

RESTRICTED

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# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Committee on Industrial Products

## INVENTORY OF NON-TARIFF BARRIERS

### Addendum

#### Standards Involving Imports and Domestic Goods

The barriers classified in this part were to be sub-classified as follows:

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B. Health and safety standards (includes sanitary regulations regarding vegetable products)	10
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General comments applicable to the whole section or not clearly confined to the restrictions of a single country:

Section of  
special  
reference

Notifying country and comment

AUSTRIA

Many countries apply provisions, originally introduced in order to safeguard interests of consumers and for reasons of public security, in a protectionist way. Rules of this kind adapted particularly to the requirements of domestic producers as well as obligations to submit imported products to time-consuming tests, restrict free trade and often render importations impossible.

F One country for example admits imports of steel bottles only when the raw material used for the production of these goods and the semi-manufactured products have been tested by a non-governmental organization in this country. As a consequence imported steel bottles are deprived of their competitiveness in this market since through this procedure costs for transportation are multiplied. A satisfactory solution of this problem could be found in admitting quality certificates issued in the country of origin of the products in question.

H In order to safeguard fair trading conditions many contracting parties require labelling and marking of imported products to show their origin. In some cases the relevant provisions are drafted and applied in a manner which is a hindrance to imports.

CANADA

A Standards for such goods as electrical equipment, gas appliances, F lumber, fire-fighting equipment and containers hinder exports in that approvals for imported goods by national agencies are time consuming and expensive. Problems arise in Europe, United States, Australia and South Africa ... Building codes and standards in Europe have been an impediment to Canadian sales.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

A Different and non-standardized homologation requirements concerning the construction of motor vehicles applied in many industrialized countries represent a further obstacle to the expansion of trade.

Various complicated and burdensome approving procedures are being applied in a number of European countries in respect of the admission of electrical domestic appliances.

Section of  
special  
reference

Notifying country and comment

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES

Unilateral or discriminatory establishment of technical standards, in particular with a view to the security and protection of consumers. There is a growing number of regulations of this kind in the various contracting parties. The Communities do not, of course, intend to dispute the fact that the establishment of such standards corresponds to a legitimate concern on the part of each government concerned; the Communities have found nevertheless that they are frequently drawn up in relation to specific characteristics of domestic production. Where no such characteristics have yet emerged, domestic production tends to segregate manufacturing processes, to condition the tastes and habits of consumers, and thus to partition the world market. In addition the conditions for applying these measures are difficult to ascertain abroad and frequently give rise to divergent interpretations. When in doubt exporters abstain, all the more so because they are required to observe other and possibly different standards that are in force in their own country or are recommended by international institutions.

B      In this context one may cite the example of the automobile safety standards which obliged manufacturers to make major adjustments in their products and not only confronted them with tremendous technical difficulties but also committed them to heavy expenditure. Some manufacturers were so discouraged by the multiplicity of requirements that they gave up any idea of adjusting production, and thus lost certain outlets.

The Communities would wish the general problem of technical standards to be examined on a multilateral basis.

In any case, the Communities request a revision of those standards that have shown themselves to be clearly discriminatory against exporters in particular the following practices:

(For cases see country sections) .

INDIA

B      Sanitary regulations - Admittedly the establishment of reasonable standards in regard to sanitation and health is necessary for the well being of the people, cattle, etc. of the importing country, but it is found that sometimes these sanitary regulations inhibit importation of certain products of developing countries. (See, for examples, Canada, Japan, Switzerland, United States.)

E      In some cases the licensing procedures are operated in such a way as to restrict import of jute fabrics over a certain width, so as to provide indirect protection to domestic industry in that line of manufacture.

Section of  
special  
reference

Notifying country and comment

NORDIC COUNTRIES

A There are several examples of safety regulations and other technical requirements having a restrictive influence on free international trade.

B A satisfactory solution to this problem can only be found through for instance harmonization of national regulations in this field and/or through arrangements for reciprocal approval. The Nordic countries are, however, aware of the difficulties involved in achieving that goal which would require co-operation with special technical bodies at national and international levels. At the present stage the Nordic countries suggest, therefore, that GATT should deal solely with the administrative regulations for the exercise of control to ascertain whether such technical requirements are being met. Under national rules such control is sometimes exercised in a most complex manner which is time consuming and costly for the producer in the foreign country.

