



HARMONIZED SYSTEM
COMMITTEE

-
28th Session
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NC0448E1

O. Eng.

Brussels, 8 October 2001.

UN/SPSC COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

(Item III.1 on Agenda)

Reference documents :

NC0328E1 (HSC/26)
NC0340E2, Annex C/5 (HSC/26 – Report)
NC0359E1 (HSC/27)

NC0425E1 (HSC/27)
NC0430E2, Annex C/4 (HSC/27 – Report)

I. BACKGROUND

1. At its 27th Session, the Committee discussed the possible use by economic operators of the UN/SPSC classification system. In concluding its discussion, the Committee invited the Secretariat to contact the UNDP and/or Dun and Bradstreet with a view to clarifying the respective uses of this classification system and the Harmonized System.

II. SECRETARIAT COMMENTS

2. During the intersession, the Secretariat has sent letters to the Administrator of UNDP and to the Electronic Commerce Code Management Association (ECCMA), which oversees the management and development of the UN/SPSC, inviting them to advise the (potential) users of the UN/SPSC that UN/SPSC code numbers should not be used for Customs related purposes or in international trade. This advice could be given through a publication on the appropriate Internet Web site, thus eliminating any possible confusion among economic operators.
3. At the time of preparing this document the Secretariat has had a telephone conversation with a representative of ECCMA, which showed that they are amenable to our comments. A written note from that association is expected to follow shortly, and will be reproduced as soon as it is received by the Secretariat.

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III. CONCLUSION

4. Pending the receipt of the ECCMA note, the Committee is invited to take note of the intersessional developments and to indicate whether or not further action is necessary.
