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REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
MINISTRY OF ECONOMY, TRADE AND ENERGY
GENERAL REGULATORY DIRECTORATE
MARKET MONITORING DIRECTORATE

Protocol No. 9382

Tirana, 14.12.2007

Subject: On the Notice for Dangerous Products in the Market

(Ms. Kostanca, to be modified)
(signature, 17.12.07)

MR ARBEN NATI

DIRECTOR OF THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR STANDARDS

Tirana

The Market Monitoring Directorate (DMT) near METE, during the period between September and December 2007, has handled several cases regarding the presence of dangerous products on the market.

1. DMT has received information from the European Commission DG SANCO, via the Rapid Alert System on Food and Nutrition. This information is with regard to the distribution in Albania of certain spoon-and-fork sets used for feeding small children. These were produced in China by **Fu Hong Industries Ltd.** and were found to be unsafe after chemical laboratory testing. In Albania, these products were distributed by the "KID'S LAND SH.P.K." company. Such products were also distributed in Cyprus and Greece. On receiving this information, DMT, in accordance with Law no. 9135, date 11.09.2003 "On the Protection of Consumers", Article 50, section d), c), took the following measures:

- a) The notification of the distributing company, to which, in accordance with Law no. 9779, date 16.07.2007 "On General Safety, Essential Requirements and Non-Food Product Conformity Assessment", Article 6, section 2, and Law no. 9135, date 11.09.2003 "On the Protection of Consumers", Article 7, section 2/a, b, was asked to take immediate measures on notifying the consumer of the risk of the product in question, as well as its trade suspension and the withdrawal of the product from the market;
- b) The notification of the Directorate General for Customs regarding the suspension of the clearance procedures of customs offices for this product, as well as the notification of the METE on the observed cases;

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c) The Central Technical Inspectorate was asked to undertake the measures provided for by Law no. 9779, date 16.07.2007 “On General Safety, Essential Requirements and Non-Food Product Conformity Assessment”, Article 17, section dh);

d) The preparation of a press release, the placing of the announcements on METE’s website, as well as the notification of the consumers via visual and written media.

As a result, from the 48 sets imported to Albanian territory, 40 sets were eliminated by the Central Technical Inspectorate, 34 of which were found at points of sale and 6 were returned by consumers themselves.

2. DMT was informed through the European Commission webpage DG Health and Consumer Protection of the RAPEX System (the Rapid Service for the Exchange of Information for Dangerous Consumer Products, for Non-Food Products), on certain dangerous products (mainly toys), found in the markets of the EU member states, presenting a serious risk to the health and safety of consumers. The Commission has also provided notification on the withdrawal of certain plastic toys by the “Fisher Price” company from the market due to having a lead content over the permitted limit.

On receiving this information, DMT, in accordance with Law no. 9135, date 11.09.2003 “On the Protection of Consumers”, Article 50, section d), c), has taken the following measures:

a) The notification of the Directorate General for Customs regarding the suspension of the clearance procedures of customs offices for this product, as well as the notification of the METE on the observed cases;

b) The Central Technical Inspectorate was asked to undertake the measures provided in Law no. 9779, date 16.07.2007 “On General Safety, Essential Requirements and Non-Food Product Conformity Assessment”, Article 17, sections ç) and d), as well as in Law no. 9135, date 11.09.2003 “On the Protection of the Consumers”, article 51, section e) and f);

c) The preparation of a press release, the placing of the announcements on METE’s website, as well as the notification of the consumers through visual and written media, etc.

Thank you for your understanding.

DIRECTOR

ANILA JANI

(signature)

*(Seal of the Republic of Albania,
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