The Nordic countries would be prepared after the general discussion of these questions in GATT to submit concrete examples of these types of non-tariff barriers.

H A large number of countries require that certain or, more rarely, all goods shall be marked with the name of the country of origin, sometimes supplemented by specified rules as to how such marking shall be made. Some countries require, in addition to indication of country of origin, markings for purposes other than mere information about country of origin. Pursuant to Article IX of the GATT Convention, the CONTRACTING PARTIES adopted a Resolution, dated 21 November 1958, designed to limit and simplify the requirements relating to origin marking. The Nordic countries wish to achieve a further strengthening of the said Convention and that also the question of other forms of marking be taken up for discussion in GATT. They find that requirements as to marking have highly restrictive effects on international trade and that they should therefore in most cases be abolished or at least simplified.

PORUGAL

A Certificates of analysis required. The requirement - at times apparently unjustified - of certificates of analysis, quality, etc. represents a serious obstacle to the trade of certain goods.

In addition to the certificates issued by the competent authorities of the exporting countries quite often certificates from the authorities of the importing country are required, thereby occasioning delays and risks to trade.

Section of  
special  
reference

Notifying country and comment

PORUGAL (cont'd)

Recently the Italian authorities have begun to require, in what seems to be a discriminatory manner, phytosanitary certificates for the importation of pineapples from certain countries.

Another characteristic instance is represented by the analysis of wines which in certain cases is compulsory, even when the respective specifications have already been certified by the authorities of the country of origin.

- E      Internal regulations. In certain countries there are complex and imprecise internal regulations, which in actual practice render the importation of certain goods impossible.
- F
- D      In a number of European countries, notably in France, the formalities and requirements in respect of the sale of foreign-made pharmaceutical specialities practically prevent their importation.

UNITED KINGDOM

The United Kingdom has included in the list differences between the standards, safety and health regulations of one country and another only where it appears that their operation discriminates against imported goods.

UNITED STATES

- B      The application of standards and regulations concerning health, sanitation and safety varies widely from country to country, as does the degree of trade restrictive effect. The United States has listed only a few such regulations which are clearly applied in an unnecessarily restrictive or discriminatory manner or are intended to be protective of domestic industry.

**MEASURES MAINTAINED BY SPECIFIC COUNTRIES<sup>1</sup>**

Country maintaining restriction and description	Products affected	Country notifying and comment
<b>A. Industrial standards</b>		
BRAZIL		UNITED KINGDOM: ---
A central government specification for hospital equipment is not necessarily accepted by the major cities health authorities, who issue their own specifications.		
Brazil is a federation of States. The central government establishes a minimum of requirements and the States are allowed to complement them taking into account all local needs and possibilities.		
CANADA		UNITED STATES: CSA approval only in Ontario.
Standards - Canadian Standards Association.	Electrical equipment	BRAZIL: The procedure is normally slow.
Testing standards.	Steel	EEC: Some Commonwealth countries' standards exclude Thomas process steel, the usual European type.
We know of no Canadian standards that would exclude Thomas process steel from Canada.		
FRANCE		
Standards.	Electrical consumer goods	CANADA: ---
		UNITED KINGDOM: In most cases the formality of obtaining a visa has little more than nuisance value but in some, particularly the aircraft industry and others where the main user is in the public sector, the visa system provides an effective barrier to imports. This applies to aviation components and some materials such as titanium alloys. It also applies to some mechanical handling equipment such as forklift trucks.
		Technical visas. These are required for a range of goods not subject to quantitative restrictions, officially to ensure that they conform with French health requirements, labelling procedures, performance specifications, etc.

<sup>1</sup> Material appearing in either column which is underlined is counter-comment by the country maintaining the restriction.

MEASURES MAINTAINED BY SPECIFIC COUNTRIES

Country maintaining restriction and description	Products affected	Country notifying and comment
A. <u>Industrial standards</u> (cont'd)		
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY		
Standards.	Plywood, building codes and electrical consumer goods	CANADA: --
GREECE	Passenger cars used as taxis	UNITED STATES: --
	Maximum permissible length for taxis is 5.0 metres, and maximum permissible horsepower is 20 (Greek horsepower).	
ITALY	Electrical consumer goods	CANADA: --
Standards.		
NEW ZEALAND	Stools	EEC: In some Commonwealth countries, standards preclude importation of Thomas processed steel, which is the normal European product.
	Standards for testing.	
PAKISTAN		
SOUTH AFRICA	Tractors, etc.	AUSTRALIA: Imports of some products are restricted to certain makes.
Standards.	CANADA: --	
Lumber and electrical appliances		

MEASURES MAINTAINED BY SPECIFIC COUNTRIES

Country maintaining restriction and description	Products affected	Country notifying and comment
<b>A. Industrial standards (cont'd)</b>		
UNITED KINGDOM		
Standards.	Plumbing and heating equipment, building codes, and domestic appliances	CANADA: --
UNITED STATES		
American Society of Mechanical Engineers - Seal of approval.	American Society of Mechanical Boilers and pressure vessels	UNITED KINGDOM: Certain States and municipalities adopt the A.S.M.E. standards for design and construction of boilers and pressure vessels. Inspection by American inspectors and stamping with the A.S.M.E. code seal is often obligatory. As the A.S.M.E. refuses the use of its seal to manufacturers outside North America, entry of foreign pressure equipment to those States and municipalities requiring the A.S.M.E. seal is effectively barred.
		A request by the Tank and Industrial Plant Association that the seal should be released to competent inspection authorities here (Lloyds or A.O.T.C.) was refused by A.S.M.E. in 1967.
EEC: (See general comments) ... The Communities request a revision of those standards that have shown themselves to be clearly discriminatory against exporters, in particular the following:		
- refusal by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers to issue its seal of approval, which is obligatory, to certain products when manufactured abroad.		

MEASURES MAINTAINED BY SPECIFIC COUNTRIES

Country maintaining restriction and description	Products affected	Country notifying and comment
A. Industrial standards (cont'd)		
UNITED STATES		
American Society of Mechanical Engineers - Seal of approval (cont'd).	Boilers and pressure vessels	JAPAN: The seals of inspection can only be stamped after the inspector, who holds the licence issued from the A.S.M.E., has inspected the actual process of construction of foregoing articles. As a result, whenever a producer of such articles accepts an order, he has to ask a qualified inspector to come to stay in Japan for a long period. Enormous expenses and time required . . . are significant trade barriers.
American Society for Testing Materials.	Steel	EEC: (See general comments) . . . the Communities request a revision of those standards that have shown themselves to be clearly discriminatory . . . <u>e.g.</u> . . . the standards of the American Society for Testing Materials . . . which permit the use solely of steel manufactured according to the Martin Bessemer acid or L.D. processes, and excluding the Thomas process which is generally used in Europe.
	Plumbing and heating equipment, lumber, pressure vessels, fire-fighting equipment and United States industrial fans	CANADA: Standards produce a variety of barriers; difficulty of having products tested and incorporation of modifications can be both expensive and time consuming. In some countries standards set by industrial or professional associations are applied as if with the force of law. Typical of these non-statutory standards are those maintained by underwriters' laboratories and the National Sanitation Foundation in the United States.
Underwriters' Laboratories.	Electrical equipment	EEC: (See general comments) . . . the Communities request a revision of those standards that have shown themselves to be clearly discriminatory . . . <u>e.g.</u> . . . the procedures for approval by the Underwriters' Laboratory of electrical equipment imported into the United States.

MEASURES MAINTAINED BY SPECIFIC COUNTRIES

Country maintaining restriction and description	Products affected	Country notifying and comment
<b>B. <u>Health and safety standards</u></b>		
AUSTRALIA		
Sanitary regulations and standards. Special certification.	Lumber Wooden containers	CANADA: Standards for such goods as electrical equipment, gas appliances, lumber, fire-fighting equipment and containers, hinder exports in that approvals for imported goods by national agencies are time-consuming and expensive.
CANADA		
Sanitary regulations applied by Canada.	Hides and skins, sausage casings	INDIA: It is found that sometimes these sanitary regulations inhibit importation of certain products of developing countries.
FRANCE		
Sanitary control or certificate required.	Meet preparations, wood planks	BRAZIL: --
ITALY		
Phytosanitary certificates.	Pineapples	PORTUGAL: Seems to be discriminatory. from certain countries
		SWITZERLAND: --
		Quality control: mandatory veterinary inspections for which fees, increased in January 1968, can amount to as much as 7.5 per cent of the value of the merchandise.
		Italy applies sanitary regulations on imports Lumber of Canadian sawn lumber.
		CANADA: -

