

7 March 2014

(14-0000) Page: 1/27

## **Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade**

# NINETEENTH ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATION OF THE TBT AGREEMENT

### NOTE BY THE SECRETARIAT<sup>1</sup>

The WTO Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (the Committee) will conduct its Nineteenth Annual Review of the Implementation and Operation of the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (the TBT Agreement) under Article 15.3 at its next meeting on 19-20 March 2014. This document contains information on developments in the Committee relating to the implementation and operation of the TBT Agreement from 1 January to 31 December 2013.

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 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  This document has been prepared under the Secretariat's own responsibility and is without prejudice to the position of Members and to their rights and obligations under the WTO.

### 1 MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

- 1.1. The Committee, pursuant to Article 13.1 of the TBT Agreement and to the Rules of Procedure, elected Mr. Jingo Kikukawa (Japan) as its Chairperson for 2013.
- 1.2. Three meetings were held in 2013 (6-7 March, 19-20 June and 30-31 October 2013).<sup>2</sup> At these meetings, the Committee's attention was drawn to new or revised statements on implementation and administration of the Agreement, submitted under Article 15.2. In 2013, two Members submitted a new statement under Article 15.2, and one submitted a revision to their existing statement.<sup>3</sup>
- 1.3. 73 specific trade concerns, 42 of which were new, were brought to the attention of the Committee with regard to potential adverse trade effects of the measures, or possible inconsistency with the Agreement.<sup>4</sup>
- 1.4. During the reporting period, the Committee held three thematic sessions on various crosscutting issues related to the operation and implementation of the Agreement, including: good regulatory practice, standards, conformity assessment procedures, transparency, technical assistance, and special and differential treatment.
- 1.5. At the meeting on 6-7 March 2013, the Committee adopted its report of the Eighteenth Annual Review of the Implementation and Operation of the TBT Agreement under Article 15.3 (G/TBT/33). At the same meeting, the Committee carried out the Eighteenth Annual Review of the Code of Good Practice for the Preparation, Adoption and Application of Standards (hereafter 'the Code'). This work was based on the following background documents: a list of standardising bodies that have accepted the Code since 1995 (G/TBT/CS/2/Rev.20) and the Eighteenth Edition of the WTO TBT Standards Code Directory, prepared by the ISO/IEC Information Centre.
- 1.6. During the reporting period, representatives of the BIPM, Codex, IEC, ISO, UNECE, and OIML, updated the Committee on activities relevant to the work of the TBT Committee, including on technical assistance.

#### 2 MECHANISMS FOR REVIEW OF TBT MEASURES<sup>5</sup>

#### 2.1 Notifications

## 2.1.1 Technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures

2.1. In 2013, Members submitted 1,626 new notifications (including 26 revisions) of technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures along with 467 addenda and 42 corrigenda to notifications (Chart 1). Since the entry into force of the Agreement on 1 January 1995, up to 31 December 2013, 17,418 notifications, 3,150 addenda and 524 corrigenda to these notifications have been made by 121 Members.

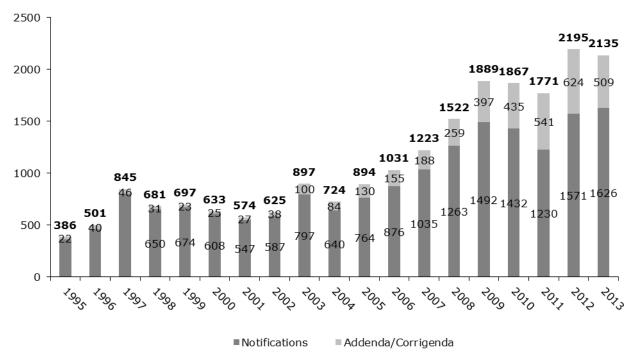
<sup>3</sup> The full list of statements of Members having submitted a statement on implementation and administration of the TBT Agreement under Article 15.2 (since January 1995) is contained in document G/TBT/GEN/1/Rev.13. The new statements were received from Montenegro (G/TBT/2/Add.110) and Lao PDR (G/TBT/2/Add.111). Ukraine (G/TBT/2/Add.100/Rev.3) submitted a revision to its statement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> G/TBT/M/59-61.

http://tbtims.wto.org/

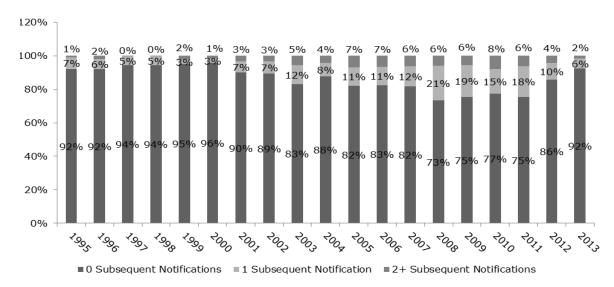
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The data for the graphs in this section are drawn from the TBT IMS, more detail is contained in Annexes A and B.





