

foreign buyers with Canadian manufacturers of health care products) was used as guide.

The PSCC Code basically identifies two main divisions of medical equipment, instruments, appliances and their parts: electric apparatus for medical purposes and radiological apparatus, and; medical instruments and appliances not elsewhere specified (nes). Each main division is further subdivided into different product groups. Within each product group, the Code identifies specific items and then lumps the rest, or those which are not specified, into one item called "others" or nes.

Medical furniture appears as one of the subgroups within the main division of furniture and is broken down into specific items by make or composition, e.g., of wood or metal or plastic and/ or other materials, nes. Medical supplies are distributed over various divisions usually distinguished by composition or raw material used.

Exhibit II shows the various commodity classifications found pertinent to this study.

Overall, the PSCC Code does not provide as much details as desired (even relative to the classifications contained in the Canadian brochure) such that a foreign manufacturer/exporter is left wanting for more specific breakdowns, especially of commodities grouped under "others" or "nes". As confined within the NSO, the various classifications listed in Exhibit II are, nevertheless, mutually exclusive and hence do not allow for double-counting.

a. Imports

The Philippine health care system absorbs an annual average of US\$ 17.4 million worth of imported medical equipment, instruments, appliances, furnitures and supplies computed from 1983 to 1987. Total imports in 1987 was valued at US\$ 21.0 million which already represents 6.7