



WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DES DOUANES

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HS REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE
WORKING GROUP

NR0476E1
(+ Annex)

2nd Session

O. Eng.

Brussels, 14 October 2003.

POSSIBLE NEW HEADING FOR FLAT PANEL DISPLAY DEVICES AND MODULES
(PROPOSAL BY THE EC)

(Item II.9 on Agenda)

Reference documents :

NR0323E1 (RSC/26)
NR0332E2, Annexes D/5 (RSC/26 – Report)
NR0334E1 (RSC/WG/1)
NR0335E1 (RSC/WG/1)

NR0387E1, page I/17, Annex (RSC/WG/1)
NR0400B3, Annex G, paragraph 38
(RSC/27 – Report)

I. BACKGROUND

1. At its 26th Session (September 2002), the Review Sub-Committee held a preliminary discussion on possible amendments to Chapters 84, 85, 90 and 95 concerning information technology products (Doc. NR0323E1 – EC proposal).
2. At the first Session of the Working Group of the Review Sub-Committee, the EC Delegate, while stressing the importance of the commodities of this proposed heading in international trade, acknowledged that there might be a problem with the terminology to be used. It was pointed out by one delegate that there might be some overlap with other headings, in particular when the display module was designed as a part of a machine. Another delegate indicated that heading 90.13 would cover certain displays having electrical connections, which were apparently to be covered by the EC proposal for heading 85.58 (see Doc. NR0323E1, pages 8 and 9, Annex).
3. At the Informal Working Group on restructuring Section XVI meeting (4 – 5 May), the Working Group concluded that it would continue examination of the EC proposal at its next Session in September, based on a new document by the EC, taking into account the following :

Note : Shaded parts will be removed when documents are placed on the WCO documentation database available to the public.

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- Separate heading (heading XX.X6) to provide for flat panel displays; distinction at the subheading level according to :
 - The various technologies used
 - With driver and without driver
4. The EC submitted its draft to the Informal Group participants on 4 September 2003. After examining the text, the Informal Group agreed to forward it to the Second Session of the Working Group of the Review Sub-Committee. This text is set out in the Annex to this document.

II. SECRETARIAT COMMENTS

5. The Secretariat would draw the attention of the Working Group to the fact that the EC Delegate pointed out during the meeting the importance of the commodities of this proposed heading in international trade. At present, the goods are classified in various headings in the Nomenclature. The goal of the EC proposal was to group these products in a single heading.
6. The new heading is numbered as "XX.X6", pending the decision of the Working Group where to locate this heading : in Chapter 84 or in Chapter 85. The reference to heading XX.X2 in the proposed new heading, concerns the new heading covering monitors, projectors and flat panel displays (see item II.6 on Agenda).

III. CONCLUSION

7. The Working Group is invited to examine the text of new heading XX.X6 set out in the Annex to this document.

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