



27 September 2023

(23-6457)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

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| 1. Notifying Member: <u>SWITZERLAND</u> If applicable, name of local government involved: |
| 2. Agency responsible: Federal Office for the Environment |
| 3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Invasive alien plants; live trees and other plants; bulbs, roots and the like; cut flowers and ornamental foliage (HS code(s): 06); environmental protection (ICS code(s): 13.020) |
| 4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All trading partners Any country exporting the plant species concerned to Switzerland, mainly Europe <input type="checkbox"/> Specific regions or countries: |
| 5. Title of the notified document: Draft amendments to the Ordinance of 10 September 2008 on the Handling of Organisms in the Environment. Language(s): French, German, Italian. Number of pages: 7 https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/filestore/fedlex.data.admin.ch/eli/dl/proj/2022/91/cons_1/doc_2/fr/pdf-a/fedlex-data-admin-ch-eli-dl-proj-2022-91-cons_1-doc_2-fr-pdf-a.pdf https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2023/SPS/CHE/23_12653_00_f.pdf |
| 6. Description of content: Since 2008, it is prohibited in Switzerland to handle, i.e. to deliberately use, 14 invasive alien plant and animal species (or groups of species) in the environment. Exempt from the ban are measures to control these species and the handling of therapeutic products, food and animal feed. In order to bring legislation in line with the current state of scientific knowledge and thus to better protect human, animal and plant health as well as biodiversity against the threats posed by invasive alien plants, the prohibition shall be extended to eleven other plant species (or groups of species). In addition to this, by means of the draft project, a ban on marketing 27 invasive alien plant species will be introduced. Their sale as well as their import will be prohibited. Thus the marketing of a total of 49 invasive alien plant species (or group of species) will be banned. The draft amendments implement Switzerland's obligations under the CBD. Similar restrictions exist in the EU. |
| 7. Objective and rationale: <input type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests. |

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| <p>8. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:</p> |
| <p>9. Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:</p> |
| <p>10. Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): 14 February 2024</p> <p>Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy): To be defined.</p> |
| <p>11. Proposed date of entry into force: <input type="checkbox"/> Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): 1 September 2024</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Trade facilitating measure</p> |
| <p>12. Final date for comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): 26 November 2023</p> <p>Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</p> <p>State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) Non-Tariff Measures Holzikofenweg 36 Tel: +(41 58) 46 40760 Fax: +(41 58) 46 40958 Email: sps@seco.admin.ch Website: http://www.seco.admin.ch</p> |
| <p>13. Text(s) available from: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</p> <p>State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) Non-Tariff Measures Holzikofenweg 36 Tel: +(41 58) 46 40760 Fax: +(41 58) 46 40958 Email: sps@seco.admin.ch Website: http://www.seco.admin.ch</p> |