



WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION  
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DES DOUANES

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HARMONIZED SYSTEM  
COMMITTEE

-  
24th Session

NC0138E2  
(+ Annexes)  
O. Fr.

Brussels, 20 September 1999.

DRAFT RECOMMENDATION ON THE INSERTION IN NATIONAL STATISTICAL  
NOMENCLATURES OF SUBHEADINGS TO FACILITATE THE MONITORING AND  
CONTROL OF PRODUCTS SPECIFIED IN THE PROTOCOL CONCERNING FIREARMS  
COVERED BY THE UN CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME

(Item IV.2 on Agenda)

I. BACKGROUND

1. On 22 July 1999, the Secretariat received a letter from the Canadian Administration stating that the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice had passed a Resolution to develop a new Firearms Protocol which would be part of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (TOC), and that Canada had been given responsibility, for assisting the Chairman of the said Commission in developing the draft Protocol.
2. In its letter, the Canadian Administration informed the Secretariat of the United Nations' intention to approach the Harmonized System Committee with the proposal that a Recommendation be adopted requesting that Member administrations insert, in their national statistical nomenclatures, specific subheadings for the firearms controlled by the above-mentioned Convention.
3. The Note from the Canadian Administration and the Protocol Agreement Structure for separate identification of firearms in certain headings of Chapter 93 are set out at Annexes 1 and 2 hereto.

II. SECRETARIAT COMMENTS

4. Since the Harmonized System Committee has just finalized the Second HS Review Cycle and given the importance of this matter, the Secretariat supports Canada's proposal that a Council Recommendation covering the products at issue be adopted in view of the fact that the Third Review Cycle will not come into effect before 2006, at the earliest.

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5. The Secretariat would propose to draft a draft Council Recommendation on the insertion in national statistical nomenclatures of subheadings to facilitate the monitoring and control of products specified in the Firearms Protocol to the TOC. The draft Recommendation could be prepared for the Committee's consideration and approval at its 25<sup>th</sup> Session.

### III. CONCLUSIONS

6. The Harmonized System Committee is invited to rule on whether to proceed with a draft Recommendation, as suggested by the Secretariat in its comments above, and to examine the Canadian proposal at Annex 2 hereto.

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## **Annex 1**

### **Note from the Canadian Administration**

In April 1998, the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice passed a resolution to develop, among other things, a new firearms protocol which will be part of the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (TOC Convention). This Convention, which the UN Commission hopes to complete by early 2000, will provide a framework for action against organized crime. An Ad Hoc Committee on the TOC Convention was established to hold discussions on the proposed international protocols, which includes the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition and Other Related Materials (Firearms Protocol). The Firearms Protocol, working from within the framework of the UN Convention, will help to combat the menace of illicit manufacturing and criminal trafficking in firearms.

At the first meeting of the TOC Ad Hoc Committee, Canada was recognized as assuming the responsibility for assisting the Chairman in the development of the draft Firearms Protocol. Recognizing the importance of strengthening existing international law enforcement support mechanisms to prevent and combat the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition and other related materials, Canada strongly supports the United Nations initiative currently under way to assist in the creation of an appropriate tariff and statistical nomenclature to facilitate this endeavour.

In view of the fact that any new legal amendments to the Harmonized System can no longer be implemented before the year 2006, the UN has decided to approach the Harmonized System Committee to ask that a Recommendation be developed requesting that administrations insert certain breakouts into their tariff or statistical nomenclatures. This will provide for a more detailed firearms nomenclature to help monitor and control the international trade in these goods. An important aim is to prevent unauthorized diversion of these materials from one party to another.

At its 18<sup>th</sup> Session, the Enforcement Committee discussed the fight against smuggling and the desire for the WCO to assist in developing a firearms protocol. This would include the development of international standards for the identification and coding of firearms for controlling the import, export and in-transit movement of these goods. The Committee agreed that the control of the international movement of firearms should be recognized as a high priority issue.

