

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

G/SPS/N/KOR/19

11 October 1995

(95-3036)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

NOTIFICATION

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>REPUBLIC OF KOREA</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: Ministry of Health and Welfare
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): Food, Food Additives, Apparatus for Food Additives, Apparatus for Food, Packaging and Containers and Food.
4.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Establishment of inspection guidelines for imported foods.
5.	Description of content: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Foods whose failure rates in laboratory testing have been high are subject to strict inspection, while foods with no past test violations are subject to random sampling.- Food tests will focus on such hazardous items as heavy metal, food additives, antibiotics and pathogenic organisms, etc.- The laboratory testing procedures will be expedited for fresh fruits, vegetables and fish and shellfish products which are highly perishable at normal temperature, as well as for foods imported urgently for the purpose of price stabilization.- Fresh food products from the same exporter, product type, country or origin and packaging facility will be exempted from laboratory testing for two months following non-violative test results.- Foods presented with test certificates issued by domestic and/or international inspection institutions which meet the following conditions (a or b) can be exempted from laboratory testing:<ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Tests in accordance with the Korean Food Sanitation Act; or(b) The testing methods and items etc. are mutually recognized according to international convention.- Even in case test certificate can not be applicable to conditions mentioned above, a head of quarantine office can use it to adjust inspection items.

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6.	Objective and rationale: To provide detailed inspection guidelines for imported foods in accordance with the revision of the Ministerial Ordinance of the Food Sanitation Law.
7.	An international standard, guideline or recommendation does not exist [X]. If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, whenever possible, identify deviations:
8.	Relevant documents: Government Notice No. 1995-76 (29 August, 1995)
9.	Proposed date of adoption and entry into force: 1 January 1996
10.	Final date for comments: 11 November 1995
11.	Texts available from: National enquiry point [] or address and telefax number of other body: Food Circulation Division Ministry of Health and Welfare 1 Choongang-dong, Kwachon-city, Kyunggi-do Republic of Korea Tel. No: 82 2 504 6026 Fax. No: 82 2 504 6207