

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

MTN/3E/DOC/12/Add.5

2 May 1975

Special Distribution

Multilateral Trade Negotiations

GROUP 3(e) - BASIC DOCUMENTATION

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

Addendum

EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measure:	Countries indicating an interest:
Honey (04.06)	Denmark	Canada

(a) Description:

Plastic cannot be used for honey containers.

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

The provision that plastic packing must not be used for imported honey is motivated by the risk of introduction of malignant foul brood. It was introduced after it had been ascertained that this disease had been communicated to Danish bee farms from remnants of honey in used packings in refuse dumps, etc. Glass packing is considered to be better suited, because experience shows a considerable degree of re-use or, at least, cleaning, whereas plastic packings are usually discarded. The Danish rules have not, however, prevented imports of honey from abroad in considerable quantities relating to the home production. Imports in 1969 thus amounted to 1,165 tons at the value of DKr. 2.423 million. The largest quantities were imported from Argentina, Chile, Mexico, China and Australia.

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measure:	Countries indicating an interest:
Citrus fruit, apples and pears (08.02, ex 08.06)	EEC	Australia United States

(a) Description:

Marketing standards.

(b) Comments by other countries:

The extremely difficult standards set for EEC Class Extra fruit (their top grade) made it almost impossible for American exporters to obtain this classification; it is believed that this hinders United States sales of citrus fruit, apples and pears.

During the discussion of this item the United States representative stated that the problem had diminished recently due to progress made with the OECD scheme for developing equivalents, but he retained that there was still a problem of equivalence.

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

The standard requirements are enforced throughout the Community, and apply to both imported and domestic products.

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measure:	Countries indicating an interest:
Chocolate and other food preparations containing cocoa (18.06)	Belgium France Germany, Fed. Rep. Luxembourg Netherlands	United States

(a) Description:

Marketing standards. Belgium, Netherlands and the Federal Republic of Germany do not allow imports of this product containing corn syrup; France maintains a percentage list.

(b) Comments by other countries:(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

Corn syrup imported in its pure state is permitted, but not when incorporated in other products. An internal regulation prohibits the use of corn syrup as food additive. This is a standard regulation applied throughout the Community on a non-discriminatory basis. A new regulation being proposed, might perhaps be more liberal.

Product: (BifN)	Country or group maintaining measure:	Countries indicating an interest:
Bread, ships' biscuits, and other ordinary bakers' wares (19.07)	Germany, Fed. Rep.	United States
Pastry, biscuits, cakes and other fine bakers' wares (19.08)		

(a) Description:

Marketing standards. Federal Republic of Germany places a percentage limit on the amount of corn syrup permissible in baked goods.

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See item 18.06, page 4.

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measure:	Countries indicating an interest:
Vegetable and fruit prepared or preserved (Chapter 20)	France	Australia United States

(a) Description:

The basic French law governing country of origin marking calls for the name of the country of origin both for French and foreign products to be embossed in can ends.

(b) Comments by other countries:

Although this requirement is sometimes satisfied by stamping with indelible ink, it causes considerable additional trouble and expense to United States exporters of canned food. Pressing can is dangerous to product, while indelible ink can be used which is much more reasonable.

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

The French delegate took note of the remarks and would transmit those to his authorities. The system which is applied to both imported and domestic products functions all right in France.

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measure:	Countries indicating an interest:
Fruit purées and pastos, jams, jellies, marmalades, cooked with added sugar (ex 20.05)	Germany, Fed. Rep. Italy Netherlands	United States

(a) Description:

Marketing standards. Italy does not permit imports of this product containing corn syrup. The Federal Republic of Germany and the Netherlands maintain a percentage limit.

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See item 18.06 page 4.

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measure:	Countries indicating an interest:
Fruit otherwise prepared or preserved, with or without added sugar (20.06)	Italy Netherlands	United States

(a) Description:

Italy and the Netherlands do not allow imports of canned fruits containing corn syrup.

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See item 18.06 page 4.

