

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

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

1. Member to Agreement notifying: <u>SWITZERLAND</u> If applicable, name of local government involved (Articles 3.2 and 7.2):
2. Agency responsible: Swiss Federal Office of Public Health (SFOPH) Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, e-mail and web-site addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above: State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (seco) - WHNT Effingerstrasse 1 CH-3003 Bern Tel: ++41 31 324 07 60 Fax: ++41 31 324 09 59
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): Chemical substances and preparations
5. Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document: Ordinance relating to Protection against Dangerous Substances and Preparations, approximately 75 pages (German, French and Italian).
6. Description of content: The ordinance provides the basic legislation concerning the handling and use of chemical substances, preparations and in certain fields, articles. It regulates the producer's duty of self-supervision, the obligation to notify new substances and to inform the authorities about the placing on the market of preparations and in certain cases their full composition. It foresees a central notification and authorization body. The most important regulations deal with: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prerequisites for placing substances and preparations on the market, including assessment, classification, packaging, labelling and safety data sheet• Obligations once these have been placed on the market• Handling and use of substances and preparations Food, medicines, animal feed and cosmetics are excluded from the scope of the ordinance.
7. Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable: The ordinance is intended to bring about harmonization with EU legislation on chemicals while maintaining or improving the level of protection for the general population, employees and the environment against the harmful effects that may be caused by chemicals. Existing provisions will be amended to take account of technical developments and trade barriers affecting the most important trade partners will be reduced.

8.	Relevant documents: Law of 7 October 1983 (as of 10 June 1997) relating to the Protection of the Environment (RS 814.01) http://www.bk.admin.ch/ch/f/rs/c814_01.html Law of 15 December 2000 concerning Protection against Dangerous Substances and Preparations (Chemicals Law) (FF 1999-5887) http://www.admin.ch/ch/f/ff/2000/5733.pdf
9.	Proposed date of adoption: To be determined Proposed date of entry into force: 1 January 2005
10.	Final date for comments: 60 days from the day of notification
11.	Texts available from: National enquiry point [] or address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail and web-site addresses, if available of the other body: http://www.bag.admin.ch/parchem/vernehm/d/Chemikalien_Vo_final%20draft_d_VL.pdf http://www.bag.admin.ch/parchem/vernehm/f/Chemikalien_Vo_final%20draft_f_VL.pdf http://www.bag.admin.ch/parchem/vernehm/i/Chemikalien_Vo_final%20draft_i_VL.pdf