2.2. The share of notifications to which one or more addendum, corrigendum, or revision was submitted increased to around 25% over the years 2008-2011 (see Chart 2) and then appears to have declined in 2012 and 2013. $^6$ 

Chart 2: Share of TBT Notifications Subject to Subsequent Notifications (Addenda, Corrigenda, or Revisions) since 1995<sup>7</sup>

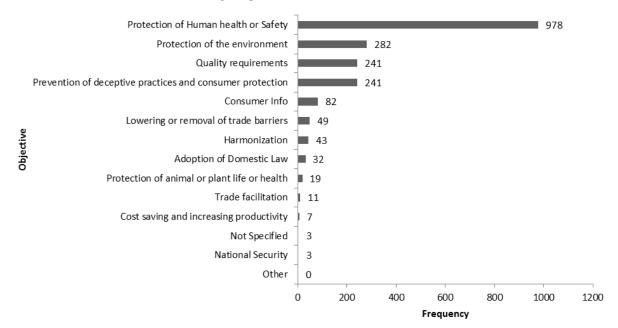


 $<sup>^{6}</sup>$  The Committee is currently working on guidelines for the coherent use of notification formats (JOB/TBT/68).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Addenda, corrigenda and revisions are counted in the year of the parent notification, not the year in which they were issued. For 2012 and 2013, the time period following the distribution of notifications may not have been sufficiently long in order to draw conclusions regarding trends in subsequent notifications for those years.

2.3. Among the 1,626 notifications received in 2013, the following objectives were most frequently mentioned by Members: protection of human health or safety; protection of the environment; quality requirements; prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection. Other objectives mentioned included: consumer information; lowering or removal of trade barriers; harmonization; adoption of domestic law; protection of animal or plant life or health; trade facilitation; cost saving and increasing productivity; and national security (See Chart 3).

Chart 3: Notifications in 2013 by Objective<sup>8</sup>

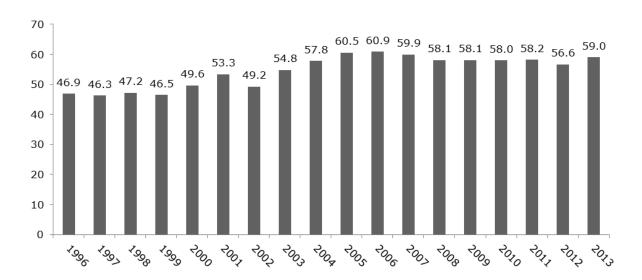


2.4. In 1995, the Committee recommended that the normal time-limit for presentation of comments on notified technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures should be 60 days. It was also recommended that any Member able to provide more than 60 days (such as 90 days) was encouraged to do so.<sup>9</sup> In 2013, Members allowed an average of 59 days for comments in the 1,501 cases where they specified a comment period in notifications. In total, 125 notifications did not specify a comment period, stated it as non-applicable, or had a comment period which had lapsed (see Annex B). Chart 4 shows the average time allowed for comments since 1995.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Notifications may refer to multiple objectives.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> G/TBT/1/Rev.11, page 23.





# 2.1.2 Notifications under the Code of Good Practice for the Preparation, Adoption and Application of Standards ("the Code")

2.5. In 2013, standardizing bodies from Montenegro, Lao PDR and the Republic of Moldova accepted the Code of Good Practice. No standardizing body withdrew during the period under review. Since the entry into force of the Agreement and through December 2013, 164 standardizing bodies from 124 Members have adhered to the Code. <sup>11</sup> Document G/TBT/CS/2/Rev.20 contains a list, by Member, of standardizing bodies that have accepted the Code since 1 January 1995 through December 2013. The ISO/IEC Information Centre prepares the WTO TBT Standards Code Directory which lists all standardizing bodies that have notified their acceptance of the Code. <sup>12</sup>

### 2.1.3 Notifications under Article 10.7

2.6. In 2013, two Members notified agreements under Article 10.7 - the European Union with Israel, and the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu with Japan. Since the entry into force of the TBT Agreement, Members have submitted 139 notifications under Article 10.7 along with 6 corrigenda.

## 2.2 Specific Trade Concerns

2.7. Since its first meeting, Members have used the TBT Committee as a forum to discuss issues related to specific measures (technical regulations, standards or conformity assessment procedures) maintained by other Members. These are referred to as "specific trade concerns" and relate either to proposed measures notified to the TBT Committee in accordance with the notification requirements in the Agreement, or to measures currently in force. Committee meetings, or informal discussions between Members held in the margins of such meetings, afford Members the opportunity to review trade concerns in a bilateral or multilateral setting and to seek further clarification. Members regularly discuss follow-up in the Committee. In 2013, 73 specific trade concerns were raised (see Annex C). The following Charts provide information on the 406 concerns raised to date.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> This chart covers only those notifications that specify a comment period. The chart does not take into account notifications where the comment period was not specified, was stated as non-applicable, or had lapsed at the time of circulation (in other words, the deadline for comments stated on the notification was earlier than the date of circulation of the notification).

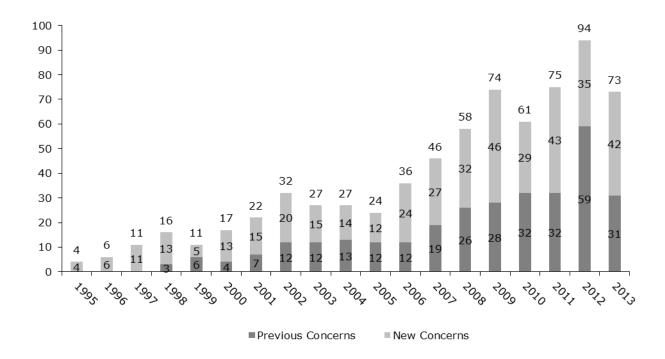
 $<sup>^{11}</sup>$  Notifications of acceptance of the Code by standardizing bodies of Members are contained in documents G/TBT/CS/N/1-182.

<sup>12</sup> http://www.standardsinfo.net/info/inttrade.html.

## 2.2.1 Types and Number of Specific Trade Concerns Raised

2.8. In 2013, 42 new concerns were raised and 31 previously raised concerns were discussed. Chart 5 illustrates the number of specific trade concerns addressed by the Committee each year since 1995.<sup>13</sup> The total number of specific trade concerns raised in 2013 decreased from the peak in 2012, however, the number of new specific trade concerns raised for discussion increased.

