

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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Trade Negotiations Committee

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PROPOSAL FOR INCLUSION IN THE REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR TRIPS TO THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE (TNC)

Proposal by Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, the European Communities, Georgia, Hungary, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Malta, Mauritius, Nigeria, Pakistan, Romania, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Thailand and Turkey

The following communication was submitted to the TRIPS Council on 26 November 2002 by the delegation of Switzerland containing a proposal for inclusion in the report of the Council for TRIPS to the TNC by Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, the European Communities, Georgia, Hungary, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Malta, Mauritius, Pakistan, Romania, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Thailand and Turkey. At the request of these delegations, with the addition of Nigeria, this communication is being circulated as a TNC document.

ISSUES RELATED TO THE EXTENSION OF THE PROTECTION OF GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS PROVIDED FOR IN ARTICLE 23 TO PRODUCTS OTHER THAN WINES AND SPIRITS

It is proposed that the TRIPS Council recommend to the TNC to adopt the following guidelines for the negotiations on the extension of the protection of geographical indications provided for in Article 23 to products other than wines and spirits:

- (a) the protection of Article 23 of the TRIPS Agreement shall apply to geographical indications for all products;
 - (b) the exceptions contained in Article 24 of the TRIPS Agreement shall apply *mutatis mutandis*;
 - (c) the multilateral register to be established shall be open for geographical indications for all products.
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