

Notice to importers**Imports from Israel into the Community**

(2001/C 328/04)

In an earlier Notice to importers published on 8 November 1997 in *Official Journal of the European Communities* C 338 (page 13), operators were informed that there were grounds for doubts about the validity of EUR.1 movement certificates submitted to the Community for importations of orange juice coming from Israel, that there was a lack of effective administrative cooperation as foreseen in the different preferential agreements signed between the Community and Israel and of the existence of certain substantial errors in the application of the Agreements, to the extent that the validity of all preferential certificates issued by Israel were put in doubt.

Operators are informed that the EUR.1 movement certificates for orange juice, found to be invalid, have been withdrawn by Israel and that the necessary measures have been taken to allow administrative cooperation as foreseen in the Agreements.

As to the substantial errors in the application of the Agreements, operators are informed that arising from the results of the verification procedures carried out, it is now confirmed that Israel issues proofs of origin for products coming from places brought under Israeli administration since 1967, which, according to the Community, are not entitled to benefit from preferential treatment under the Agreements.

Community operators presenting documentary evidence of origin with a view to securing preferential treatment for products originating from Israeli settlements in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, East Jerusalem and the Golan Heights, are informed that they must take all the necessary precautions and that putting the goods in free circulation may give rise to a customs debt.

This notice replaces the November 1997 notice from the date of publication.
