

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/TBT/N/TPKM/97
1 February 2011

(11-0505)

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

1. Member to Agreement notifying: <u>THE SEPARATE CUSTOMS TERRITORY OF TAIWAN, PENGHU, KINMEN AND MATSU</u> If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):
2. Agency responsible: The Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection (BSMI) Ministry of Economic Affairs 4 Chinan Road, Section 1, Taipei, 100, Taiwan Tel.: (886-2) 2343-4517 Fax: (886-2) 2392-2402 E-mail: mailto:cp.tsai@bsmi.gov.tw Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:
3. Notified under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [], 5.6.2 [X], 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): Textiles (towels, sweaters, garments, swimwear, underwear, hosiery, bedding) (HS Chapters 58, 61~63 and 94)
5. Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document: Public Notice under the Commodity Inspection Act (2 pages, in Chinese) (English translation available)
6. Description of content: The presence of free formaldehyde, azo colorants and other hazardous chemical substances resulted from the processing of textile products, which usually involves the use of various kinds of dyes, auxiliaries and finishing agents, has been a great concern expressed by the public over the past years. As these hazardous substances are considered to be carcinogenic or toxic to human, in response to the requests of the public, the BSMI intends to regulate the safety of textile products possibly with direct contact to skin to protect the health of consumers. The proposed measure also specifies monitor inspection as the conformity assessment procedure for ensuring compliance of textile products with safety requirements.
7. Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable: Consumer protection

8.	Relevant documents: The Commodity Inspection Act, CNS 15290, Labelling Criteria for Apparel And Garments, Labelling Criteria for Textiles
9.	Proposed date of adoption: 25 March 2011 Proposed date of entry into force: 1 January 2012
10.	Final date for comments: 60 days from date of notification
11.	Text available from: National enquiry point [X], or address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail and web-site addresses, if available of the other body: WTO/TBT Enquiry Point The Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection Ministry of Economic Affairs 4 Chinan Road, Section 1, Taipei, 100, Taiwan Tel.: (886-2) 2343-1801 Fax: (886-2) 2343-1804 E-mail: mailto:tbtenq@bsmi.gov.tw And can be downloaded at: http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2011/tbt/tpkm//11_0226_00_e.pdf