**MEASURES MAINTAINED BY SPECIFIC COUNTRIES**

<b>Country maintaining restriction and description</b>	<b>Products affected</b>	<b>Country notifying and comment</b>
<b>B. Health and safety standards (cont'd)</b>		
JAPAN	Hides and skins	INDIA: Understood that Japan requires imports to be accompanied by a certificate that the animals to which the hides and skins belong had not suffered from any infectious disease. The certificates to the effect that the hides and skins themselves are free from any such disease do not meet the requirements of the Japanese sanitary regulations. This inhibits the import.
SANITARY REGULATIONS.		
NEW ZEALAND	Lumber	CANADA: --
New Zealand applies sanitary regulations on lumber imports.		
SOUTH AFRICA	Lumber	CANADA: --
SANITARY MEASURES.		
SWITZERLAND	Canned fish and shrimps	INDIA: Regulations create an obstacle to export of the products concerned.
SANITARY REGULATIONS.		
UNITED STATES	Certain fresh fruits	INDIA: Creates an obstacle in the way of export of those products.
SANITARY REGULATIONS.		
COASTGUARD INSPECTION.		UNITED KINGDOM: Safety equipment approved for use on United States flag vessels is subject to inspection during manufacture by the US coastguard. Since coastguard inspectors are not available for this purpose outside the US, foreign manufacturers of safety equipment are denied access to this market.

MEASURES MAINTAINED BY SPECIFIC COUNTRIES

Country maintaining restriction and description	Products affected	Country notifying and comment
<p>C. <u>Weights and measures</u></p> <p>AUSTRALIA</p>	arbitrary weights and measures limitations.	UNITED STATES: --  <u>We consider that "all packaged products" should be changed to "goods packed in a bag or sack, being goods the weight of which, together with the weight of the bag or sack, exceeds 200 lbs. unless otherwise approved by the Minister" and "for quality control purposes, chaff bags or bran bags of a net weight of less than 20 oz. each, unless otherwise approved by the Minister".</u>  The importation of these foods is in fact prohibited and the first column could be amended accordingly.
<p>CANADA</p>	Imports are permitted only if in cans of sizes established by the Canadian Government.	UNITED STATES: --  Canned products

**MEASURES MAINTAINED BY SPECIFIC COUNTRIES**

Country maintaining restriction and description	Products affected	Country notifying and comment
D. <b>Pharmaceutical standards</b>		
CEYLON	Products must conform to British Pharmacopeia, International Pharmacopoeia, or the British Pharmaceutical Index.	Drugs and pharmaceutical preparations UNITED STATES: --
EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY	Quality control for pharmaceutical products (draft legislation):  The third directive on the approximation of legislation of the member States on pharmaceutical specialties, dated 7 December 1958, provides that after an implementing period of three years, the validity of registrations of these products by national authorities will be automatically extended to the other member States.	Pharmaceuticals SWITZERLAND: The application of such a measure would constitute discrimination against third countries.  The third directive on the approximation of legislation of the member States on pharmaceutical specialties, dated 7 December 1958, is still no more than a draft that is before the Council for approval. Any examination of this directive would therefore relate to provisions whose application is still hypothetical. In any event, the Commission wishes to lodge an objection on substantive grounds to the very principle of invoking the discrimination towards third countries to argue that a Community internal policy measure is a non-tariff barrier. The Community takes exception to the concept of discrimination in reference to the effects of a system established between the member States in the context of the progressive harmonization of national legislations involved in the functioning of the common market.