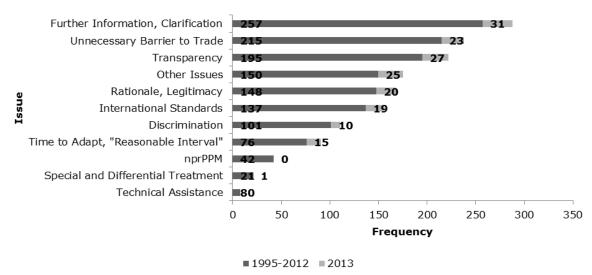
**Chart 5: Number of Specific Trade Concerns Raised Per Year** 



2.9. In discussions at the Committee between 1995 and 2013, the most frequently invoked concerns were those relating to the need for more information, or clarification about the measure at issue. Concerns relating to the avoidance of unnecessary barriers to trade and to lack of transparency were also frequent. As can be seen in Chart 6, the ranking of concerns in 2013 remained consistent with the long term trend.

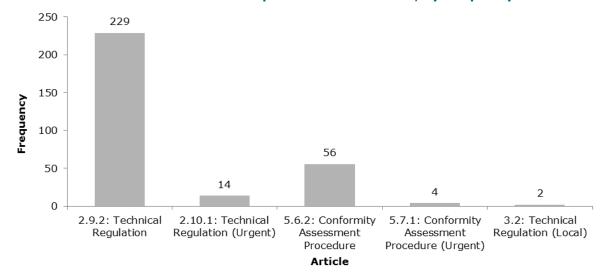
 $<sup>^{13}</sup>$  More detail on specific trade concerns raised in the TBT Committee is available through the TBT IMS (http://tbtims.wto.org).





2.10. Approximately 68% of the specific trade concerns discussed in the Committee to date related to notified measures (278 out of 406). Measures notified as technical regulations (Articles 2.9.2, 2.10.1) are most frequently discussed (Chart 7).

Chart 7: Notified Measures Raised in Specific Trade Concerns, by Frequency<sup>17</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> For each specific trade concern covered there may be more than one type of concern raised. 'Other Issues' that have been raised include, *inter alia*, "complexity", "lack of scientific evidence", and "intellectual property". 'Time to adapt, "reasonable interval"' refers to the period between the publication of technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures, and their entry into force.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Eight specific trade concerns discussed in the TBT Committee were also notified to the SPS Committee.

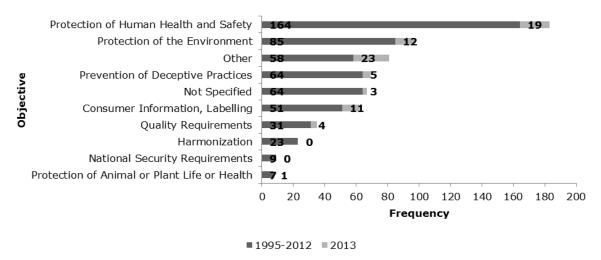
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Some measures have been notified both as technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures.

procedures.  $^{17}$  Given that some measures have been notified under multiple articles, and that some concerns may be raised against multiple notified measures, the total sum of article frequency is greater than the total number of STCs.

## 2.2.2 Stated Objectives

2.11. Information about the stated objective of measures may be derived from the notification itself, or, when raised in the Committee, through the discussion therein. The most commonly stated objectives of measures discussed relate to the protection of human health and safety, and the protection of the environment. The category 'other' covers a wide range of stated objectives including trade facilitation and cost saving. For a significant number of trade concerns, the objective is not readily apparent from discussions and there is no notification; these stated objectives have been classified as "not specified" in Chart 8.

Chart 8: Stated Objectives for the Measures in 1995 - 2013<sup>18</sup>



2.12. A greater number of specific trade concerns in 2013 were raised with measures that addressed "consumer information and labelling" and "quality requirements" than "prevention of deceptive practices", and there were no measures raised that related to "harmonization" or "national security requirements".

## 2.2.3 Distribution of Measures by Member

2.13. Most of the STCs are raised with measures maintained by Members in the Asia, Europe and North America regions. Very few STCs are raised about measures maintained by Members in the Africa, CIS and Middle East regions. No concerns about measures maintained by LDCs have been raised. Charts 9 and 10 show the distribution of region and development status of Members that have raised STCs in the TBT Committee, as well as those maintaining the measures raised in STCs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> For each specific trade concern there may be more than one stated objective.

Chart 9: Members with Measures Subject to STCs: by Region & Development Status

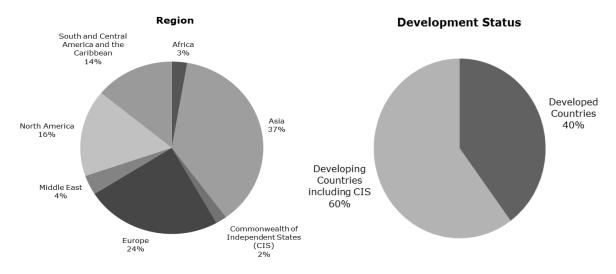
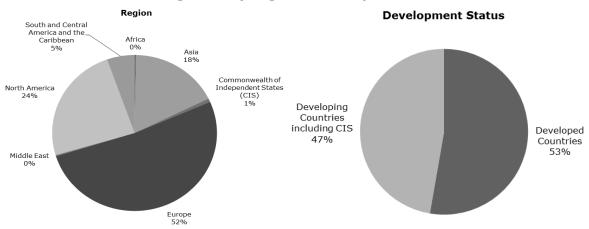
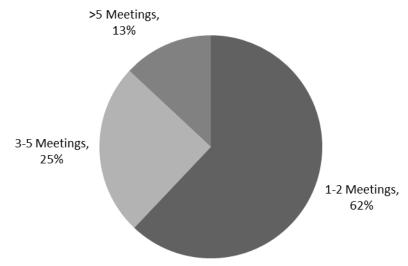


Chart 10: Members Raising STCs: by Region & Development Status



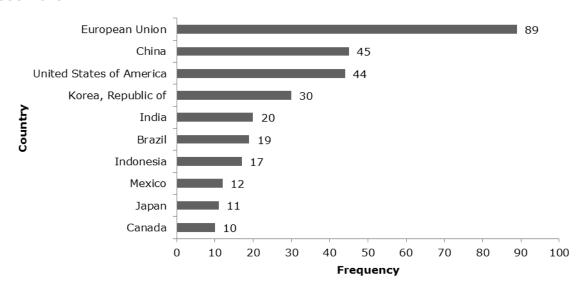
2.14. Chart 11 illustrates how frequently concerns with one particular measure are raised in Committee meetings. Most specific trade concerns have been raised once or twice. Some have been raised more than five times, and, amongst these, several have been on the agenda for a number of years.

Chart 11: Number of Meetings at Which the Same Concern is Raised



2.15. Measures maintained by the European Union, China and the United States have been most frequently raised for discussion in the Committee (Chart 12).

Chart 12: Top 10 Members whose Measures Have Been Most Frequently Discussed, 1995-2013



## **3 DISPUTES INVOLVING PROVISIONS OF THE TBT AGREEMENT**

- 3.1. During the review period, a panel report relevant to the TBT Agreement was circulated. Additionally, two relevant compliance procedures and one retaliation ("suspension of concessions") procedure were initiated:
  - a. European Communities Measures Prohibiting the Importation and Marketing of Seal Products (Complainants: Canada and Norway). On 25 November 2013, the panel report was circulated to Members. 19

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> For more detail, see: <a href="http://www.wto.org/english/tratop">http://www.wto.org/english/tratop</a> e/dispu</a> e/cases</a> e/ds400</a> e.htm (complaint by Canada) and <a href="http://www.wto.org/english/tratop">http://www.wto.org/english/tratop</a> e/dispu</a> e/cases</a> e/ds401</a> e.htm (complaint by Norway). This panel report is currently under appeal.

- b. United States Certain Country of Origin Labelling (COOL) Requirements (Complainants: Canada and Mexico). On 19 August 2013, Canada and Mexico requested the establishment of a compliance panel. On 27 September 2013, the compliance panel was composed.<sup>20</sup>
- c. United States Measures Concerning the Importation, Marketing and Sale of Tuna and Tuna Products (Complaint: Mexico). On 14 November 2013, Mexico requested the establishment of a compliance panel.<sup>21</sup>
- d. United States Measures Affecting the Production and Sale of Clove Cigarettes (Complainant: Indonesia). On 12 August 2013, Indonesia requested the authorization of the DSB to suspend concessions or other obligations pursuant to Article 22.2 of the DSU. On 22 August 2013, the United States objected to the level of suspension of concessions or other obligations and referred the matter to arbitration pursuant to Article 22.6 of the DSU. At the DSB meeting on 23 August 2013, it was agreed that the matter be referred to arbitration as required by Article 22.6 of the DSU.<sup>22</sup>
- 3.2. Since the entry into force of the Agreement, 49 cases have cited the TBT Agreement in their request for consultations. A full listing of these cases can be found on the WTO website under "Disputes by Agreement". $^{23}$

#### **4 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

#### 4.1 Regional Workshops

4.1. In 2013, the Secretariat organized, in cooperation with the Singapore Government, one regional workshop on the TBT Agreement for Asia and Pacific Countries. The programme of this workshop was designed to assist participating economies from the region to consolidate knowledge of the principles and disciplines of the TBT Agreement.

## 4.2 National Workshops

4.2. In response to requests received from individual Members, workshops were held in Angola, Cabo Verde, Kuwait, China (TBT, SPS), Costa Rica (video-conference), Seychelles and India during 2013. These workshops were broadly aimed at promoting a better understanding of the TBT Agreement, enabling a discussion of challenges in implementation of the Agreement, and, providing an opportunity to address TBT issues of specific interest to these Members.

#### 4.3 Geneva-Based Activities

#### 4.3.1 Advanced Course on the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade

4.3. A two-week Specialized Course on the TBT Agreement was held in Geneva on 10-21 June 2013. The 25 selected participants in this advanced TBT activity were government officials from developing and least-developed WTO Members and Observers. The course was designed to promote a greater understanding of the TBT Agreement and to help participants identify concrete initiatives to deal with implementation challenges. The Course comprised a series of sessions and practical exercises related to the implementation of the Agreement. Participants also debated various TBT-relevant issues currently being discussed in the TBT Committee.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> For more detail, see: <a href="http://www.wto.org/english/tratop\_e/dispu\_e/cases\_e/ds384\_e.htm">http://www.wto.org/english/tratop\_e/dispu\_e/cases\_e/ds384\_e.htm</a> (complaint by Canada) and <a href="http://www.wto.org/english/tratop\_e/dispu\_e/cases\_e/ds386\_e.htm">http://www.wto.org/english/tratop\_e/dispu\_e/cases\_e/ds386\_e.htm</a> (complaint by Mexico).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> For more detail, see: <a href="http://www.wto.org/english/tratop">http://www.wto.org/english/tratop</a> e/dispu e/cases e/ds381 e.htm. This compliance panel was eventually composed on 27 January 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> For more detail, see: <a href="http://www.wto.org/english/tratop">http://www.wto.org/english/tratop</a> e/dispu</a> e/cases</a> e/ds406</a> e.htm.

