

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/CHE/29

2 April 2002

(02-1620)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>SWITZERLAND</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: Federal Office for Public Health, Berne
3.	Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable). Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: Alcoholic beverages, i.e. spirit drinks
4.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Draft Modification to Ordinance on Foreign Substances and Toxic Components in Foodstuffs (2 pages, available in French and German)
5.	Description of content: Establishment of a limit value of 1 mg/l for ethyl carbamate (urethan) in spirit drinks (not applicable for spirits produced before 2003 (date of distillation)). Ethyl carbamate is predominately built in stone fruit distillates. A limit value is implemented because of the carcinogenic properties of ethyl carbamate.
6.	Objective and rationale: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests
7.	An international standard, guideline or recommendation does not exist <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> . If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations:
8.	Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Ordinance on Foreign Substances and Toxic Components in Foodstuffs of 26 June 1995 (German/French/Italian: RS 817.021.23) http://www.bk.admin.ch/ch/f/sr/c817_021_23.html- Food Law of 9 October 1992 (German/French/Italian: RS 817.0) http://www.bk.admin.ch/ch/f/rs/c817_0.html- Food Ordinance of 1 March 1995 (German/French/Italian: RS 817.02) http://www.bk.admin.ch/ch/f/rs/c817_02.html
9.	Proposed date of adoption: April 2002
10.	Proposed date of entry into force: May 2002

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| 11. Final date for comments: 15 May 2002
Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: |
| 12. Texts available from: <input type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: |