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Committee on Rules of Origin

Original: English

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF ORIGIN TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL
ON PREFERENTIAL RULES OF ORIGIN FOR LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES**

*Corrigendum**

Page 6, paragraph No. 5.5 should be replaced with the following text (new text in bold):

"5.5 **The LDC Group noted that** an important difference between the EU's previous direct transportation requirement and its new non-manipulation clause (non-alteration principle) lies in the documentary evidence to be provided. Under the new non-manipulation (non-alteration principle) clause, the requirements are considered as satisfied unless the customs authorities have reasons to believe the contrary. In such cases, the customs authorities may request the importer to provide evidence of compliance, which may be given by any means¹¹ Hence, no documentary evidence has to be provided to prove direct shipment unless customs administrations have a doubt. The LDC submission concluded that this provision, or similar arrangements, such as those adopted by Australia and New Zealand¹², constituted a best practice that other preference-giving Members should progressively adopt. **Canada also indicated that, in practice, it applies a similar standard.**"

* In English and French only.

¹¹ A User's Handbook to the Rules of Preferential Origin used in trade between the European Community, other European Countries and the countries participating to the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership.

¹² New Zealand does not require any certification or documentation (including for proof of origin) for LDC imports.