

**GENERAL AGREEMENT
ON TARIFFS AND TRADE**

RESTRICTED
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16 December 1993
Special Distribution

(93-2191)

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: Ministry of Public Health and the Environment Inspectorate of Foodstuffs Cité Administrative de l'Etat-Vésale Boulevard Pacheco 19, Bte 5 1010 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. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): Market preparation of drinking water, except for natural mineral water and spring water to which regulations already apply.
5.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Draft Royal Order Concerning Drinking Water and Stand-Alone Water Distributors
6.	Description of content: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Conditions for the manufacture and marketing of drinking water prepared for marketing, except for natural mineral water and spring water to which regulations already apply:- procedure for the authorization of any treatment of drinking water (reverse osmosis, decontamination, alteration of the composition, softening);- special provisions on the treatment and appellation of drinking water and use of claims;- conditions for the marketing and exploitation of stand-alone water distributors ("refrigerated drinking fountains"...);- information procedure (notification) of the competent authority concerning the manufacture and marketing referred to in the draft Order mentioned.

7.	<p>Objective and rationale: The reason for the enactment of these provisions is to protect public health as a result <u>inter alia</u> of the development of technologies and activities related to water prepared for marketing for human consumption, except for natural mineral water and spring water to which health regulations already apply at the European level.</p> <p>These provisions take into account the opinion given on this subject by the Belgian Council of Hygiene.</p>
8.	Relevant documents:
9.	Proposed date of adoption and entry into force: Sixty days
10.	Final date for comments:
11.	Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address and telefax number of other body: