0.9	22.1	103.8	980.1	0.10	3.1	0.10	3.1	-	-
<u>Other alcoholic beverages</u>															
HS 22.05, 22.08 ex 22.08.100	1990	52.9	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	-	-	21.7	528.6	27.4	262.6	27.4	262.6	-	-
	1991	50.5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	-	-	22.2	579.9	25.7	275.1	25.7	275.1	-	-
	1992	53.6	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	-	-	22.1	631.3	29.5	330.3	29.5	330.3	-	-