

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/TBT/Notif.98.515

30 October 1998

(98-4233)

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>BELGIUM</u> If applicable, name of local government involved (Articles 3.2 and 7.2):
2.	Agency responsible: Ministry of Economic Affairs Quality and Safety Administration Safety Division Product Safety Service North Gate III Boulevard Emile Jacqmain 154 B – 1000 Brussels Tel: +32 2 206 49 08 Fax: +32 2 206 57 52 Agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall 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): Laser pointers of class 3 or above and objects which include such laser pointers, for example key-rings. Laser pointers designed for specific professional uses other than as conference aides and the like, whose applications are clearly indicated in the instructions by the marketers, are not concerned by this Order.
5.	Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document: Ministerial Order on the Withdrawal and Suspension of the Marketing of Laser Pointers of Class 3 or Above and Objects which Include Such Laser Pointers
6.	Description of content: The marketing of laser pointers of class 3 or above, according to Standard NBN EN 60825-1, and objects which include such laser pointers, is suspended for a period of one year unless the pointers are designed for specific professional uses, other than as conference aides and the like, and whose applications are clearly indicated in the instructions by the marketers.
7.	Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable: Laser pointers have been observed to be aimed accidentally or voluntarily at the eyes of unprotected persons. In view of their power, if laser pointers of class 3 or above are pointed at the eyes of unprotected persons, they could cause damage to the retina.
8.	Relevant documents: -

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9.	Proposed date of adoption: Proposed date of entry into force: }	60 days
10.	Final date for comments:	
11.	Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address, e-mail and telefax number of the other body: CIBELNOR	