



• **SYNTHÈSE ATELIER 4**

• *What is the future for « origin » concept?*

Quel avenir pour la notion d'origine ?

Animation : Godfried SMIT





DO "NON PREFERENTIAL" OR "PREFERENTIAL" RULES HAVE A FUTURE NEXT TO EACH OTHER?

- * We see that there is a convergence in the new arrangements
- * It is an illusion perhaps to think that both NP and PO are identical
- * More harmonization is a wish from the trade community



WISH FOR MORE SIMPLIFICATION AND TRANSPARENCY

- * It essential not to add more criteria to the list (keep it simple)
- * Nowadays the criteria are more or less coincidental (price also play an important role)
- * Some recent examples seem to be best practice (ex. South Korea)



WISH FOR MORE SIMPLIFICATION AND TRANSPARENCY (*continuation*)

- * Trade should be involved at an earlier stage to make the rules better applicable in practice
- * European Commission should be more open sharing the intermediate results
- * Harmonization shouldn't restrict countries to go into Preferential negotiations
- * It must be possible to automatize the evidence



IS THERE AN ADVANTAGE FOR THIRD PARTY VALIDATION OR DO WE LIKE SELF-CERTIFICATION?

- * At the present time, the added value of Chamber of Commerce issuing documents is rather limited
- * The legal certainty is not really raised by the third party validation
- * If needed people can optionally apply a consultancy firm
- * AEO companies could be considered as fully able to issue the documents themselves



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

- * Present information on Preferential arrangements is not practically oriented
- * Governmental agencies are invited to play a more active role together with trade organizations
- * A pilot on delivering information is suggested to take place...



“MADE IN” CONCEPT

- * It is important to have clarity on the definitions
- * Preferential Origin or Non Preferential Origin are not helping consumers about product information
- * Labelling should always be optional and not legally binding
- * It is important that the global and the EU organizations take actions to bring more clarity into this field



ADVICE

- * SMEs are often in a bad information position
- * French Customs tries to answer to lot of their questions via the “Pôle d’Action Economique” pools
- * It is mentioned that customs organizations are far from each other in service and information in Europe