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Original: Spanish

1996 CHANGES IN THE HARMONIZED SYSTEM

Submission of Documentation

Schedule XXXI - Uruguay

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

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The Permanent Delegation of Uruguay to the United Nations Office and International Organizations at Geneva presents its compliments to the WTO Secretariat and transmits herewith the attached documents in order to introduce changes in the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System which have been in force since 1 January 1996 (HS 1996), in accordance with the procedures for negotiations under Article XXVIII (BISD 27S/27), 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 proposed Schedule XXXI - Uruguay attached shows the existing bindings expressed in the MERCOSUR Common Nomenclature, which incorporates the HS 1996 modifications. It is the understanding of Uruguay that the new nomenclature does not violate earlier bindings.

A concordance table establishing the correlation between the NADISA (Uruguay) and NCM (MERCOSUR Common Nomenclature) nomenclatures is also attached.

Together with the information submitted herewith, account should be taken of the information already presented by the MERCOSUR States Parties in the framework of the Committee on Regional Trade Agreements, with reference to trade for the last three available years, as well as the documentation contained in document WT/COMTD/1/Add.5.

Should any WTO Member consider it necessary, the MERCOSUR States Parties as a whole are ready to conduct consultations or negotiations under the relevant provisions of Article XXIV.6 and the Enabling Clause to examine the changes introduced by the Common External Tariff (CET) and the 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 XXXI - Uruguay will be deemed to be approved and will be formally certified.

Copies of the documentation (in Spanish only) are available for collection in the Market Access Division (Ms. Hudry, Office No. 3142).