

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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**Council for Trade-Related Aspects  
of Intellectual Property Rights**

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## NOTIFICATION OF LAWS AND REGULATIONS UNDER ARTICLE 63.2 OF THE AGREEMENT

### SWITZERLAND

#### Addendum

By means of a communication from its Permanent Mission, dated 12 November 1997, Switzerland has submitted the following notification of laws and regulations under Article 63.2 of the Agreement.

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In accordance with Article 63.2 of the TRIPS Agreement and the procedures laid down by the Council for TRIPS, Switzerland hereby notifies laws and regulations adopted or revised since its notification of 31 January 1996, published in document IP/N/1/CHE/1 dated 5 March 1996.

This notification is the first of a series of updating notifications, and concerns List A (Principal laws and regulations, concerning intellectual property), pages 7 and 8 (geographical indications), of document IP/N/1/CHE/1.

Title, dates of adoption and entry into effect	Brief description
<p><u>Geographical indications</u></p> <p>[...]</p> <p><u>Federal Law on the Improvement of Agriculture and the Preservation of Farming Populations</u>; adopted on 3 October 1951; the respective articles entered into effect between 1 January 1954 and 1 December 1962 (Law on Agriculture: RS 910.1, RO 1953 1095)</p> <p>Recent amendments: Articles 18a, 18c, 23b(5) first sentence (only relevant for the Italian version of the Law), 112(1), 112b; adopted on 21 June 1996, entered into effect on 1 July 1997 (RS 910.1; RO 1997 1187)<sup>1</sup></p> <p><u>Ordinance on the Protection of Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications in Respect of Agricultural Products and Processed Agricultural Products</u>; adopted on 28 May 1997, entered into effect on 1 July 1997 (RS 910.12; RO 1997 1198)<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Article 18a: Authority of the Swiss Federal Council to promulgate regulations concerning the denomination of products.</p> <p>Article 18c: Register of appellations of origin (AOC) and of geographical designations (IGP); prohibition of their use as generic names, relations to trademarks, specifications, unlawful acts.</p> <p>Article 112b: Sanctions for unlawful use of appellations of origin and geographical indications.</p> <p>Definitions of AOC and IGP; generic names; registration procedure (persons having standing for registration, content of the application, specification, decision, opposition, registration and publication, etc.); control, etc.</p>

<sup>1</sup>The text of the amending law of 21 June 1996 can be found in document IP/N/1/CHE/G/2/Add.1.

<sup>2</sup>The text of this law can be found in document IP/N/1/CHE/G/3.

Title, dates of adoption and entry into effect	Brief description
<p><u>Federal Decree on Wine Cultivation</u>; adopted on 19 June 1992, entered into effect on 1 January 1993 (RS 916.140.1; RO 1992 1986).</p> <p>Recent amendments: Articles 23a, 23b, 23c, 23d, 32(1)(d); adopted on 21 June 1996, entered into effect on 1 July 1997 (RO 1997 1216)<sup>3</sup></p> <p>[...]</p>	<p>The Decree deals, mainly, with production areas, methods of production, vinification process, etc.</p> <p>Articles 16 and 17 contain, respectively, definitions of "indications de provenance" and "appellations d'origine". The Cantons may provide for "appellations d'origine contrôlées" (AOCs).</p> <p>Article 19 provides for the creation of a Federal Commission of AOCs.</p> <p>The amendments do not deal with the protection of geographical indications. They deal with the control of trade in wine.</p>

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<sup>3</sup>The text of this Decree and the amending law of 21 June 1996 can be found in document IP/N/1/CHE/G/4.