

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>NETHERLANDS</u> If applicable, name of local government involved (Articles 3.2 and 7.2):
2.	Agency responsible: Ministry of Transport and Public Works Agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification can be indicated if different from above: National enquiry point
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): Inland navigation ships
5.	Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document: Regulation Amending the Regulation of 12 April 1988, No. S/J 30571/88, Containing Rules Relating to the Layout and Equipment of Ships on Inland Waterways (Government Gazette 96)
6.	Description of content: The Dutch Government considers that the draft Regulation referred to in point 5 may contain a technical regulation in the sense of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade. This concerns Article 1.
7.	Objective and rationale: The present regulation was laid down with a view to increasing safety on inland waterways. The legislation on inland navigation ships contains a system whereby the technical provisions of the Inland Navigation Decree are declared applicable in stages, gradually covering categories of ever smaller ships. This "timetable for initial testing" expires at the end of 2001. The present regulation declares a number of important technical requirements from Annex II of the Inland Navigation Decree to be directly applicable to all ships. This is above all of significance to the smallest ships (cargo ships of 15 to 250 tonnes and tugs and push tugs up to 150 kW) which are at present not obliged to comply with the provisions of the Inland Navigation Decree. The regulation is also significant for (inland) passenger ships. A clause of mutual recognition has been included in Article 2 for the benefit of foreign inland navigation ships which fulfil the requirements set in the country of origin.
8.	Relevant documents: - Inland Navigation Decree The original Regulation was not provided with an explanatory note.

9.	Proposed date of adoption: 6 November 1997 Proposed date of entry into force: 7 November 1997
10.	Final date for comments: 5 November 1997 The Netherlands will proceed to implement the proposed measure after 45 days if no comments or requests for extension of the time-limit have been received from other Members within that time.
11.	Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address and telefax number of other body: