

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/ZAF/4
21 October 1998

(98-4103)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

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| 1. | Member to Agreement notifying: <u>SOUTH AFRICA</u> If applicable, name of local government involved: |
| 2. | Agency responsible: Directorate Plant and Quality Control |
| 3. | Products covered (tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): Seed for planting; Fresh, frozen, dried and glazed fruit, and fresh frozen and dehydrated vegetables; Cut and dried flowers and foliage; Propagation plant material. |
| 4. | Title and number of pages of the notified document: Notification of the withdrawal of the current authorizations to import fresh, dried and dehydrated fruits and vegetables and fresh and dried cut flowers and plant material, without a permit. Regulation to be published. |
| 5. | Description of content: Currently the conditions of import of certain controlled goods are promulgated in Government Notice R.1013 of 26 May 1989 as published in Government Gazette No. 3666 of 26 May 1989. These goods may be imported without a permit, subject to the published import conditions. These conditions were not compiled on the basis of a pest risk analysis and in terms of these conditions the importation of controlled goods are prohibited from certain countries where the listed quarantine organisms occur. These conditions also exclude quarantine organisms that may pose a threat to the local fruit, vegetable and flower production. In order to protect plant health in South Africa at the appropriate level, the importation of fresh and dried fruits, vegetables and cut flowers as well as certain types of plant material must rather be subject to authorisation by means of a permit issued in terms of articles 3 and 4 of the Agricultural Pests Act, 1983 (Act No. 36 of 1983). Establishment of relevant import conditions for these products in future, shall be based on International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures regarding Pest Risk Analysis. This will be in accordance with the requirements of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures. |
| 6. | Objective and rationale: Protection of plant health in South Africa whilst conforming the current conditions that are restrictive on trade, with International Norms and Standards for Phytosanitary Measures. |
| 7. | An international standard, guideline or recommendation does not exist []. If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, whenever possible, identify deviations: No deviation from relevant International Standards. |

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| 8. | Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: Currently drafted for later publication. |
| 9. | Proposed date of adoption: 15 December 1998 |
| 10. | Proposed date of entry into force: 1 January 1999 |
| 11. | Final date for comments: 12 December 1998 Agency or authority designated to handle comments: Directorate Plant and Quality Control Private Bag X258 Pretoria 0001 Fax: +27 (12) 319 6101 |
| 12. | Texts available from: National enquiry point [] or address, telefax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: Directorate Plant and Quality Control Private Bag X258 Pretoria 0001 Fax: +27 (12) 319 6101 |