



HARMONIZED SYSTEM
COMMITTEE

-
28th Session
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NC0489E1
(+ Annex)
O. Eng.

Brussels, 10 September 2001.

POSSIBLE AMENDMENT OF THE EXPLANATORY NOTES TO CHAPTER 33

TO EXCLUDE CANDLES OF HEADING 34.06

(PROPOSAL BY THE EGYPTIAN ADMINISTRATION)

(Item VIII.9 on Agenda)

I. BACKGROUND

1. During the HS seminar held in Egypt in April 2001, the Egyptian Administration proposed that a suitable amendment to the Explanatory Notes to Chapter 33 should be made to clarify the classification of candles that are perfumed. The Secretariat was therefore requested to forward this proposal to the Harmonized System Committee.

II. SECRETARIAT COMMENTS

2. Candles are sources of heat and light and consist of a wick and a solid combustible material surrounding the wick. Today, refined (petroleum) wax is the main raw material used in candle production. Candles are also made from stearin, beeswax, composites (mixtures of various waxes), and ceresin (mixtures of paraffin and hard waxes). Candles are sometimes perfumed. (Ref. Ullmann's Encyclopedia of Industrial Chemistry, Sixth Edition).
3. The Secretariat has not received a specific product for examination. However, the Secretariat is aware that a wide range of perfumed candles, also known as scented candles, containing different kinds of fragrances are available on the market. They are generally presented in different candle style, packing, wax colour, fragrance and average burn time.
4. Heading 34.06 specifically refers to candles. The Explanatory Note to heading 34.06 indicates that the heading covers these goods whether or not coloured, perfumed, decorated, etc. The Secretariat is therefore of the view that these perfumed candles are classifiable in heading 34.06.
5. The Egyptian Administration expressed its concerns in respect of preparations for perfuming or deodorising rooms that are covered in heading 33.07. It was noted that subheading 3307.41 refers to "Agarbatti" and other odoriferous preparations which operated by burning. The Egyptian Administration therefore felt that it would be appropriate to insert

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an exclusion in the Explanatory Note to heading 33.07 in order to clarify that perfumed candles are excluded from that heading.

6. The Secretariat could agree with the Egyptian proposal and therefore has prepared an amendment to the Explanatory Note to heading 33.07, as set out in the Annex to this document. Pending the publication of the HS 2002 Explanatory Notes, the Secretariat has put the reference to the page at issue in square brackets.

III. CONCLUSION

7. The Committee is invited to consider the Egyptian proposal taking into account the comments of the Secretariat in paragraphs 2 to 6 above and to examine the proposed amendment to the Explanatory Note to heading 33.07 as set out in the Annex to this document.

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