

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>FINLAND</u> If applicable, name of local government involved (Articles 3.2 and 7.2):
2.	Agency responsible: Ministry of Transport and Communications Agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification can be indicated if different from above:
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): This regulation shall apply to motor vehicles (trailers)
5.	Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document: Decree on the Amendment of the Decree on the Use of Vehicles on the Road (8 pages, in English, amendments are underlined in the draft text)
6.	Description of content: For vehicle combinations longer than 22 m. the following is proposed: - Maximum length of combination is 25.25 m. - Sum of the external length of loading areas is 21.40 m. or less. - Distance from the fifth-wheel king pin of semi-trailer or front axle(s) of drawbar trailer to the rear of the trailer is 12.00 m. or less. Distance measured horizontally from the axis of the fifth-wheel king pin or the front axle(s) and any point at the front of the trailer is 2.04 m. or less. - Efficient axle spacing of a semi-trailer or a drawbar trailer is 8.15 m. or less. The combination shall be able to turn in a swept circle having outer diameter 12.5 m. and inner diameter 2.5 m. - All units of a combination longer than 22.0 m. shall be equipped with anti-lock brakes. The drawing vehicles, taken into service first time as from 1 July 1997, shall be equipped with a right-hand mirror adjustable from the driver's seat.

6.	<p>Description of content: (cont'd)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Weights and dimensions of vehicles and combinations from other than EEA States shall not exceed the dimensions of 96/53/EC, Annex I. - Combinations longer than 22.0 m. will be allowed as from 1 July 1997. <p>Key words: Vehicle combinations, weights and dimensions, modular concept.</p>
7.	<p>Objective and rationale: Directive 96/53/EC, Article 4(4) allows Finland to keep its vehicle combination length of 22.0 m. However, Finland is obliged to permit by 1 January 2004, at the latest, transport operations also with longer combinations whereby the operators may benefit from equal conditions of competition (modular concept).</p> <p>To provide equal terms of competition the same conditions are proposed to be applied for national and all other EEA operators.</p> <p>Anti-lock brakes have been required in Finland for large lorries and trailers as from 1 January 1992 for traffic safety reasons. It would be contradictory if these brakes were not required in even longer combinations.</p>
8.	<p>Relevant documents: After adoption the Decree will be published in the Statutes of Finland.</p>
9.	<p>Proposed date of adoption: } Proposed date of entry into force: } To be determined</p>
10.	<p>Final date for comments: 7 April 1997</p>
11.	<p>Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address and telefax number of other body:</p>