

WTO TBT NOTIFICATIONS BULLETIN

A Weekly Publication of the Bureau of Philippine Standards (BPS) of the
Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)

BUREAU OF PHILIPPINE STANDARDS

Contacts

Address:

3/F Trade and Industry Bldg.
Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati
City

Telephone:

+632 791 3128

Telefax:

+632 7751 4700

Email:

bps@dti.gov.ph

Website:

www.bps.dti.gov.ph

This publication seeks to provide cohesive information in a weekly basis on the foreign notifications of the WTO members under the TBT agreement on their notified technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures.

Philippine exporters and relevant stakeholders are invited to review the proposed regulations. Comments that will be received by the BPS will be transmitted to the governments concerned for their consideration.

IN THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

A total of 43 notifications on Chemical Technology, Energy and Heat Transfer Engineering, Food Technology, Health Care Technology, Textile and Leather Technology, etc., from Burundi, China, European Union, Philippines, Tanzania, United States, and other countries are listed.

We would like to hear from you. For any questions, suggestions or requests for full text of notified regulations, please contact us at bps@dti.gov.ph

We are glad to be of service to you!

List of WTO TBT NOTIFICATIONS (07 - 13 March 2020)

Product Sector	Country	Date Notified	TBT Notification Symbol	Product Coverage / Title	Final Date for Comments
AGRICULTURE					
TOBACCO, TOBACCO PRODUCTS AND RELATED EQUIPMENT	UNITED STATES	03/12/2020	G/TBT/N/USA/1551/Add.2	Vaping products - Addendum <i>Establishes standards for retail sale of tobacco products and electronic nicotine delivery systems, restricting sale and distribution of all flavored electronic nicotine delivery systems, including mint and menthol-flavored products, to age restricted locations and establishes the circumstances under which sales of electronic nicotine delivery systems can be banned or restricted if necessary to protect public health.</i>	27 March 2020
CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY					
CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY	PHILIPPINES	13/3/2020	G/TBT/N/PHL/231	Household / urban hazardous substance <i>The Circular is being issued to provide guidelines in the regulation of HUHS products and establishments in accordance with the FDA's mandate of ensuring protection of public health and safety. The circular aims to establish guidelines on the licensing and inspection of HUHS establishments, update the HUHS classification and ensure compliance of HUHS establishments and products to FDA regulatory standards.</i>	60 days from notification

Product Sector	Country	Date Notified	TBT Notification Symbol	Product Coverage / Title	Final Date for Comments
CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY					
COSMETICS. TOILETRIES	EUROPEAN UNION	03/12/2020	G/TBT/N/EU/703	<p>Methoxypropylamino Cyclohexenylidene Ethoxyethylcyanoacetate as a UV filter in cosmetic products</p> <p><i>The draft Commission Regulation aims at allowing the use of Methoxypropylamino Cyclohexenylidene Ethoxyethylcyanoacetate (S87) as a UV filter in cosmetic products at a concentration up to 3%, by adding it to the list of authorised UV filters in Annex VI to Regulation (EC) No 1223/2009.</i></p>	60 days from notification
COSMETICS. TOILETRIES	EUROPEAN UNION	03/12/2020	G/TBT/N/EU/704	<p>Maximum concentrations of six substances for use in hair dye products and of one s[...]s intended to colour eyelashes</p> <p><i>The draft measure proposes to ban three substances for use in hair dye products due to their potential genotoxicity and mutagenicity found by the EU Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety (SCCS) . In addition, the draft proposes to restrict in Annex III to the Cosmetics Regulation the maximum concentrations of six substances for use in hair dye products and of one substance for use in products intended to colour eyelashes. The proposed maximum concentrations are based on the positive opinions of the SCCS on these substances.</i></p>	60 days from notification
INORGANIC CHEMICALS	CZECH REPUBLIC	03/10/2020	G/TBT/N/CZE/249	<p>Chemical weapons</p> <p><i>The draft amendment to Act No 19/1997 comprises, in particular:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -amended definitions of legal terms and overall terminological changes, - a conceptual broadening of the prohibition of certain types of handling to cover broader categories of substances, in accordance with the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction, -legislative and technical amendments in response to the latest developments in law-making, -new provisions regarding administrative sanctioning. 	30 June 2020
CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND BUILDING					
WATER HEATING EQUIPMENT	THE SEPARATE CUSTOMS TERRITORY OF TAIWAN, PENGHU, KINMEN AND MATSU	03/09/2020	G/TBT/N/TPKM/407	<p>Electric storage tank water heaters</p> <p><i>To strengthen energy efficiency supervision and inspection, the Bureau of Energy intends to amend the Energy Efficiency Rating Labelling and Inspection of Electric Storage tank Water Heaters to reduce heat loss.</i></p>	60 days from notification
DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL EQUIPMENT. ENTERTAINMENT. SPORTS					
TOYS	INDONESIA	03/11/2020	G/TBT/N/IDN/64/Add.4/Corr.1	<p>Toys - Corrigendum</p> <p><i>This Corrigendum attaches the Circular Letter from the Head of Industrial Research and Development Agency Ministry of Industry No. 257/BPPI/VIII/2019 regarding Type 5 Certification Scheme on Mandatory Toy SNI which was omitted from the original notification.</i></p>	-

Product Sector	Country	Date Notified	TBT Notification Symbol	Product Coverage / Title	Final Date for Comments
ENERGY AND HEAT TRANSFER ENGINEERING					
ENERGY AND HEAT TRANSFER ENGINEERING IN GENERAL	CHINA	13/3/2020	G/TBT/N/CHN/1403	Three-phase asynchronous motor, single-phase asynchronous motor and air conditioner fan motor <i>This standard specifies the energy efficiency grade, minimum allowable values of energy efficiency and test method of three-phase asynchronous motor, single-phase asynchronous motor and air conditioner fan motor.</i>	60 days from notification
ENERGY AND HEAT TRANSFER ENGINEERING IN GENERAL	CHINA	13/3/2020	G/TBT/N/CHN/1404	Three-phase power transformer <i>This standard specifies the minimum allowable values of energy efficiency, energy efficiency grade and test method of three-phase power transformer.</i>	-
ENERGY AND HEAT TRANSFER ENGINEERING IN GENERAL	CHINA	13/3/2020	G/TBT/N/CHN/1405	Industrial boiler products <i>This standard specifies the minimum allowable values of energy efficiency, energy efficiency grade and test method of industrial boiler products.</i>	60 days from notification
ENERGY AND HEAT TRANSFER ENGINEERING IN GENERAL	CHINA	13/3/2020	G/TBT/N/CHN/1407	Flat panel televisions and general purpose set-top boxes (also known as digital TV receiver) <i>This standard specifies the energy efficiency grade, minimum allowable values of energy efficiency and test method of flat panel televisions and general purpose set-top boxes (also known as digital TV receiver) .</i>	60 days from notification
ENVIRONMENT. HEALTH PROTECTION. SAFETY					
AIR QUALITY	UNITED STATES	03/12/2020	G/TBT/N/USA/1477/Add.1	Stationary combustion turbines - Addendum <i>This action finalizes the residual risk and technology review (RTR) conducted for the Stationary Combustion Turbines source category regulated under national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants (NESHAP) . In addition, we are taking final action addressing requirements during periods of startup, shutdown, and malfunction (SSM) and to add electronic reporting requirements. The EPA is finalizing our proposed determination that the risks from this source category due to emissions of air toxics are acceptable and that the existing NESHAP provides an ample margin of safety to protect public health. The EPA is also finalizing our proposed determination that we identified no new cost-effective controls under the technology review that would achieve further emissions reductions from the source category.</i>	-
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	UNITED STATES	03/12/2020	G/TBT/N/USA/1049/Rev.1/Add.1	Refrigerants - Addendum <i>The Clean Air Act prohibits knowingly venting or releasing ozone-depleting and substitute refrigerants in the course of maintaining, servicing, repairing, or disposing of appliances or industrial process refrigeration. In 2016, the EPA amended the regulatory refrigerant management requirements and extended requirements that previously applied only to refrigerants containing an ozone-depleting substance to substitute refrigerants that are subject to the venting prohibition (i.e., those that have not been exempted from that prohibition) such as hydrofluorocarbons. Based on changes to the legal interpretation that supported that 2016 rule, this action revises some of those requirements - specifically, the appliance maintenance and leak repair provisions - so they apply only to equipment using refrigerant containing an ozone-depleting substance.</i>	-

