

## **APPENDIX 3**

### **EXPLANATORY NOTES TO ARTICLE 15 REFERRED TO IN ANNEX I**

#### **STATEMENT ON ORIGIN**



APPENDIX 3 TO ANNEX I

EXPLANATORY NOTES TO ARTICLE 15 (STATEMENT ON ORIGIN)

**Article 15 – Documentary evidence for used products**

Evidence of origin may be issued also for used or any other products where, because of a considerable time lapse between the date of production on the one hand and the date of exportation on the other hand, the usual supporting documents are no longer available, provided that:

- (a) the date of production or importation of the products lies beyond that period of time during which, according to the respective legislation in the country of exportation, records must be kept by traders;
- (b) the products can be deemed to be originating on the grounds of other evidence, like declarations by the producer or any other trader, expert opinions, marks on the products, or descriptions of them, etc;
- (c) there is no indication that the products do not comply with the requirements of the origin rules.

**Article 15 – Practical application of the provisions concerning statements on origin**

The following guidelines shall apply:

- (a) the indication of non-originating products and therefore products which are not covered by the statement on origin should not be made in the statement on origin itself. However, this indication should appear on the commercial document containing the statement on origin in a precise way so as to avoid any misunderstandings;
- (b) statements on origin made on photocopied commercial documents are acceptable, provided such statements bear the exporter's signature under the same conditions as the original. Approved exporters, who are authorised not to sign statements on origin, are not required to sign statements on origin made on photocopied commercial documents;
- (c) a statement on origin on the reverse of the commercial document is acceptable;
- (d) the statement on origin may be made on a separate sheet of the commercial document, provided that the sheet is considered to be an integral part of that commercial document. A complementary form may not be used;

- (e) a statement on origin completed on a label, which is subsequently attached to the commercial document, is acceptable, provided there is no doubt that the label has been affixed by the exporter. For example, the exporter's stamp or signature should cover both the label and the commercial document.

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