MEASURES MAINTAINED BY SPECIFIC COUNTRIES

Country maintaining restriction and description	Products affected	Country notifying and comment
D. <u>Pharmaceutical standards (cont'd)</u>		
FRANCE	Pharmaceutical regulations. (With a few exceptions, a "visa" - required before distribution of pharmaceutical specialties packaged for retail sale - is not granted for imported products.)	Pharmaceutical products
	Government authorization is required for sale of pharmaceutical products. Long delays frequently occur before authorization is granted.	Pharmaceutical products
UNITED STATES:	Regulations are primarily designed to protect public health, but also serve to protect the domestic industry.	United Kingdom: The procedure is particularly costly for imported products, since it involves not only the production of detailed analysis and test reports from approved exports, but inspection of the factory and laboratories by an Inspector of Pharmacy.
UNITED KINGDOM:		In addition to this, the main barrier to foreign products is associated with the requirement that a major part of the manufacturing operation must be undertaken in France. This prevents the importation of packed products and makes it virtually impossible to introduce a foreign pharmaceutical preparation unless the anticipated turnover justifies local production.
ITALY	The administration of drug regulation has been a source of delays in shipments.	CANADA: --
IVORY COAST	Discriminatory pricing formula and visa requirements.	UNITED STATES: --
		Pharmaceuticals

MEASURES MAINTAINED BY SPECIFIC COUNTRIES

Country maintaining restriction and description	Products affected	Country notifying and comment
<b>D. Pharmaceutical standards (cont'd)</b>		
NIGERIA	Pharmaceuti- cals	UNITED STATES: --
Discriminatory regulation: products conforming to specifications of the British Pharmacopoeia or the British Pharmaceutical Codex and so labelled enter duty free. Products conforming to the United States Pharmacopoeia but not meeting the above requirements pay a 20 per cent duty.	Pharmaceuti- cals	
SENEGAL	Pharmaceuti- cals	UNITED STATES: Visa may be denied when similar or identical products are already legally sold in Senegal. Fee for visa application high.
SPAIN	Pharmaceuti- cals	UNITED KINGDOM: --
It is difficult to obtain health registration of a foreign Pharmaceutical Speciality.	Medicaments	UNITED STATES: --
UPPER VOLTA	Medicaments	Discriminatory regulation: medicaments not appearing in the French Codex or authorized by the Central Pharmaceutical Service are prohibited.

MEASURES MAINTAINED BY SPECIFIC COUNTRIES

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Country maintaining restriction and description	Products affected	Country notifying and comment
E. Product content requirements (See F. for additional measures)		
FINLAND		
Imports of compound fertilizer require a Ministry of Agriculture permit regarding quality.	Compound fertilizers	UNITED STATES: ---
ITALY	Rum	UNITED KINGDOM: This means in effect that light continuous rums fall under this heading and attract a duty varying from 1.448 to 1,678 units of account per degree proof per hectolitre (one unit of account equals US\$1). Other rums are classified under tariff heading 22.09 C 1a and bear duty at a rate of between 0.948 and 1.04 units of account per degree proof per hectolitre. This difference in classification of what is essentially the same liquor effectively excludes light continuous rums from the Italian market and therefore constitutes a barrier to trade.
NORWAY	Shoes.	UNITED STATES: Artificial leathers such as "Corfam" are not presently acceptable for use in the binding sole, although they are permissible elsewhere in the shoe.
	Requirement that the binding sole of all shoes be made of a single piece of natural leather.	

MEASURES MAINTAINED BY SPECIFIC COUNTRIES

Country maintaining restriction and description	Products affected	Country notifying and comment
<u>F. Labelling and container regulations</u>		
JAPAN	Labelling requirements: weights must be indicated in metric measurements <u>only</u> .	Certain imports UNITED STATES: --
MADAGASCAR	Stringent requirements regarding container sizes; beer under 4 degrees alcohol prohibited.	Beer UNITED STATES: --
UNITED KINGDOM	Marking and labelling regulations.	CANADA: The hallmarking procedure has hampered Canadian sales.
UNITED STATES	Wool Products Labelling Act of 1939: Until the inspection by the Federal Trade Commission is completed, the delivery of such products is suspended.	Woollon fabrics UNITED KINGDOM: Any product containing woollen fibres imported into the US (with the exception of carpets, rugs, mats, upholsteries and articles more than 20 years old) are required by the Wool Products Labelling Act of 1939 to be marked with information about their content of wool and other fibres. The provisions of the Act also apply to US produced articles. Regulations (Rule 36) proposed by the Federal Trade Commission would however discriminate against imported goods by subjecting them to a clearance procedure which would impose a considerable increase in documentation and could cause up to 3 days' delay, and by requiring the importer to pay for laboratory testing which the Commission could order if it believed, rightly or wrongly, that the goods were mislabelled.