#### 4.3.2 Other Geneva-based Activities

4.4. The Secretariat provided training on the TBT Agreement at three Advanced Trade Policy Courses as well as the Advanced Course on the Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.

## 4.4 Regional Trade Policy Courses

4.5. TBT training was also provided in the regional trade policy courses organized by the WTO Secretariat, which were held in Botswana (for English-speaking African countries from 14-15 October 2013), Turkey for Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus Countries (CEECAC) on 23 May 2013, India (for Asia and Pacific countries) on 23 September 2013, and Tunisia (for French Speaking African Countries) on 24 May 2013.

## 4.5 E-Learning

4.6. In 2013, 228 participants successfully completed TBT E-Learning courses (137 participants in English, 58 participants in French, and 33 participants in Spanish). The TBT-online course is addressed to government officials from Members and Observers and covers all aspects of the TBT Agreement. The TBT online course is available throughout the year in all three languages.<sup>24</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> While the WTO E-Learning material is freely available in the WTO E-Learning website, participants have to register and submit a nomination form in order to participate in a monitored course, access the module exams and obtain a WTO certificate. More information can be obtained at: <a href="http://etraining.wto.org/">http://etraining.wto.org/</a>.

ANNEXES

A. Notifications by Relevant Articles of the Agreement in 2013

Member	Number of notifications	2.9	2.10	3.2	5.6	5.7	7.2	Not specified	Total number of
	made in 2013								notifications made since 1995
Albania	3	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	65
Angola	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Antigua and Barbuda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Argentina	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	340
Armenia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	73
Australia	23	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	194
Austria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Bahrain, Kingdom of	40	40	0	0	2	0	0	0	320
Bangladesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Barbados	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
Belgium	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	207
Belize	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Benin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Bolivia, Plurinational State of	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22
Botswana	24	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	38
Brazil	50	36	0	0	14	0	1	1	687
Brunei Darussalam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Bulgaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burkina Faso	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burundi	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cambodia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Cameroon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Canada	28	28	0	0	13	0	0	0	554
Cabo Verde	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Central African Republic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10

Member	Number of notifications made in 2013	2.9	2.10	3.2	5.6	5.7	7.2	Not specified	Total number of notifications made since 1995
Chad	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chile	31	12	2	0	19	0	0	0	320
China	90	83	1	0	5	1	0	0	1032
Colombia	13	8	0	0	9	0	0	0	240
Congo	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Costa Rica	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	156
Côte d'Ivoire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Croatia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	38
Cuba	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
Cyprus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Czech Republic	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	281
Democratic Republic of the Congo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Denmark	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	248
Djibouti	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dominica	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
Dominican Republic	33	29	1	0	8	0	0	0	229
Ecuador	43	36	7	0	0	0	0	0	133
Egypt	19	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	55
El Salvador	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	226
Estonia	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
European Union	93	87	0	0	27	0	0	0	787
Fiji	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Finland	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	70
France	12	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	218
Gabon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Georgia	6	5	1	0	5	0	0	0	75
Germany	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21

Member	Number of notifications made in 2013	2.9	2.10	3.2	5.6	5.7	7.2	Not specified	Total number of notifications made since
Ghana	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>1995</b> 8
Greece	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grenada	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
Guatemala	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	91
Guinea	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Guinea- Bissau	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Guyana	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20
Haiti	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Honduras	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	81
Hong Kong, China	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	76
Hungary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27
Iceland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
India	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	93
Indonesia	13	13	0	0	9	0	0	0	85
Ireland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Israel	83	83	0	0	0	0	0	0	785
Italy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27
Jamaica	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	66
Japan	38	38	0	0	6	0	0	0	679
Jordan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	47
Kenya	54	53	1	0	0	0	0	0	398
Korea, Republic of	45	34	0	0	31	0	0	0	566
Kuwait, the State of	49	48	0	0	1	0	0	0	197
Kyrgyz Republic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33
Lao People's Democratic Republic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Latvia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30
Lesotho	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Member	Number of notifications made in 2013	2.9	2.10	3.2	5.6	5.7	7.2	Not specified	Total number of notifications made since
Liechtenstein	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1995 0
Lithuania	3	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	22
Luxembourg	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Macao, China	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Madagascar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Malawi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Malaysia	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	201
Maldives	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mali	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Malta	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mauritania	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mauritius	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Mexico	18	18	0	0	1	0	0	0	448
Moldova, Republic of	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20
Mongolia	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	7
Montenegro	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Morocco	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	26
Mozambique	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Myanmar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Namibia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nepal	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Netherlands	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	620
New Zealand	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	96
Nicaragua	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	132
Niger	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nigeria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Norway	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	78
Oman	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	150

Member	Number of notifications made in 2013	2.9	2.10	3.2	5.6	5.7	7.2	Not specified	Total number of notifications made since 1995
Pakistan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	57
Panama	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	41
Papua New Guinea	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Paraguay	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	72
Peru	9	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	58
Philippines	14	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	231
Poland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Portugal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Qatar	40	39	1	0	0	0	0	0	317
Romania	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	90
Russian Federation	26	26	0	0	17	0	0	0	28
Rwanda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Saint Kitts and Nevis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Saint Lucia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
Samoa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of	214	214	0	0	0	0	0	0	708
Senegal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
Sierra Leone	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Singapore	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	37
Slovak Republic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	46
Slovenia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	101
Solomon Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
South Africa	15	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	221
Spain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	68
Sri Lanka	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	46

