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**REVIEW OF THE HARMONIZED CUSTOMS TARIFF**

The Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System) was introduced on 1 January 1988. In order to keep pace with developments in technology and changes in international trading patterns, it is continually reviewed and amended. The World Customs Organization (WCO) has announced the Third Review of the document, the results of which are scheduled to be operative on and from 1 January 2007.

Apart from a general review of the document, a simplification of the pharmaceutical, textiles and clothing, and information technology sectors will also be undertaken. The Third Review will also specifically examine the structure of Chapters 84, 85 and 90.

The Review is an opportunity for Australian Industry, organisations and individuals to participate in shaping the Harmonized System. The Australian Customs Service is seeking the assistance of interested parties in developing an Australian response to the WCO. Responses may be specifically targeted at the Chapters and areas mentioned above or to any other Chapter in the Harmonized System.

Interested parties wishing to make submissions are invited to do so as soon as possible but no later than 22 June 2001. Submissions should be addressed to -

The Director

Tariff Classification Australian Customs Service 5 Constitution Avenue

CANBERRA ACT 2601

Enquiries for further information may be directed to Mr Brian Thomas, telephone (02) 62756465. TOM MARSHALL

A/g National Manager Tariff Branch

for

Chief Executive Officer