

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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Special Distribution

Multilateral Trade Negotiations

GROUP 3(e) - BASIC DOCUMENTATION

Inventory of Various Non-Tariff Barriers
Marketing Standards and Packaging and Labelling Regulations

Addendum

SOUTH AFRICA

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Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Chocolate (ex 18.06)	South Africa	Switzerland

(a) Description:

Marketing standard

(b) Comments by other countries:Switzerland

The regulation which requires that packs shall weigh a round figure e.g. 200 or 300 grs., is a serious obstacle to imports such as pralines and small boxes of chocolate.

(c) Comments by countries maintaining the measures:

Regulations in force in South Africa stipulate that prepacked quantities of sugar or chocolate confectionery under a mass of 50 grs. may be of any mass and need not bear a statement of quantity. Quantities from 50 grs. to 75 grs. may be of any mass, but must bear a statement of quantity, and thereafter the permissible quantities are 100 grs., 125 grs., 150 grs., 200 grs., 250 grs., 500 grs., 750 grs., 1 kg., 1.5 kg. and 2 kg. and integral multiples of 1 kg. above 2 kg., with declaration of quantity on packs.

As in the case of many other commodities which are subject to packaging in prescribed quantities, it is necessary to retain these provisions so as to ensure rationalized and orderly packaging and some measure of uniformity in the industries concerned.

The South African authorities are of the opinion that these provisions are not having a detrimental effect on the trade or on the consumption of these commodities. It is in fact understood that Switzerland has similar regulations in force, namely that, in terms of Article 319 paragraph 5 of the Swiss Food Legislation, the packaging of these commodities should be effected in the following quantities:

50 grs., 100 grs., 125 grs., 150 grs., 200 grs., 250 grs., 300 grs., or larger quantities.