



HARMONIZED SYSTEM  
REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE

NR0175E1

-  
24<sup>th</sup> Session  
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O. Fr.

Brussels, 10 July 2001.

POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS TO THE NOMENCLATURE IN ORDER  
TO UPDATE THE TERMINOLOGY OF CERTAIN PRODUCTS  
AND TO DELETE OBSOLETE ITEMS

(Item III.A.7 on Agenda)

Reference documents :

NR0149E1 (RSC/23)  
NR0165E2, Annex D/1 (RSC/23 – Report)

I. BACKGROUND

1. At the Review Sub-Committee's 23<sup>rd</sup> Session, the Secretariat proposed that given the trade practices relating to the products included therein and statistics obtained from the UNSD, certain HS headings should be modernized and simplified.
2. Of the four HS headings for which simplification was proposed, the Sub-Committee has already approved the proposal relating to heading 84.69, whilst the issue of amending heading 85.19 is covered under another Agenda item for this session (Item III.A.12).
3. The Sub-Committee has decided to re-examine all the possibilities for amending heading 85.20 discussed at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Session, as well as the proposal to amend heading 85.24 presented by the Secretariat, on the basis of statistics to be provided to the Secretariat by administrations. The Secretariat was instructed to prepare a new document on this basis.

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## II. SECRETARIAT COMMENTS

4. At the time of preparing this document, the Secretariat had received no additional information from administrations or new proposals, as had been requested at the previous session.
5. At the Review Sub-Committee's request, the Secretariat hereby presents a new text of heading 85.20, in accordance with the amendments proposed during the session. It has also added a new one dash subheading for the separate identification of sound recording apparatus, whether or not incorporating a sound reproducing device, with a laser reading system, as suggested by one administration. As this proposal has not yet been discussed, it has been placed in square brackets. As a result of this amendment, subheadings 8520.32, 8520.33 and 8520.39 have been renumbered.
6. The statistics set out in the Annex to Doc. NR0149E1 show that the trade in "telephone answering machines" is in decline. It is the Secretariat's understanding that this type of product is currently being replaced by telephone sets with built-in telephone answering machines (heading 85.17). The Secretariat therefore proposes deleting subheading 8520.20. The said subheading has been placed in square brackets pending a decision by the Sub-Committee.

**"85.20 Sound recording apparatus, whether or not incorporating a sound reproducing device.**

- [8520.20 - Telephone answering machines]
- [8520.40 - Other, with a laser reading system]
- Other sound recording apparatus incorporating a sound reproducing device
- 8520.51 -- Digital audio type
- 8520.52 -- Other, cassette-type
- 8520.59 -- Other
- 8520.90 - Other."

7. The proposed amendment to heading 85.24 is reproduced as presented at the Sub-Committee's last session, given that the Secretariat has not received any new proposals or information confirming that the production of discs for laser reading systems still involves the use of "masters" or "matrices". The Sub-Committee's attention is drawn to the fact that the proposal to delete subheading 8524.10 has also been retained pending a final decision by the Sub-Committee regarding the reference to "record-players" in heading 85.19 :

**“85.24 Discs, tapes and other recorded media for sound or other similarly recorded phenomena, including matrices and masters for the production of discs, but excluding products of Chapter 37.**

- Discs for laser reading systems :
  - 8524.31 -- For reproducing phenomena other than sound or image
  - 8524.32 -- For reproducing sound only
  - 8524.39 -- Other
- 8524.40 - Magnetic tapes for reproducing phenomena other than sound or image
  - Other magnetic tapes :
    - 8524.51 -- Of a width not exceeding 4 mm
    - 8524.52 -- Of a width exceeding 4 mm but not exceeding 6.5 mm
    - 8524.53 -- Of a width exceeding 6.5 mm
- 8524.60 - Cards incorporating a magnetic stripe
  - Other :
    - 8524.91 -- For reproducing phenomena other than sound or image
    - 8524.99 -- Other.”

### III. CONCLUSION

8. The Sub-Committee is invited to examine the proposed amendments to headings 85.20 and 85.24, as well as their structured nomenclatures, on the basis of the Secretariat’s comments above.

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