

WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION ORGANISATION MONDIAL DES DOUANES

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HARMONIZED SYSTEM REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE -27th Session

O. Eng.

Brussels, 3 February 2003.

POSSIBLE AMENDMENT OF THE EXPLANATORY NOTES TO HEADINGS 85.01 TO 85.16

POSSIBLE AMENDMENT OF THE EXPLANATORY NOTES TO HEADINGS 85.17 TO 85.22

POSSIBLE AMENDMENT OF THE EXPLANATORY NOTES TO HEADINGS 90.01 TO 90.10

POSSIBLE AMENDMENT OF THE EXPLANATORY NOTES TO HEADINGS 90.11 TO 90.33

(Items III.C.5, 6, 9 and 10 on Agenda)

Reference documents :

NR0305E1 (RSC/26) NR0309E1 (RSC/26) NR0332E3, Annexes E/14, E/15, E/18, E/19 (RSC/26 – Report) NR0306E1 (RSC/26) NR0310E1 (RSC/26)

I. BACKGROUND

1.

- At its 26th Session, the Sub-Committee agreed that the method of work to be employed in the examination of the Comprehensive Review of the Explanatory Notes to Chapters 84, 85, 87 and 90, should include, *inter alia* :
 - Administrations could send their questions about a given proposal directly to the administration which had made the proposal. In this connection, the Director also urged Members to make use of the WCO Web site Discussion Forum.

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- Administrations which had prepared proposals should, on request, provide information about the goods concerned. At the same time, administrations which made such requests for information were invited to conduct their own research into the matter.
- 2. After a request from the Secretariat for additional information, on 20 January 2003, the Secretariat received the following Note from the Australian Customs Service.

II. NOTE FROM THE AUSTRALIAN ADMINISTRATION

- 3. "In response to the Secretariat's request, resulting from a preliminary examination of proposals for the Comprehensive Review of the Explanatory Notes at the 26th Session of the Review Sub-Committee, the Australian Administration presents the following additional information on the Australian Administration's proposals for Chapters 85 and 90 :
 - Page 1633. Heading 85.09.

"Ice shavers" – illustrative descriptive material is provided for the product mentioned in paragraph 26 – Doc. NR0305E1.

• Page 1651 to 1654. Heading 85.17. Part (I) (A). Item 2).

"Headphone/microphone" - illustrative descriptive material is provided for the product mentioned in paragraph 48 – Doc. NR0306E1.

• Page 1651 to 1654. Heading 85.17. New Part (IV). Item (F).

"Combinartion telephone and internet terminal" – illustrative descriptive material is provided for the product mentioned in paragraph 81 – Doc. NR0306E1.

• Page 1777. Heading 90.06. Part (I).

"Disposable cameras" – mentioned in paragraph 15 – Doc. NR0309E1.

Information located on the Internet revealed that reuse of disposable cameras is mainly performed by camera buffs as a hobby. When traded in quantities as a commercial venture they are not reused, but rather are new cameras, that are intended to be disposable.

To provide additional clarification, Australia suggests that the following wording be used :

"Disposable or one-time-use cameras that are pre-loaded with film which is not intended to be removed by the customer when submitted for developing."

• Page 1783. Heading 90.08. Third paragraph (exclusions). New exclusion (ij).

"A special effects lighting apparatus" - illustrative descriptive material is provided for the product mentioned in paragraph 31 – Doc. NR0309E1.

• Page 1796. Heading 90.15. Part (I). Second paragraph. Item (1).

A "total station" incorporates a theodolite and a rangefinder.

Mentioned in paragraph 11 – Doc. NR0310E1.

• Page 1801. Heading 90.17. Part (D). Third paragraph. New Item (5).

"Extensometers" – Mentioned in paragraph 20 – Doc. NR0310E1. Illustrative descriptive material relating to this particular Australian ruling is not available. The following description may be of assistance to the Sub-Committee :

"The extensometer measures strain (torque) applied to bolts. It is held and operated by hand, and is used to measure the change of length of a bolt and gives a readout to 0.01 mm. The extensometer spindle is passed through the hole in the bolt, the upper stop being brought into contact with the bolt head. A spring-loaded collet is opened by operating a hand lever and the digital readout is zeroed by pressing a reset button. As the bolt is tightened the digital readout will show the increase in length."

• Page 1806. Heading 90.18. Part (I). Part (II). Second paragraph.

"Dental trimmers" - illustrative descriptive material is provided for the product mentioned in paragraph 30 – Doc. NR0310E1.

• Page 1812. Heading 90.19. Part (V). New Item (D).

"Respiration masks" - illustrative descriptive material is provided for the product mentioned in paragraph 36 – Doc. NR0310E1."

III. SECRETARIAT COMMENTS

4. The Secretariat would draw the attention of delegates to the fact that, where descriptive literature is indicated above, it will be made available to delegates in the meeting room.

IV. CONCLUSION

5. The Sub-Committee is invited to take account of the additional information provided by the Australian Administration when it examines this agenda item.