In light of the importance of this UN initiative, Canada offered its assistance in developing a Customs firearms nomenclature which is submitted herewith for consideration by the Committee.



**ANNEXE / ANNEX 2**

**HARMONIZED SYSTEM STRUCTURE**

**Protocol Agreement Structure**

**93.01 - MILITARY WEAPONS, OTHER THAN  
REVOLVERS, PISTOLS AND THE ARMS OF  
HEADING NO. 93.07.**

**rifles\***

**single-shot bolt action  
single-shot break action  
other bolt action  
semi-automatic  
fully automatic  
other**

**machine guns**

**light  
medium  
heavy**

**sub-machine guns**

**fully automatic pistols  
other**

**fully automatic shotguns**

**\* Within the context of heading 93.01, the term "rifle"  
includes assault rifles (rifles capable of selective  
fire), service rifles and sniper rifles. This also  
includes fully automatic sporting rifles.**

**STRUCTURE DU SYSTEME HARMONISE**

**Structure du protocole d'entente**

**93.01 - ARMES DE GUERRE, AUTRES QUE LES  
REVOLVERS, PISTOLETS ET ARMES BLANCHES.**

**carabines\***

**à culasse à un coup  
à culasse mobile à un coup  
autres à culasse  
semi-automatiques  
entièrement automatiques  
autres**

**mitrailleuses**

**légères  
semi-lourdes  
lourdes**

**mitraillettes**

**pistolets entièrement automatiques  
autres**

**fusils de chasse entièrement automatiques**

**\* Dans le contexte du n° 93.01, le terme "fusil"  
comprend les fusils d'assaut (les fusils de tir  
sélectif), les fusils militaires et les fusils de tireur  
d'élite. Ceci comprend également les fusils de  
chasse entièrement automatiques.**

Annexe II au Doc. NC0138B2  
Annex II to  
(CSH/24/oct. 99)  
(HSC/24/Oct. 99)

**93.02 - REVOLVERS AND PISTOLS, OTHER THAN THOSE OF HEADING NO. 93.03 OR 93.04.**

revolvers

pistols

single-shot  
semi-automatic  
multiple barrel  
other

**93.03 - OTHER FIREARMS AND SIMILAR DEVICES WHICH OPERATE BY THE FIRING OF AN EXPLOSIVE CHARGE (FOR EXAMPLE, SPORTING SHOTGUNS AND RIFLES, MUZZLE-LOADING FIREARMS, VERY PISTOLS AND OTHER DEVICES DESIGNED TO PROJECT ONLY SIGNAL FLARES, PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS FOR FIRING BLANK AMMUNITION, CAPTIVE-BOLT HUMANE KILLERS, LINE-THROWING GUNS).**

**9303.10 - Muzzle-loading firearms**

shotguns  
rifles  
pistols  
revolvers  
other

**9303.20 - Other sporting, hunting or target-shooting shotguns, including combination shotgun-rifles**

shotguns

pump-action  
single-shot bolt action  
single-shot break action  
other bolt-action  
semi-automatic  
multiple barrel  
combination guns (shotgun-rifle)  
other

**93.02 - REVOLVERS ET PISTOLETS, AUTRES QUE CEUX DES N°S 93.03 OU 93.04.**

revolvers

pistolets

à un coup  
semi-automatiques  
à plusieurs canons  
autres

**93.03 - AUTRES ARMES A FEU ET ENGIN SIMILAIRES UTILISANT LA DEFLAGRATION DE LA POUDRE (FUSILS ET CARABINES DE CHASSE, ARMES A FEU NE POUVANT ETRE CHARGEES QUE PAR LE CANON, PISTOLETS LANCE-FUSEES ET AUTRES ENGIN CONÇUS UNIQUEMENT POUR LANCER DES FUSEES DE SIGNALISATION, PISTOLETS ET REVOLVERS POUR LE TIR A BLANC, PISTOLETS D'ABATTAGE A CHEVILLE, CANONS LANCE-AMARRES, PAR EXEMPLE).**

