

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

MTN/AG/W/42

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Special Distribution

Multilateral Trade Negotiations

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Group "Agriculture"

APPLICABILITY OF THE DRAFT STANDARDS CODE TO AGRICULTURE

Proposal by Argentina

In accordance with the invitation by Group "Agriculture" to delegations to submit specific proposals or suggestions for any modifications or amendments to the Draft Code of Conduct for Preventing Technical Barriers to Trade that might be necessary to make the Code applicable to agricultural products (MTN/AG/8), the Argentinian delegation has suggested the following amendments to the Code as contained in MTN/NTM/W/150.

Section 2

- Paragraph (b): Before "technical regulations" add "existing or future"; after "except where" add "as duly justified to the entire satisfaction of the Committee for Preventing Technical Barriers to Trade" (the rest of the text unchanged).
- Paragraph (e): Insert as a first sentence "Whenever the technical content of an existing technical regulation is not substantially the same as the technical content of relevant international standards, adherents shall notify the Committee thereof for the purposes provided for in paragraph (b) of this section".
- Paragraph (f): Delete the comma after the word "safety" and delete the words "health, environmental protection".
- Paragraph (g): "Likewise where urgent problems of human, animal or plant health (new) or of environmental protection exist, adherents may omit, provided such omission is essential and is justified to the entire satisfaction of the Committee in the light of the provisions of Article XX of the General Agreement and of the present Code, such of the steps in paragraph (e) of this section as they may find necessary. In that event, they shall take account of any state-ments or recommendations that the Committee may make on the matter and on the modalities for application of the technical regulation concerned so as to avoid adverse trade effects for adherents."

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Paragraph (h): "Adherents shall ensure that all technical regulations are
(replacing the published, it being understood that omission of this
former (g)) requirement shall invalidate their binding nature."

Remaining To be re-numbered.
paragraphs:

Sections 3 The consequent changes to be made in the corresponding
and 4: paragraphs.