



HARMONIZED SYSTEM
REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE

-
19th Session
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NR0039E1

O. Eng.

H11-3

Brussels, 15 March 1999.

POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS TO THE NOMENCLATURE
AND THE EXPLANATORY NOTES CONCERNING BELTS AND BELTING

(Agenda item II.A.13)

Reference documents :

41.820 (RSC/17)
41.920, paragraph 4 (RSC/17 - Report)
42.235 (RSC/18)
42.500, Annex B/3 (RSC/18 – Report)
NR0013E1 (RSC/19)

I. NOTE FROM CANADA

1. After the publication of Doc. NR0013E1, the Secretariat received on 4 March 1999 a note from the Canadian Administration on the possible amendments concerning belts and belting. The note is excerpted below.

“(i) Possible inclusion of references to “belts” in Note 6 (a) to Chapter 59 and to “belting” in Note 1 (e) to Section XVI

Response

2. Including a reference to “belts” in Note 6 (a) to Chapter 59 would mean a change in the scope of the heading not envisaged by Canada; belts of a thickness of less than 3 mm, presently classified in heading 59.10, would fall to be classified elsewhere.
3. Adding “belting” to Note 1 (e) to Section XVI patterns this Note on Note 1 (a) to Section XVI, aligns it with heading 59.10, and is consistent with the Explanatory Note to heading 59.10, page 900, exclusion note (a).

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(ii) Deletion of the term “of textile material” in present Note 6 (a) to Chapter 59

Response

4. Canada is of the view that this change is necessary to align legal Note 6 (a) to Chapter 59 to include the full scope and coverage of heading 59.10.

(iii) Replacement of the expression “textile fabric” by “textile material” in Note 8 to Chapter 40 and Note 6 (b) to Chapter 59

Response

5. In accordance with legal Note 1 to Chapter 59, the term “textile fabric” is narrower in scope than the term “textile material”. The difference is subtle, however, the proposed change aligns legal Note 8 to Chapter 40 and legal Note 6 (b) to Chapter 59 with the full scope and coverage of heading 59.10.”

II. SECRETARIAT COMMENTS

6. Since the proposal to insert a reference to “belts” in Note 6 (a) to Chapter 59 was not envisaged by the Canadian Administration (see paragraph 2 above), the Secretariat suggests not to pursue this issue.
7. With respect to the proposed amendments to Note 8 to Chapter 40 and Notes 6 (a) and 6 (b) to Chapter 59, the Canadian note adds little to the comments provided earlier in Annex I to Doc. 42.235. Therefore, the Secretariat would simply refer to the comments set out in paragraphs 6 to 10 of Doc. NR0013E1, and leaves it to the Sub-Committee to decide.
8. The Secretariat also notes that the Canadian Administration supports the proposal to insert the term “belting” in the English version of Note 1 (e) to Section XVI.
9. The proposed amendments to Chapters 40 and 59 and to Section XVI are reproduced in the Annex to Doc. NR0013E1.

III. CONCLUSION

10. The Sub-Committee is invited to take into consideration the observations of the Canadian Administration set out in paragraphs 2 to 5 above, and the comments of the Secretariat set out in paragraphs 6 to 9 above, when considering the proposed amendments to Chapters 40 and 59 and to Section XVI, as set out in the Annex to Doc. NR0013E1.