**9303.10 - Armes à feu ne pouvant être chargées que par le canon**

fusils de chasse  
carabines  
pistolets  
revolvers  
autres

**9303.20 - Autres fusils et carabines de chasse ou de tir sportif comportant au moins un canon lisse**

fusils de chasse

à coulisse  
à culasse à un coup  
à culasse mobile à un coup  
autres à culasse  
semi-automatiques  
à plusieurs canons  
fusils- combinés (fusils-carabines)  
autres

**9303.30 - Other sporting, hunting or target-shooting rifles**

**rifles**

single-shot bolt action  
single-shot break action  
pump-action  
lever-action  
other bolt-action  
semi-automatic  
multiple barrel  
other

**9303.90 - Other**

**93.05 - PARTS AND ACCESSORIES OF ARTICLES OF HEADING NOS. 93.01 TO 93.04.**

**9305.10 - OF REVOLVERS OR PISTOLS**

firing mechanisms\*\*  
barrels  
barrel extensions  
pistons  
locking lugs  
gas buffers  
sights (front & back sights)  
  
magazines  
silencers (sound moderators)  
  
frames  
slides (for pistols)  
cylinders (for revolvers)  
butts, grips and plates  
  
other

\*\* For the purposes of heading 93.05, the term "firing mechanisms" includes such parts as levers, tumblers, triggers, percussion hammers, locks, cocking pieces, ejectors, firing-pins, safety catches (safety and selector mechanisms), sears, extractors.

**9303.30 - Autres fusils et carabines de chasse ou de tir sportif**

**fusils**

à culasse à un coup  
à culasse mobile à un coup  
à coulisse  
à levier  
autres à culasse  
semi-automatiques  
à plusieurs canons  
autres

**9303.90 - Autres**

**93.05 - PARTIES ET ACCESSOIRES DES ARTICLES DES N°S 93.01 A 93.04.**

**9305.10 - DE REVOLVERS OU PISTOLETS**

mécanismes de mise de feu\*\*  
canons  
rallonges de canons  
pistons  
tenons de verrouillage  
amortisseurs à gaz  
dispositifs de visée (guidons de mire avant et arrière)  
magasins  
silencieux (dispositifs amortisseurs du bruit de la détonation)  
carcasses  
coulisses (pour les pistolets)  
barilletts (pour les revolvers)  
crosses, plaquettes de poignée et plaquettes  
autres

\*\* Pour les besoins du N° 93.05, l'expression "mécanismes de mise à feu" comprend des parties comme des leviers, des noix, des détones, des chiens percutants, des platines, des pièces d'armement, des éjecteurs, des percuteurs, des crans de sûreté (des mécanismes de sélection et de sûreté), des gâchettes, des extracteurs.

Annexe II au Doc. NC0138B2  
Annex II to  
(CSH/24/oct. 99)  
(HSC/24/Oct. 99)

**9305.2 - Of shotguns or rifles of heading  
No. 93.03:**

**9305.21 - - Shotgun barrels**

**9305.29 - - Other**

**firing mechanisms\*\*  
rifle barrels  
barrel extensions  
pistons  
locking lugs  
gas buffers  
sights (front & back sights)**

**magazines  
silencers (sound moderators)  
receivers  
breaches  
stocks  
slings  
tripods/bipods  
flash eliminators  
bolts  
bolt carriers  
other**

**\*\* For the purpose of heading 93.05, the term "firing mechanisms" includes such parts as levers, tumblers, triggers, percussion hammers, locks, cocking pieces, ejectors, firing-pins, safety catches (safety and selector mechanisms), sears, extractors.**