Member	Number of notifications made in 2013	2.9	2.10	3.2	5.6	5.7	7.2	Not specified	Total number of notifications made since 1995
Suriname	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Swaziland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Sweden	5	5	0	0	1	0	0	0	219
Switzerland	9	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	251
Chinese Taipei	24	23	0	0	12	0	0	1	154
Tajikistan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tanzania	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	44
Thailand	23	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	538
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
The Gambia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Togo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Tonga	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trinidad and Tobago	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	109
Tunisia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26
Turkey	26	26	0	0	1	0	0	0	48
Uganda	125	125	0	0	0	0	0	0	415
Ukraine	9	7	0	0	3	0	0	0	97
United Arab Emirates	60	59	0	0	4	0	0	0	182
United Kingdom	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	44
United States of America	103	92	0	11	0	0	0	0	1078
Uruguay	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Vanuatu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35
Viet Nam	14	12	0	0	2	0	0	0	36

Member	Number of notifications made in 2013	2.9	2.10	3.2	5.6	5.7	7.2	Not specified	Total number of notifications made since 1995
Zambia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	44
Zimbabwe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	1626	1530	16	11	196	1	1	2	17411

## **B.** Observation of the Recommended Comment Period by Members in 2013

Member	Less than 45 days	45-59 days	60 days or more	Not Specified or Stated as Not Applicable	Lapsed	Total
Albania	0	0	3	0	0	3
Argentina	2	0	0	6	0	8
Australia	0	2	21	0	0	23
Bahrain, Kingdom of	0	0	40	0	0	40
Botswana	0	0	24	0	0	24
Brazil	9	30	2	6	2	49
Burundi	0	0	0	1	0	1
Canada	1	6	20	1	0	28
Chile	2	16	13	0	0	31
China	3	0	87	0	0	90
Colombia	0	0	13	0	0	13
Congo	0	0	0	3	0	3
Costa Rica	0	0	4	2	0	6
Cuba	0	0	0	7	0	7
Czech Republic	0	0	4	0	0	4
Denmark	0	0	0	2	0	2
Dominican Republic	0	0	33	0	0	33
Ecuador	0	0	36	7	0	43
Egypt	0	0	19	0	0	19
El Salvador	0	0	7	0	0	7
Estonia	0	0	1	0	0	1
European Union	0	2	91	0	0	93
Finland	0	0	0	1	0	1
France	0	0	11	1	0	12
Georgia	0	0	0	6	0	6
Guatemala	0	0	3	0	0	3
Honduras	0	0	4	0	0	4
India	0	0	3	0	0	3
Indonesia	0	0	13	0	0	13
Israel	0	2	80	1	0	83
Jamaica	0	0	2	0	0	2
Japan	14	1	23	0	0	38
Kenya	4	5	44	1	0	54
Korea, Republic of	0	0	45	0	0	45
Kuwait, the State of	0	0	49	0	0	49
Lithuania	0	0	3	0	0	3
Malaysia	0	0	4	0	0	4
Mali	0	0	0	2	0	2
Mexico	1	17	0	0	0	18
Moldova, Republic of	0	0	0	0	1	1

Member	Less than 45 days	45-59 days	60 days or more	Not Specified or Stated as Not Applicable	Lapsed	Total
Mongolia	0	0	1	0	0	1
Morocco	0	0	0	1	0	1
Mozambique	0	0	0	3	0	3
Nepal	0	0	4	0	0	4
Netherlands	0	0	0	1	0	1
New Zealand	0	0	1	1	0	2
Nicaragua	0	0	6	0	0	6
Oman	0	0	4	0	0	4
Panama	3	0	1	0	0	4
Paraguay	4	0	2	1	0	7
Peru	0	0	9	0	0	9
Philippines	5	9	0	0	0	14
Qatar	1	0	39	0	0	40
Russian Federation	0	9	4	0	13	26
Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of	0	0	213	1	0	214
Singapore	0	0	5	0	0	5
South Africa	1	5	9	0	0	15
Sweden	0	0	5	0	0	5
Switzerland	0	2	7	0	0	9
Chinese Taipei	7	0	13	2	2	24
Thailand	0	0	9	14	0	23
Trinidad and Tobago	3	0	0	0	0	3
Turkey	2	0	4	20	1	27
Uganda	0	0	125	0	0	125
Ukraine	3	0	4	2	0	9
United Arab Emirates	0	0	60	0	0	60
United States of America	32	32	26	10	3	103
Viet Nam	0	0	14	0	0	14
GRAND TOTAL	97	138	1266	103	22	1626

## C. Specific Trade Concerns Raised in 2013

- 1. The following table lists the 73 specific trade concerns raised in the TBT Committee during 2013. The second column contains the name of specific trade concern, and in parentheses, its unique identification number in the online TBT IMS (IMS ID).  $^{25}$
- 2. The specific trade concerns are sorted as follows:
  - a. **Date**: date of meeting when the specific trade concern was last raised (in reverse chronological order);
  - Frequency: number of meetings at which the specific trade concern has been raised;
     and
  - c. **Members**: number of Members that have expressed concern about the measure since it was first raised.

