

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

TBT/Notif.85.178
29 November 1985

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: <u>JAPAN</u>
2. Agency responsible: Ministry of International Trade and Industry Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
3. Notified under Article 2.5.2 <input type="checkbox"/> , 2.6.1 <input type="checkbox"/> , 7.3.2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> , 7.4.1 <input type="checkbox"/> , Other:
4. Products covered (CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading): "First-class" specific consumer products "Second-class" specific consumer products (It is not yet determined which product shall be designated)
5. Title: Amendment to the Consumer Product Safety Law
6. Description of content: (1) "Specific products" under regulation by the Law shall be classified into the following two classes: (a) "First-class" specific products Products which are recognized to be difficult for certain manufacturers or importers to ensure quality to prevent injury to the life or body of the general consumer (b) "Second-class" specific products Those products other than "first-class" specific products (2) As regards the "first-class" specific products, the existing rules on government-certification (inspection or registration and type-approval system) shall continue to be applied. (3) As regards the "second-class" specific products, self-certification system shall be newly introduced as follows: Manufacturers or importers of "second-class" specific products may affix the "S mark" (sale of specific products without which is prohibited) by themselves if they make certain notifications to the Government and certify conformity to the safety standards by themselves.
7. Objective and rationale: To improve access to Japanese markets. (Transition from government-certification to self-certification.)
8. Relevant documents: The amendment will appear in "KAMPO" (Official Government Gazette) when adopted.
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 reduction of government intervention. 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 commenting period for this legislation. However, enough commenting period will be provided when the relevant draft ordinances which stipulate the detail of this amendment will be notified.
11. Texts available from: National enquiry point <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or address of other body: