

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/TBT/N/TPKM/44

29 January 2007

(07-0387)

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Original: English

## NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6.

1.	<b>Member to Agreement notifying:</b> <u>THE SEPARATE CUSTOMS TERRITORY OF TAIWAN, PENGHU, KINMEN AND MATSU</u> <b>If applicable, name of local government involved (Articles 3.2 and 7.2):</b>
2.	<b>Agency responsible:</b> The Council of Agriculture (COA) 37 Nan Hai Road, Taipei, 100, Taiwan  Telephone: (+886-2) 2312-6965 Fax: (+886-2) 2312-3827 E-mail: blue@mail.coa.gov.tw  <b>Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, e-mail and web-site addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:</b>
3.	<b>Notified under Article 2.9.2 [ X ], 2.10.1 [ ], 5.6.2 [ ], 5.7.1 [ ], other:</b>
4.	<b>Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable):</b> Agricultural products
5.	<b>Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:</b> Agricultural Production and Certification Act (4 pages, in Chinese and English summary available).
6.	<b>Description of content:</b> With a view to ensuring the quality and safety of agricultural and processed-agricultural products, the Council of Agriculture intends to regulate the production and certification of agricultural, fishery and livestock products. The Act covers a number of important initiatives, including the implementation of voluntary certification systems for good agricultural products, the operation of a voluntary traceability certification system, labelling of organic agricultural and processed-agricultural products, penalties, etc. Articles 5 and 6 of the Act stipulate the requirements for organic agricultural products to ensure the accuracy of labelling information and the protection of rights of organic farmers and consumers. It requires that imported, as well as domestically produced, agricultural or processed-agricultural products obtain organic certification in order to be marketed or labelled as organic products. The transitional period of 2 years will be allowed for the requirement. Articles 7 and 8 deal with the establishment of a voluntary traceability certification system, which may become mandatory for certain agricultural products in the future.  The Act provides a framework for the management of agricultural products. Related operation details will be drafted and adopted at a later time.
7.	<b>Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable:</b> Consumer protection; prevention of deceptive and misleading labelling practices.

<b>8.</b>	<b>Relevant documents:</b> The Agricultural Development Act
<b>9.</b>	<b>Proposed date of adoption:</b> <b>Proposed date of entry into force:</b> } To be determined
<b>10.</b>	<b>Final date for comments:</b> Within 60 days after notification
<b>11.</b>	<b>Texts available from: National enquiry point [ X ] or address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail and web-site addresses, if available of the other body:</b>  WTO/TBT Enquiry Point The Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection Ministry of Economic Affairs 4 Chinan Road, Section 1, Taipei, 100, Taiwan  Telephone: (+886-2) 2343 1814 Fax: (+886-2) 2343 1804 E-mail: tbtenq@bsmi.gov.tw