	Specific trade concerns	Date last raised	Frequency	Members
1	European Communities - Regulation on the Registration, Evaluation and Authorization of Chemicals (REACH) (ID 88)	30 October 2013	33	34
2	India - Pneumatic tyres and tubes for automotive vehicles (ID 133)	30 October 2013	22	4
3	India – Mandatory Certification for Steel Products (ID 224)	30 October 2013	13	5
4	Brazil - Health Products (ID 233)	30 October 2013	11	6
5	India - New Telecommunications related Rules (Department of Telecommunications, No. 842-725/2005-VAS/Vol.III (3 December 2009); No. 10-15/2009-AS-III/193 (18 March 2010); and Nos. 10-15/2009-AS.III/Vol.II/(Pt.)/(25-29) (28 July 2010); Department of Telecommunications, No. 10-15/2009-AS.III/Vol.II/(Pt.)/(30) (28 July 2010) and accompanying template, "Security and Business Continuity Agreement") (ID 274)	30 October 2013	10	3
6	Korea - KS C IEC61646:2007 Standard for Thin-film Solar Panels (IMS ID 271)	30 October 2013	10	2
7	China - Requirements for information security products, including, inter alia, the Office of State Commercial Cryptography Administration (OSCCA) 1999 Regulation on commercial encryption products and its on-going revision and the Multi-Level Protection Scheme (MLPS) (ID 294)	30 October 2013	9	5
8	China - Provisions for the Administration of Cosmetics Application Acceptance (ID 296)	30 October 2013	9	5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Enter this 'item number' into the TBT IMS 'specific trade concern' search (<a href="http://tbtims.wto.org/web/pages/search/stc/Search.aspx">http://tbtims.wto.org/web/pages/search/stc/Search.aspx</a>) to locate additional information on any STC.

	Specific trade concerns	Date last raised	Frequency	Members
9	France - Loi No. 2010-788: The National Commitment for the Environment (Grenelle 2 Law) (ID 306)	30 October 2013	8	7
10	Peru - Draft Supreme Decree Approving the Regulations Governing the Labelling of Genetically Modified Foods (ID 320)	30 October 2013	6	7
11	Russian Federation – Draft on Technical Regulation of Alcohol Drinks Safety (published on 24 October) (ID 332)	30 October 2013	6	7
12	Korea - Regulation on Registration and Evaluation of Chemical Material (ID 305)	30 October 2013	6	5
13	European Union – Directive 2009/28/CE, Renewable Energy Directive (EU - RED) (ID 307)	30 October 2013	6	4
14	Indonesia - Technical Guidelines for the Implementation of the Adoption and Supervision of Indonesian National Standards for Obligatory Toy Safety(ID 328)	30 October 2013	6	2
15	Kenya - Alcohol Labelling: The Alcoholic Drinks Control (Licensing) Regulations, 2010: Legal Notice No. 206: 2010 (ID 311)	30 October 2013	5	3
16	China - Testing and certification requirements for medical devices (ID 143)	30 October 2013	5	3
17	European Union - Draft Implementing Regulations amending Regulation (EC) No. 607/2009 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 479/2008 as regards protected designations of origin and geographical indications, traditional terms, labelling and presentation of certain wine sector products (ID 345)	30 October 2013	4	6
18	Israel - Warning regulations on alcoholic beverages (ID 364)	30 October 2013	4	4
19	Brazil - Draft ANVISA Resolution on used, refurbished, rented and lent medical devices (ID 362)	30 October 2013	4	2
20	India - Food Safety and Standards Regulation - Food labelling requirements (ID 298)	30 October 2013	4	2
21	Mexico - Refusal of the National Water Commission to re-certify HDPE pipe products meeting quality/safety standards for piping set out in NOM 001 and NMX 241 (ID 330)	30 October 2013	4	1
22	European Union - Tobacco products, nicotine containing products and herbal products for smoking. Packaging for retail sale of any of the aforementioned products (ID 377)	30 October 2013	3	13

	Specific trade concerns	Date last raised	Frequency	Members
23	Chile - Proposed amendment to the Food Health Regulations, Supreme Decree No. 977/96 (ID 370)	30 October 2013	3	12
24	New Zealand - Proposal to introduce plain packaging of tobacco products in New Zealand (ID 361)	30 October 2013	3	10
25	India - Electronics and Information Technology Goods (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2012 (ID 367)	30 October 2013	3	6
26	Ireland - Proposal to introduce standardised/plain packaging of tobacco products in Ireland (ID 380)	30 October 2013	2	9
27	Peru — Act to Promote Healthy Eating Among Children and Adolescents (ID 383)	30 October 2013	2	7
28	Indonesia - Ministry of Trade Regulation 82/M-DAG/PER/12/2012 on imported cell phones, handheld and tablet computers (ID 388)	30 October 2013	2	3
29	Indonesia - Ministry of Health Regulation 30/2013 on the inclusion of sugar, salt and fat content information, as well as health messages on the label of processed foods (ID 389)	30 October 2013	2	3
30	European Union - Proposal for a Regulation on Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases (ID 391)	30 October 2013	2	3
31	European Union - Revised Proposal for the Categorization of Compounds as Endocrine Disruptors of 19 February 2013 by DG Environment (ID 393)	30 October 2013	2	2
32	China - China Food and Drug Administration (CFDA) EMC Enforcement Notice for medical devices of 19 December 2012 (ID 387)	30 October 2013	2	2
33	Peru - Implementing Regulations of 14 November 2012 for Moratorium on Planting Genetically Engineered Crops (ID 392)	30 October 2013	2	1
34	Russia - Safety of light industry products (ID 390)	30 October 2013	2	1
35	European Union - Transformation of still wine into sparkling wine EC Regulation 479/2008 of 29 April 2008 (ID 381)	30 October 2013	2	1
36	European Union - Implementing Regulation (EU) No 481/2012 laying down rules for the management of a tariff quota for high-quality beef (ID 382)	30 October 2013	2	1

	Specific trade concerns	Date last raised	Frequency	Members
37	Turkey - Draft Communiqué on Warning Messages Placed on Containers of Alcoholic Beverages; and, Draft Regulation Amending the Regulation on Procedures and Principles Concerning Domestic and Foreign Trading of Alcohol and Alcoholic Beverages (ID 407)	30 October 2013	1	4
38	Ecuador - Resolution No. SENAE- DGN-2013-0300-RE relating to post entry control of imported alcoholic beverages (ID 394)	30 October 2013	1	3
39	Ecuador - Resolution establishing the "General conformity assessment framework for Ecuador" and the "Handbook of procedures to be observed prior to all stages of the customs clearance, marketing and market surveillance of manufactured, imported and marketed goods subject to Ecuadorian technical regulations (ID 398)	30 October 2013	1	3
40	United States — EPA Palm Oil Biofuels Regulatory Program (ID 408)	30 October 2013	1	2
41	United Arab Emirates - Control Regulation for Halal Products - Part I - Halal Food (ID 402)	30 October 2013	1	2
42	China - Regulations of the China Food and Drug Administration on Legislative Procedures (Exposure Draft) (ID 404)	30 October 2013	1	2
43	European Union – Fuel Quality Directive (ID 405)	30 October 2013	1	2
44	Mexico - Draft Mexican Official Standard PROY-NOM-032-ENER- 2013: Maximum electrical power limits for equipment and appliances requiring standby power. Test methods and labelling (ID 406)	30 October 2013	1	1
45	Chile - Safety for Printers and Energy Efficiency for Printers (ID 403)	30 October 2013	1	1
46	Russian Federation – Measure affecting import of Ukrainian confectionary products (ID 399)	30 October 2013	1	1
47	Indonesia - Mandatory Indonesia National Standard (SNI) for Glazed Ceramic (ID 400)	30 October 2013	1	1
48	Thailand - Draft Thai Industrial Standard for Ceramic Tiles (TIS 2508-2555) (ID 401)	30 October 2013	1	1
49	Italy - Testing requirement on import of steel cutlery products (ID 395)	30 October 2013	1	1
50	European Union - Draft Commission Regulation implementing Directive 2009/125/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to ecodesign requirements for vacuum cleaners (ID 396)	30 October 2013	1	1

	Specific trade concerns	Date last raised	Frequency	Members
51	Indonesia - Regulation number 84/Permentan/PD.140/2013, on halal food (ID 397)	30 October 2013	1	1
52	Colombia – Commercial Truck Diesel Emissions Regulation (Resolution 2604, 24 December 2009) (ID 318)	17 June 2013	6	3
53	Viet Nam – Decree No 38 Detailing the Implementation of Some Articles of Food Safety Law (ID 356)	17 June 2013	4	6
54	European Union – Directive 2011/62/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2001/83/EC on the Community code relating to medicinal products for human use, as regards the prevention of the entry into the legal supply chain of falsified medicinal products (ID 334)	17 June 2013	4	3
55	Korea - Draft amendment of Ordinance and Regulation of Motor Vehicle Control Act (ID 376)	17 June 2013	2	1
56	China - Innovative medical instruments and provisions for simplifying application materials for re-registration of medical instruments (ID 386)	17 June 2013	1	3
57	US - Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products: various products (ID 384)	17 June 2013	1	1
58	US - Proposed Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances (ID 385)	17 June 2013	1	1
59	United States - Hazardous Materials: Transportation of Lithium Batteries (ID 262)	6 March 2013	10	5
60	Turkey - New conformity assessment procedures for pharmaceuticals (ID 264)	6 March 2013	10	3
61	European Union - Directive 2004/24/EC on Traditional Herbal Medicinal Products (ID 265)	6 March 2013	9	3
62	European Union - Issue with respect of honey containing pollen from genetically modified maize MON810, Ruling from ECJ (ID 322)	6 March 2013	3	7
63	China – Draft Mobile Smart Terminal Administrative Measure, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT), 10 April 2012 (ID 358)	6 March 2013	2	3
64	European Union – Draft Commission Regulation implementing Directive 2009/125/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to ecodesign requirements for directional lamps, light emitting diode lamps and related equipment (ID 365)	6 March 2013	2	1
65	United Arab Emirates - Conformity Assessment Procedure for Automobile Tyres (ID 368)	6 March 2013	1	2

	Specific trade concerns	Date last raised	Frequency	Members
66	Thailand - Certificate Requirement and Administrative Measure Relating to Importation of New Pneumatic Tyres of Rubber into the Kingdom of Thailand B.E. 2555 (2012) (ID 369)	6 March 2013	1	2
67	Korea - Proposed SAR Values or EMF exposure in cell phones (ID 371)	6 March 2013	1	2
68	Russia - Alcoholic Beverages Storage Technical Conditions Order Number 59n (ID 372)	6 March 2013	1	1
69	India - Proposed Amendment to 2008 Hazardous Waste Law (ID 373)	6 March 2013	1	1
70	Ukraine - Amendment to Law on Advertising, Law of Ukraine No. 3778-VI of 16 March 2012 (ID 374)	6 March 2013	1	1
71	Canada - Improved food inspection model: The Case for Change (ID 375)	6 March 2013	1	1
72	Ecuador - Draft Technical Regulation of the Ecuadorian Standardization Institute (PRTE INEN) No. 080: "Labelling of footwear" (ID 378)	6 March 2013	1	1
73	Ecuador - Labelling of articles of apparel, household linen and clothing accessories (ID 379)	6 March 2013	1	1