MEASURES MAINTAINED BY SPECIFIC COUNTRIES

Country maintaining restriction and description	Products affected	Country notifying and comment
F. <u>Labelling and container regulations (cont'd)</u>	UNITED STATES (cont'd) Woollen fabrics (cont'd)	<p>UNITED KINGDOM (cont'd): The Regulations have been suspended following a temporary Court injunction, but there has been no indication that the Commission has abandoned its intention to put procedures of this type into effect.</p> <p>JAPAN: Since it is time-consuming and costly to draw up necessary papers and certificates, and since inspection is to be made at the expense of the importer whenever the Federal Trade Commission so decides, this rule may constitute a significant trade barrier.</p> <p>EEC: The import control system for woollen products in the American market, established under the new amendments to the "Rules and Regulations under the Wool Products Labelling Act of 1939", as adopted and published by the Federal Trade Commission on 22 December 1967 <u>constitutes a barrier</u>. Although the system has been suspended following a court injunction, the rules have not been definitively revoked. Under the new provisions, American producers are still merely required to maintain registers on the composition of their goods. Before the US authorities can take any action against domestic producers they must first prove, at their own expense, that the producers have engaged in mislabelling. Importers, on the other hand, now have not only to maintain the registers required, if not expressly at least implicitly, because of the many indications required in import documents, under the rules applicable to themselves or to their foreign suppliers, but also to show proof of correct labelling, and to pay for laboratory analyses and storage of the products until the new formalities have been complied with.</p>

MEASURES MAINTAINED BY SPECIFIC COUNTRIES

Country maintaining restriction and description	Products affected	Country notifying and comment
F. <u>Labelling and container regulations (cont'd)</u>		
UNITED STATES (cont'd)	Woolled fabrics (cont'd)	<p>EEC (cont'd): The Communities consider that this situation constitutes not only discrimination against importers as compared with US producers, but also creates for the former constant uncertainty which in the long term could seriously hinder international trade in wool products.</p> <p>Lastly, the establishment of a more overt and equitable procedure seems desirable, particularly in regard to hearing the parties concerned and possible means of recourse.</p> <p>URUGUAY</p> <p>Marking and labelling regulations.</p> <p>CANADA: Regulations regarding dimensions of labels have hampered Canadian sales.</p>

**MEASURES MAINTAINED BY SPECIFIC COUNTRIES**

Country maintaining restriction and description	Products affected	Country notifying and comment
H. <u>Marking requirements</u> (See also F. above)		
UNITED KINGDOM	Required marks of origin.  300 items of imported industrial products	JAPAN: Becomes a trade barrier when compliance is technically difficult or costly.
UNITED STATES	Marks of origin: it is the general rule of US Customs Laws that imported articles must be conspicuously and permanently marked to show origin. Where the articles themselves are specially exempted the marking is required to be shown on the containers.	UNITED KINGDOM: US requirements have been found to be more arduous than most countries.  JAPAN: Further, such marking or labelling is to be as nearly indelible and permanent as the nature of the article will permit.  Since it may be costly, time consuming, and sometimes technically difficult to meet these requirements, they can have, depending on the actual application, a significantly restrictive effect on imports.

CANADA: Requirements calling for country of origin labelling are often unnecessarily stringent and require marking in difficult or impractical manner.

EEC: On the basis of Section 304 of the 1930 Tariff Act, the US applies a system of rules on marks of origin which creates undue disadvantages for European exporters because of its complex nature and also because of the heavy fines incurred in the event of any infringement. The Communities request that these provisions be brought into conformity with both the letter and the spirit of Article IX of the General Agreement.

MEASURES MAINTAINED BY SPECIFIC COUNTRIES

Country maintaining restriction and description	Products affected	Country notifying and comment
<b>I. Packaging requirements (See also F. above)</b>		
ARGENTINA		
Numbering of multi-package shipments.		CANADA: These requirements have hampered Canadian sales.
INDIA		
Packaging regulations.	Urea fertilizer	CANADA: This product is required to be packaged in jute bags.
JAPAN		
Packaging:	bottles for fruit juices and fruit concentrates for dilution must have both crown corks and screw caps.	Fruit juices and concentrates UNITED KINGDOM: Japan is the only country with such a requirement which makes trade uneconomic.