

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/NLD/47

27 August 1999

(99-3555)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>THE NETHERLANDS</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sports
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: Perishable products kept unchilled for a short period of time (24 hours maximum) when held for sale to the consumer.
4.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Draft Decree amending the Commodities Act Decree on Food, Preparation and Processing
5.	Description of content: The Draft Decree enables the specifying in an approval hygiene code as cited under Article 31 of the Commodities Act Regulation on Foodstuff Hygiene of those foodstuffs and beverages that need not be chilled when stored and transported and the period (max. 24 hours) for which they may be kept unchilled.
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 Perishable products must be kept chilled. Only under special circumstances is it possible to deviate from this without damaging the interest of health protection. However, it has been found that there are circumstances under which these provisions on chilling are not always necessary and are sometimes undesirable, for example in the case of perishable foodstuffs and beverages prepared in such a way that they may be stored unchilled for a very limited amount of time without presenting any risk. For practical reasons, it is therefore desirable to make it possible to store certain foodstuffs and beverages unchilled for a limited period of time. This is the purpose of the present Decree.
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">- Article 15 of the Commodities Act Decree on Food Preparation and Processing.- Article 31 of the Commodities Act Regulation on Foodstuff Hygiene
9.	Proposed date of adoption: 10 July 1999
10.	Proposed date of entry into force: 10 July 1999

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| 11. | Final date for comments:
Agency or authority designated to handle comments: [] National notification authority, [X] National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: |
| 12. | Texts available from: [] National notification authority, [X] National enquiry point or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: |