

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/TBT/Notif.99.195

22 April 1999

(99-1648)

## Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

### NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6.

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>THE NETHERLANDS</u> If applicable, name of local government involved (Articles 3.2 and 7.2):
2.	Agency responsible: Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment Agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above: National Enquiry Point – EC WTO-TBT Enquiry Point
3.	Notified under Article 2.9.2 [ X ], 2.10.1 [   ], 5.6.2 [   ], 5.7.1 [   ], other:
4.	Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): Short-chained chlorinated paraffins
5.	Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document: Draft Decree on Chlorinated Paraffins under the Act on Environmentally Hazardous Substances (Dutch designation: Wms)
6.	Description of content: The provisions are intended to decrease the use of short-chained chlorinated paraffins in accordance with Parcom Decree 95/1. As of 31 December 1999, short-chained chlorinated paraffins may no longer be used for the following purposes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- As softening agents in paints, coatings and adhesives;</li><li>- in oils used for treating metals;</li><li>- as flame retardants in rubbers, plastics and textiles.</li></ul> However, short-chained chlorinated paraffins may continue to be used for the following purposes until 31 December 2004: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- As softening agents in adhesives for use in dams; and</li><li>- as flame retardants in rubbers, plastics and textiles used in conveyor belts exclusively intended for use in mining.</li></ul>
7.	Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable: The provisions are aimed at decreasing pollution of the aquatic environment by organohalogenic compounds, including short-chained chlorinated paraffins. These substances can also bio-accumulate in certain organisms. Short-chained chlorinated paraffins can cause tumours in rats and mice.
8.	Relevant documents: Article 24 of the Act on Environmentally Hazardous Substances/Parcom Decree 95/1

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9.	Proposed date of adoption: 1 November 1999 Proposed date of entry into force: 31 December 1999
10.	Final date for comments: 9 June 1999
11.	Texts available from: National enquiry point [ X ] or address, e-mail and telefax number of the other body: