



HARMONIZED SYSTEM
REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE

NR0137E1

-
23rd Session
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O. Eng.

Brussels, 8 February 2001.

POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS TO NOTE 1 (c) TO CHAPTER 41

REGARDING HIDES AND SKINS OF CAMELS

(Item III.A.2 on Agenda)

Reference documents :

NR0072E2, Annex C, paragraph 46 (RSC/20 – Report) NC0271E1 (HSC/26)
NR0113E1 (RSC/22) NC0340E2, Annex E/1, paras 18 and 19 (HSC/26 –
NR0133E2, Annexes D/3 and E/6 (RSC/22 – Report) Report)

I. BACKGROUND

1. At the 22nd Session, the Sub-Committee agreed to include a reference to “camels (including dromedaries)” (French : “chameau et dromadaire”) in Note 1 (c) to Chapter 41 and the corresponding Explanatory Notes to Chapters 41 and 43.
2. At the 26th Session, the Harmonized System Committee (HSC) decided to refer the matter back to the Sub-Committee, to study the question (i) whether or not the reference to “camel” in Note 1 (b) to Chapter 51 should be brought in line with the proposed amendment to Note 1 (c) to Chapter 41, and (ii) whether the proposed amendment would result in any product transfer from other headings of the Nomenclature.

II. SECRETARIAT COMMENTS

3. The Secretariat would like to point out first that Note 1 (c) to Chapter 41 excludes hides and skins with the hair or wool on from Chapter 41. However, raw hides and skins of certain animals, with the hair or wool on, are excepted from this exclusion and remain classified in headings 41.01 to 41.03. The insertion of a reference to “camels (including dromedaries)” in the said Note would, therefore, only entail a transfer of raw hides and skins of these animals, with the hair or wool on (from heading 43.01 to heading 41.03). When tanned or dressed, such hides and skins (i.e., with the hair or wool on) remain classified in Chapter 43.

File No. 2812

4. The Secretariat considers that for the sake of clarity and consistency, references to “camel(s)” elsewhere in the Nomenclature and the Explanatory Notes should be aligned on the text approved for Note 1 (c) to Chapter 41, i.e., to read “camel(s) (including dromedar(y)(ies))” (French : “chameau et dromadaire”). Although the Sub-Committee already adopted corresponding modifications with respect to the Explanatory Notes to headings 41.03 and 43.01, additional modifications to legal texts and the Explanatory Notes would be necessary if this principle is adopted. It concerns the following texts :
- (i) The Explanatory Note to heading 01.06, first paragraph, Item (A) (3) (HS 2002 edition);
 - (ii) The Explanatory Notes to headings 41.06, fifth paragraph, and 41.13, fifth paragraph (HS 2002 edition);
 - (iii) Note 1 (b) to Chapter 51;
 - (iv) The Explanatory Note to heading 51.02, Item (1), first and second paragraphs;
 - (v) The Explanatory Note to heading 51.08, third paragraph; and
 - (vi) The Explanatory Note to heading 65.01, Part (A), first paragraph.
5. As indicated in paragraph 3 above, a reference to “camels (including dromedaries)” in Note 1 (c) to Chapter 41 would only entail a transfer of raw hides and skins of these animals, with the hair or wool on (from heading 43.01 to heading 41.03). There are, in the view of the Secretariat, no other transfers as a result of this amendment.
6. The Secretariat considers that a possible inclusion of “dromedaries” in Note 1 (b) to Chapter 51 would not entail a transfer between the categories “fine animal hair” on the one hand, and “coarse animal hair” on the other hand.
7. The Secretariat has prepared draft amendments to the Nomenclature and to the Explanatory Notes with a view to including a reference to “dromedary” or “dromedaries”, as the case may be, whenever there is a reference to “camel(s)”. These proposed amendments are set out in the Annex to this document. It is to be noted that the draft amendments take into account the amendments adopted for the year 2002. As regards the draft amendments to the Explanatory Notes, page numbers need to be inserted after the HS 2002 version of the Explanatory Notes have been published.

III. CONCLUSION

8. The Sub-Committee is invited to consider the proposals for amending the legal texts to Chapters 41 and 51, and the relevant parts of the Explanatory Notes, as set out in the Annex to this document, taking into account the comments by the Secretariat when examining this Agenda item.

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