**9305.2 - De fusils ou carabines du N° 93.03:**

**9305.21 - - Canons lisses**

**9305.29 - - Autres**

**mécanismes de mise de feu\*\*  
canons de carabines  
rallonges de canons  
pistons  
tenons de verrouillage  
amortisseurs à gaz  
dispositifs de visée (guidons de mire avant et arrière)  
magasins  
silencieux (dispositifs amortisseurs du bruit)  
carcasses  
culasses  
montures  
bretelles  
trépieds/bipieds  
dispositifs anti-lueur  
verrous  
porte-culasses  
autres**

**\*\* Pour les besoins du n° 93.05, l'expression "mécanismes de mise à feu" comprend des parties comme des leviers, des noix, des détentes, des chiens percutants, des platines, des pièces d'armement, des éjecteurs, des percuteurs, des crans de sûreté (des mécanismes de sélection et de sûreté), des gâchettes, des extracteurs.**



**9305.90 - Other**

**of rifles, machine guns, sub-machine guns,  
and shotguns of heading 93.01**

**firing mechanisms\*\***

**barrels**

**barrel extensions**

**pistons**

**locking lugs**

**gas buffers**

**sights (front & back sights)**

**magazines**

**silencers (sound moderators)**

**receivers**

**breeches**

**stocks**

**slings**

**tripods/bipods**

**flash eliminators**

**bolts**

**bolt carriers**

**other**

**parts and accessories of other articles of  
heading 93.01**

**parts and accessories of other articles of  
heading 93.03**

**parts and accessories of articles of heading  
93.04**

**\*\* For the purpose of heading 93.05, the term "firing mechanisms" includes such parts as levers, tumblers, triggers, percussion hammers, locks, cocking pieces, ejectors, firing-pins, safety catches (safety and selector mechanisms), sears, extractors.**

**9305.90 - Autres**

**de fusils, mitrailleuses, mitraillettes et  
fusils de chasse du n° 93.01**

**mécanismes de mise à feu\*\***

**canons**

**rallonges de canons**

**pistons**

**tenons de verrouillage**

**amortisseurs à gaz**

**dispositifs de visée (guidons de mire  
avant et arrière)**

**magasins**

**silencieux (dispositifs amortisseurs du  
bruit de la détonation)**

**carcasses**

**culasses**

**montures**

**bretelles**

**trépieds/bipieds**

**dispositifs anti-lueur**

**verrous**

**porte-culasses**

**autres**

**parties et accessoires des autres articles  
du n° 93.01**

**parties et accessoires des autres articles  
du n° 93.03**

**parties et accessoires des articles du  
n° 93.04**

**\*\* Pour les besoins du n° 93.05, l'expression "mécanismes de mise à feu" comprend des parties comme des leviers, des noix, des détentes, des chiens percutants, des platines, des pièces d'armement, des éjecteurs, des percuteurs, des crans de sûreté (des mécanismes de sélection et de sûreté), des gâchettes, des extracteurs.**

**HARMONIZED SYSTEM STRUCTURE  
(2002) §**

**93.01 MILITARY WEAPONS, OTHER THAN  
REVOLVERS, PISTOLS AND THE ARMS OF  
HEADING NO. 93.07.**

**9301.1 - Artillery weapons (for example,  
guns, howitzers and mortars):**

**9301.11 - - Self-propelled**

**9301.19 - - Other**

**9301.20 - Rocket launchers; flame-  
throwers; grenade launchers; torpedo  
tubes and similar projectors**

**STRUCTURE DU SYSTEME HARMONISE  
(2002) §**

**93.01 ARMES DE GUERRE, AUTRES QUE LES  
REVOLVERS, PISTOLETS ET ARMES BLANCHES.**

**9301.1- Pièces d'artillerie (canons, obusiers  
et mortiers, par exemple):**

**9301.11 - - Auto-propulsées**

**9301.19 - - Autres**

**9301.20 - Tubes lance-missiles; lance-  
flammes; lance-grenades; lance-torpilles et  
lanceurs similaires**

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§ This version is based on Annex to Doc. NC0090B1

