GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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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: JAPAN

2. Agency responsible: Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

3. Notified under Article 2.5.2 [ ], 2.6.1 [ ], 7.3.2 [x], 7.4.1 [ ], Other:

4. Products covered (CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading):
Specified products

Household pressure pot and pressure cooking-pot, safety helmet for driver, safety helmet for baseball player, bottled carbonated beverage, glass bottle for containing carbonated beverage, bed for infants, roller-skate, rope for mountain climbing

5. Title: Amendment to the Consumer Product Safety Law

6. Description of content:

A. Registration of foreign manufacturers:

(1) Foreign manufacturers who manufacture the specified products for the purpose of export to Japan will be able to obtain the registration of competent Ministers.

(2) Regulations concerning the procedures for registration, etc., of domestic manufacturers shall apply to registration by foreign manufacturers as well.

B. Type-approval for foreign manufacturers:

(1) Foreign-registered manufacturers will be able to obtain the type-approval of the specified products which the manufacturers will produce for the purpose of export to Japan.

(2) Regulations concerning the procedures for type-approval and the obligation of the recipients of the approval (such as the obligation to comply with standards) shall apply to foreign manufacturers.

7. Objective and rationale: To ensure in terms of legal systems that there be no discrimination between nationals and non-nationals in certification procedures.

8. Relevant documents: Basic document is the Consumer Product Safety Law.

9. Proposed dates of adoption and entry into force: Not yet determined

10. Final date for comments:

The purpose of this amendment is to proceed further with the opening of the Japanese market by ensuring in terms of legal systems that there be no discrimination between nationals and non-nationals in certification procedures, in the light of the views and requests presented by Japan's trading partners.

Given the urgent nature of this legislation, it has been decided by the Cabinet to present the legislation promptly to the current session of the Diet. Such being the case, there will be no comment period for this legislation.

11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [x] or address of other body: