

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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No. \_\_\_\_\_

G/SECRET/HS96/29

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Original: Spanish

## 1996 CHANGES IN THE HARMONIZED SYSTEM

### Submission of Documentation

#### Schedule XCI - Paraguay

The following communication, dated 30 September 1996, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Paraguay.

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I have the honour to transmit herewith the documentation relating to the introduction of the amendments to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System, in force since 1 January 1996 (HS 1996), in accordance with the GATT Council Decision of 8 October 1991 establishing the Procedures to implement changes in the Harmonized System (BISD 39S/300) and the General Council Decisions of 13 December 1995 (WT/L/124) and 18 July 1996 (WT/L/173).

The attached table comprises the following information:

#### Column headed **Emni SA**

Tariff headings that have been modified as a result of the introduction of the HS 1996 are marked with XX.

#### Column headed **Schedule XCI - Paraguay to the GATT**

This column contains the tariff headings of Schedule XCI - Paraguay annexed to the Protocol for the Accession of Paraguay to the GATT, which is the same as Schedule XCI - Paraguay annexed to the Marrakesh Protocol annexed to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994.

#### Column headed **NCM - including HS 1996**

This column contains the tariff headings of the MERCOSUR Common Nomenclature (NCM), currently used by Paraguay, including the modifications resulting from the HS 1996.

#### Column headed **DESCRIPTION**

This column contains the description of the products.

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Column headed **AA %**

This column gives the tariff applied by Paraguay until 31 December 1994, prior to the entry into force of the MERCOSUR Common External Tariff (1 January 1995).

Column headed **AC %**

This column shows the levels bound in Schedule XCI - Paraguay.

Column headed **AEC %**

This column contains the current tariff levels in the MERCOSUR Common External Tariff (AEC).

Column headed **Inc. OMC**

In this column the headings in which the bound tariff (AC %) is lower than the MERCOSUR Common External Tariff (AEC %) are marked with an X.

For products where the bound tariff is lower than the MERCOSUR Common External Tariff, it is to be understood that the proposed tariff ("bound rate of duty") is the AEC. It should be stressed that in these cases the final level to be bound may be different as a result of the negotiations under Article XXIV:6 and the Enabling Clause. It should also be pointed out that the introduction of the modifications to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System in force since 1 January 1996 have in no case led to Paraguay failing to fulfil its obligations under the WTO.

Column headed **Derecho de Primer Negociador**

This column indicates the WTO Members with initial negotiating rights for the product concerned.

Column headed **Importacions US\$ F.O.B. 1992-1994**

This column contains statistical information on average imports by Paraguay during the period 1992-1994 expressed in f.o.b. value terms.

Part of the information contained in this table is also included in document WT/COMTD/1/Add.5 of 20 September 1995, which includes the proposed changes in the tariff levels bound by MERCOSUR Members (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay).

If any WTO Member should express an interest, Paraguay, together with the other MERCOSUR members, is ready to conduct consultations under the relevant provisions of Article XXIV:6 and the Enabling Clause to examine the changes introduced by the Common External Tariff and HS 1996 and the maintenance of the general level of concessions.

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If no objection is notified to the Secretariat within 90 days from the date of this document, the changes to Schedule XCI - Paraguay will be deemed to be approved and will formally certified.

Copies of the above mentioned documentation (in Spanish only) are available for collection in the Market Access Division (Mrs. Hudry, office No. 3142).