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§ Cette révision est fondée sur l'annexe au  
document NC0090B1

**HARMONIZED SYSTEM STRUCTURE  
(2002) §**

**9301.90 - Other**

**rifles\***

single-shot bolt action  
single-shot break action  
other bolt action  
semi-automatic  
fully automatic  
other

**machine guns**

light  
medium  
heavy

**sub-machine guns**

fully automatic pistols  
other

**fully automatic shotguns**

\* Within the context of heading 93.01, the term "rifle" includes assault rifles (rifles capable of selective fire), service rifles and sniper rifles. This also includes fully automatic sporting rifles.

**STRUCTURE DU SYSTEME HARMONISE  
(2002) §**

**9301.90 - Autres**

**carabines\***

à culasse à un coup  
à culasse mobile à un coup  
autres à un coup  
semi-automatiques  
entièrement automatiques  
autres

**mitrailleuses**

légères  
semi-lourdes  
lourdes

**mitraillettes**

pistolets entièrement automatiques  
autres

**fusils de chasse entièrement automatiques**

Dans le contexte du N° 93.01, le terme "fusil" comprend les fusils assaut (les fusils de tir sélectif), les fusils militaires et les fusils de tireur d'élite. Ceci comprend aussi les fusils de chasse entièrement automatiques.

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§ This version is based on Annex to Doc. NC0090B1

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§ Cette révision est fondée sur l'annexe au document NC0090B1

**HARMONIZED SYSTEM STRUCTURE  
(2002) §**

**9305.91 - - Of military weapons of  
heading No. 93.01**

**rifles, machine guns & sub-machine guns  
and shotguns of heading 93.01**

**firing mechanisms\*\***

**barrels**

**barrel extensions**

**pistons**

**locking lugs**

**gas buffers**

**sights (front & back sights)**

**magazines**

**silencers (sound moderators)**

**receivers**

**breeches**

**stocks**

**slings**

**tripods/bipods**

**flash eliminators**

**bolts**

**bolt carriers**

**other**

**9305.99 - - Other**

**\*\* For the purpose of heading 93.05, the term “firing mechanisms” includes such parts as levers, tumblers, triggers, percussion hammers, locks, cocking pieces, ejectors, firing-pins, safety catches (safety and selector mechanisms), sears, extractors.**

**Note: The common use term “converted automatic” refers to a fully automatic firearm which has been modified for either selective fire, semi-automatic, bolt action, single-shot or any action other than fully automatic.**

**§ This version is based on Annex to Doc. NC0090B1**

**STRUCTURE DU SYSTEME HARMONISE  
(2002) §**

**9305.91 - - Des armes de guerre du N° 93.01**

**fusils, mitrailleuses et mitraillettes et fusils  
du n° 93.01**

**mécanismes de mise à feu\*\***

**canons**

**rallonges de canons**

**pistons**

**tenons de verrouillage**

**amortisseurs à gaz**

**dispositifs de visée (guidons de mire avant  
et arrière)**

**magasins**

**silencieux (dispositifs amortisseurs du  
bruit de détonation)**

**carcasses**

**culasses**

**montures**

**bretelles**

**trépieds/bipieds**

**dispositifs anti-lueur**

**verrous**

**porte-culasses**

**autres**

**9305.99 - - Autres**

**\* Pour les besoins du n° 93.05, l’expression “mécanismes de mise à feu” comprend des parties comme des leviers, des noix, des détones, des chiens percutants, des platines, des pièces d’armement, des éjecteurs, des percuteurs, des crans de sûreté( des mécanismes de sélection et de sûreté), des gâchettes, des extracteurs.**

**Note : Le terme “converties automatiques” désigne une arme entièrement automatique qui a été modifiée soit pour des fusils de tir sélectif, semi-automatiques, à culasse mobile ou à un coup ou action autres qu’entièrement automatiques.**

**§ Cette révision est fondée sur l’annexe au document NC0090B1**