WORLD TRADE

ORGANIZATION

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DOHA WORK PROGRAMME – THE EXTENSION OF THE ADDITIONAL PROTECTION FOR GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS TO PRODUCTS OTHER THAN WINES AND SPIRITS

Appropriate action to be taken/decided by the General Council on GI-extension

Communication from the European Communities, Guinea, India, Jamaica, Kenya, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Madagascar, Morocco, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Tanzania, Thailand and Turkey

The following communication, dated 15 February 2008, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Switzerland.

In accordance with paragraph 39 of the Ministerial Declaration adopted on 18 December 2005 and within the consultative process on outstanding implementation issues related to the extension of the protection of geographical indications provided for in Article 23 of the TRIPS Agreement to products other than wines and spirits and those related to the relationship between the TRIPS Agreement and the Convention on Biological Diversity, the European Communities, Guinea, India, Jamaica, Kenya, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Madagascar, Morocco, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Tanzania, Thailand and Turkey submit the following text proposal on GI-extension for inclusion in the horizontal modalities decision:

"Members agree to the extension of the protection of Article 23 of the TRIPS Agreement to geographical indications of all products. Negotiations shall be undertaken, in Special Sessions of the TRIPS Council and as part of the Single Undertaking, to amend the TRIPS Agreement in order to extend the protection of Article 23 of the TRIPS Agreement to geographical indications of all products as well as to apply the exceptions provided in Article 24 of the TRIPS Agreement mutatis mutandis."