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measure:	Countries indicating an interest:
Fruit juices, etc. whether or not containing added sugar (ex 20.07)	France Germany, Fed. Rep. Italy Netherlands	United States

(a) Description:

France, Italy, the Netherlands and the Federal Republic of Germany do not allow import of fruit juices containing corn syrup.

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See item 18.06 page 4.

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Food preparations, n.e.s. containing sugar, milk products, cereals or cereal products (ex 21.07)	France Germany, Fed. Rep.	United States

(a) Description:

Marketing standards. France does not allow imports of ice-cream containing corn syrup; The Federal Republic of Germany places a percentage limit on the allowable amount.

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See item 18.06 page 4.

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measure:	Countries indicating an interest:
Beer (22.03)	Belgium France Germany, Fed. Rep. Italy Luxembourg	United States

(a) Description:

Marketing standards. Belgium and France place a percentage limit on the amount of corn syrup permissible in beer; Italy and the Federal Republic of Germany prohibit imports of beer containing corn syrup.

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See item 18.06 page 4.

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measure:	Countries indicating an interest:
Sherry (ex 22.05)	United Kingdom	Canada

(a) Description:

Labelling.

(b) Comments by other countries:

It is the understanding that no governmental measure would prevent Canadian sherry from entering the United Kingdom market.

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

Under the Labelling of Food Order the labels of all intoxicating liquors have to comply with certain requirements, amongst others the appropriate designation of the intoxicating liquor must be stated as a specific name, and indicate what the product is. The designation shall be accompanied by the name of country of origin. Canadian sherry cannot be sold as plain sherry in the United Kingdom, but there is nothing in the regulation which would prevent the sale of a product designated Canadian sherry, provided that this designation did not falsely describe a product or mislead as to its mention substance or quality. Reference was made to a recent legal case, where manufacturers of true sherry took certain companies to court on the use of the term sherry, and the judgment of the court indicated that the producers of other than Spanish sherry had the rights to use these other designations. Problem rather a dispute between the use of trade designation.

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measure:	Countries indicating an interest:
Wine (22.05)	EC	Australia

(a) Description:

Marketing standards
Analyses required on wine imports

(b) Comments by other countries:

Australia: The analyses are a significant cost burden, particularly when only small shipments are involved. Australia would hope that the EEC could allow more modern and cheaper analytical methods to be used or devise some alternative and cheaper method of controlling wine movements within the EEC.

(c) Comments by country maintaining measure:

In pursuance of Regulation (EEC) 1599/71 of the Council, the Commission adopted Regulation (EEC) 1770/72 which provides in particular that wines imported from third countries must be accompanied by an analysis report containing information on the following points:

- (a) density
- (b) total alcoholic strength
- (c) actual alcoholic strength
- (d) total dry matter
- (e) total acidity
- (f) volatile acidity
- (g) citric acid content
- (h) total sulphur dioxide content
- (i) presence of hybrids.

It should be noted that comparable requirements are applied in respect of Community production and that, furthermore, the analyses formerly required by certain member States, and still by certain third countries, are very much more numerous than those required at the Community level.

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measure:	Countries indicating an interest:
Foodstuffs	Belgium	Switzerland

(a) Description:

Labelling of food products. It is compulsory to print the commercial register number applying to the importer on the labels of food products such as chocolate and preserves. This means an unnecessary increase in the cost of the goods.

(b) Comments by other countries:

The representative of Switzerland observed in this connexion that, as a general rule, regulations' requirements in regard to packing, its stamping and the languages to be employed were unduly strict and constituted an obstacle to trade. Different legislations made it necessary to employ different packages, which hindered rational production and made it difficult to put new products on the market, particularly for small countries and which produced a variety of products.

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

This is not an agricultural regulation, but a general regulation applying to all food products whether processed in Belgium or imported. The reasons for the regulation is to provide a protection of consumers, and in case of fraud make it possible to trace the source and proceed to legal action.

The Belgian delegate would appreciate that the notifying country indicate the incidence of this restriction.