EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations amend the Design Right (Semiconductor Topographies) Regulations 1989, which modify the application of Part 3 (design right) of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 (c. 48) to semiconductor topographies and give effect to the Council Decision of 22 December 1994 on the extension of the legal protection of topographies of semiconductor products to persons from a member of the World Trade Organisation (94/824/EC) (L 349, 31.12.1994, p201).

Regulation 3 updates the Schedule to the 1989 Regulations, which lists qualifying countries, other than member States of the European Community, which are parties to the Agreement establishing the World Trade Organisation (including the Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (Cm. 3044-6, 3080, 3263-4, 3268-9, 3271, 3275-7 and 3282)) ("TRIPS"), so as to take account of the accession to TRIPS of Vietnam, Tonga and Ukraine on 11 January 2007, 27 July 2007 and 16 May 2008 respectively.