



HARMONIZED SYSTEM
REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE

NR0241E1

-
25th Session
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O. Fr.

Brussels, 11 January 2002.

COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE EXPLANATORY NOTES

HEADING 70.17

(Item III.C.7. on the Agenda)

I. BACKGROUND

1. At its 23rd Session, the Review Sub-Committee held an exchange of views on the timing of the general review of the HS Explanatory Notes. It was decided that the Sub-Committee would begin this review at its next session (see Annex B/2 to Doc. NR0165E2).

II. SECRETARIAT COMMENTS

2. In reviewing the Explanatory Notes to incorporate the changes arising out of the 2002 amendments to the Harmonized System, the Secretariat discovered a lack of alignment between the French and English versions of the third paragraph of the Explanatory Note to heading 70.17 (on page 1172 of the 2002 version).
3. The effect of this lack of alignment is to make the scope of this Explanatory Note broader in the French than in the corresponding English text. Specifically, in the French text there is a reference in the first line to "bocks". The equivalent English term ("irrigators") does not appear in the English version. Also the fifth line of the French version of this paragraph contains the term "plaquettes", but its English equivalent ("reels") is missing from the English version. The Secretariat has corrected this lack of alignment by amending the English version accordingly.
4. The Secretariat has seized this opportunity to carry out a strict alignment of the English and French versions of the paragraph concerned. Thus, the sentence structure in the French version has been aligned on the English, by placing the phrase "d'usage général ne nécessitant pas l'intervention d'un praticien," ("of general use not requiring the services of a practitioner") in front of the list of articles covered, rather than after it. Moreover, on the advice of its Language Service the Secretariat has made other editorial amendments to the French version : insertion of the word "irrigateurs" in brackets, and deletion of the words "ou clystères", which were judged superfluous and for which no equivalent term exists in English.

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Similarly, the Secretariat has aligned the French on the English in the parenthetical examples of “canules” (“nozzles”), and has replaced the word “plaquettes” in the fifth line of the French version by “plioirs (dévidoirs)” (“reels” in the revised English version).

5. The Secretariat’s proposal for the paragraph concerned is reproduced below :
"The expression “hygienic or pharmaceutical glassware” refers to articles of general use **not** requiring the services of a practitioner. The heading therefore covers, *inter alia*, irrigators, nozzles (for syringes, enemas, etc.), urinals, bed pans, chamber pots, spittoons, cupping-glasses, breast-relievers (with or without rubber bulb), eye-baths, inhalers and tongue depressors. Spools and reels for winding surgical catgut are also included."

II. CONCLUSION

6. The Sub-Committee is invited to examine the draft amendments to the Explanatory Note to heading 70.17 as set out in paragraph 5 above.
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