EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order makes provision in respect of the quantities ("specified quantities") in which beer, cider and wine sold in the glass from which it is to be drunk. It makes related provision in respect of capacity measures and quantity indications. In addition, the Order removes specified quantities relating to unwrapped loaves of bread, subject in certain cases to quantity indication requirements.

Article 4 amends the Weights and Measures (Intoxicating Liquor) Order (Northern Ireland) 1989 so as to permit retail sales of 2/3 pint of draught beer or cider, to permit wines (other than fortified wines) sold in a quantity of less than 75 ml to be sold in any quantity without quantity indications and to provide for the sale of fortified wines only in specified quantities of 50 ml or 70 ml with quantity indications.

Article 2 makes related amendments to Schedule 1 to the Weights and Measures (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 to permit the use for trade of capacity measures of 2/3 pint.

Article 3 amends Article 7 of the Weights and Measures (Miscellaneous Foods) Order (Northern Ireland) 1989 ("the 1989 Order") so as to remove specified quantities relating to unwrapped loaves of bread and to introduce quantity indication requirements applicable to such loaves, when weighing more than 300 g and sold otherwise than in traditional quantities (400 g or a multiple) or in bulk. In addition, it revokes now redundant exemptions from specified quantities relating to unwrapped loaves of bread in Schedule 1 to the 1989 Order.

An impact assessment has not been produced for this Order as it has no significant impact on the costs of business and the voluntary sector.

These Regulations were notified in draft to the European Commission in accordance with Directive 98/34EC, as amended by Directive 98/48/EC.