



HARMONIZED SYSTEM
REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE

-
22nd Session
-

NR0118E1
(+ Annex)

O. Eng.

Brussels, 23 August 2000.

POSSIBLE AMENDMENT OF THE TEXT OF HEADING 85.25

TO CLARIFY THE CLASSIFICATION OF CAMERAS

(Item III.B.8 on Agenda)

Reference documents :

NC0055E1 (HSC/23)

NR0072E2, Annex C, paragraph 94 (RSC/20 – Report)

NR0086E1 (RSC/21)

NR0093E1 (RSC/21)

NR0095E1 (RSC/21)

NR0101E2, Annex B/12 (RSC/21 – Report)

NR0101E2, Annex E/15 (RSC/21 – Report)

I. BACKGROUND

1. At the Harmonized System Committee's 23rd Session, it was pointed out that a great number of digital cameras were being traded internationally and that, consequently, digital cameras should be identified in the Harmonized System and classified in a specific heading. The Committee subsequently agreed to regroup digital cameras in heading 85.25 as part of the 2nd HS Review Cycle and to adopt the proposed texts of Alternative I set out in the Annex to Doc. NC0055E1.
2. During the Committee's discussions of this question, one delegate argued that digital cameras were still in the process of development. He noted that some digital cameras could be used as video cameras. He therefore suggested that this issue should be re-examined during the next review cycle.

File No. 2690

II. SECRETARIAT COMMENTS

3. In Doc. NR0095E1, prepared for the 21st Session of the Review Sub-Committee, the Secretariat noted that comments submitted by the United States seemed to suggest that digital still image video cameras (French : “appareils de prise de vues fixes vidéo numériques”) and digital cameras (French : “appareils photographiques numériques”) were one and the same apparatus. The Secretariat pointed out that these terms appeared separately in the legal texts of heading 85.25 and subheading 8525.40. While the English term "cameras" could be taken to cover both video cameras and photographic cameras, in the French version (“caméscopes” and “appareils photographiques”) these were two separate categories.
4. In order to clarify the classification of digital cameras, at least in the English text, the Secretariat has presented, in the Annex to this document, a proposal for the possible amendment of the legal text of heading 85.25. The Secretariat proposal would group digital cameras (whether or not recording) and other video camera recorders in the heading text and at subheading level. In the Secretariat’s view this proposed text would also cover “cameras” such as the infamous “Color QuickCam”.

III. CONCLUSION

5. The Sub-Committee is invited to examine the Secretariat proposal for the amendment of the text of heading 85.25 and related texts.

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(SCR/22/sept. 2000)
(RSC/22/Sept. 2000)

ANNEXE

AMENDEMENT EVENTUEL DU N° 85.25 EN VUE DE CLARIFIER
LE CLASSEMENT DES APPAREILS DE PRISE DE VUES FIXES VIDEO ET
DES APPAREILS PHOTOGRAPHIQUES NUMERIQUES

(Point III.B.8 de l'ordre du jour)

ANNEX

POSSIBLE AMENDMENT OF THE TEXT OF HEADING 85.25
TO CLARIFY THE CLASSIFICATION OF CAMERAS

(Item III.B.8 on Agenda)

PROCEDURE DE L'ARTICLE 16
AMENDEMENT DE LA NOMENCLATURE

CHAPITRE 85.

N° 85.25.

Remplacer “**appareils de prise de vues fixes vidéo et autres caméscopes; appareils photographiques numériques**” par “**appareils numériques de prise de vues fixes et de prise de vues vidéo, incorporant ou non un dispositif d’enregistrement; autres caméscopes**”.

N° 8525.40.

Nouvelle rédaction :

“8525.40 - Appareils numériques de prise de vues fixes et de prise de vues vidéo, incorporant ou non un dispositif d’enregistrement; autres caméscopes”.

CHAPITRE 90.

Note 1 h).

Remplacer “les appareils de prise de vues fixes vidéo et autres caméscopes ainsi que les appareils photographiques numériques” par “appareils numériques de prise de vues fixes et de prise de vues vidéo, incorporant ou non un dispositif d’enregistrement; autres caméscopes”.

ARTICLE 16 PROCEDURE

AMENDMENTS TO THE NOMENCLATURE

CHAPTER 85.

Heading 85.25.

Delete **“still image video cameras and other video camera recorders; digital cameras”** and substitute **“digital cameras (whether or not recording); other video camera recorders”**.

Subheading 8525.40.

Delete and substitute :

“8525.40 - Digital cameras, whether or not recording; other video camera recorders”.

CHAPTER 90.

Note 1 (h).

Delete “still image video cameras, other video camera recorders and digital cameras” and substitute “digital cameras (whether or not recording); other video camera recorders”.