Product Sector	Country	Date Notified	TBT Notification Symbol	Product Coverage / Title	Final Date for Comments
FLUID SYSTEMS AND COMPONENTS FOR GENERAL USE					
VENTILATORS, FANS, AIR-CONDITIONERS	CHINA	13/3/2020	G/TBT/N/CHN/1409	Energy efficiency and test method of fans <i>This standard specifies the energy efficiency grade, minimum allowable values of energy efficiency and test method of fans.</i>	60 days from notification
FOOD TECHNOLOGY					
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	BURUNDI	03/11/2020	G/TBT/N/BDI/80	Iyambere <i>This draft Burundian standard specifies requirements and methods for the sampling and analysis of the sorghum-based beer, "Iyambere". This draft standard does not apply to other sorghum-based products.</i>	60 days from the date of notification
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	BURUNDI	03/11/2020	G/TBT/N/BDI/81	Banana wine <i>This draft Burundian standard specifies requirements and methods for the sampling and analysis of banana wine. This standard does not apply to other banana-based products.</i>	60 days from the date of notification
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	BURUNDI	03/11/2020	G/TBT/N/BDI/83	Urwarwa <i>This draft Burundian standard specifies the requirements and methods of sampling and analysis for urwarwa. This draft standard does not apply to other banana-based products.</i>	60 days from the date of notification
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	BURUNDI	03/11/2020	G/TBT/N/BDI/85	Alcoholic beverages made from ginger <i>This draft Burundian standard specifies the requirements and methods of sampling and analysis for ginger-based alcoholic beverages. It does not apply to other ginger-based products.</i>	60 days from the date of notification
COFFEE AND COFFEE SUBSTITUTES	SOUTH AFRICA	13/3/2020	G/TBT/N/ZAF/241	Coffee, chicory and related products <i>The proposed new regulations set out the categories, standards and labelling requirements for locally manufactured and imported Coffee, Chicory and Related Products intended for sale in South Africa.</i>	60 days from notification
EDIBLE OILS AND FATS. OILSEEDS	SINGAPORE	03/10/2020	G/TBT/N/SGP/52	Partially hydrogenated oils as an ingredient in all fats, oils and pre-packaged foods <i>The Ministry of Health, Health Promotion Board and Singapore Food Agency propose to prohibit the import and use of partially hydrogenated oils as an ingredient in all fats, oils and pre-packaged foods sold in Singapore from June 2021.</i>	60 days from notification
FRUITS, VEGETABLES	UNITED STATES	03/12/2020	G/TBT/N/USA/1590	Grapefruit and oranges <i>Proposed rule-The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) proposes to revise the U.S. Standards for Grades of Grapefruit (Texas and States other than Florida, California, and Arizona) and the U.S. Standards for Grades of Oranges (Texas and States other than Florida, California, and Arizona) . The revision would convert the Acceptable Quality Level (AQL) tables from showing the acceptable number of allowable defective fruit in each grade to showing the percentage of defects permitted in each grade; revise the minimum sample size to 25 fruit; update size classifications; remove references to Temple oranges from the orange standards for grade; and more closely align terminology in both grade standards with Florida and California citrus standards.</i>	11 May 2020

Product Sector	Country	Date Notified	TBT Notification Symbol	Product Coverage / Title	Final Date for Comments
FOOD TECHNOLOGY					
NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	BURUNDI	03/11/2020	G/TBT/N/BDI/84	Juice made from ginger <i>This draft Burundian standard specifies the requirements and methods of sampling and analysis for ginger-based juices. It does not apply to other ginger-based products.</i>	60 days from the date of notification
SUGAR AND SUGAR PRODUCTS	BURUNDI	03/11/2020	G/TBT/N/BDI/82	Stevia and derived products <i>This draft Burundian standard specifies the requirements and methods of sampling and analysis for stevia presented in the form of whole or ground dried leaves or in the form of a liquid extract or crystallized white powder. The leaves must be harvested at maturity in the field.</i>	60 days from the date of notification
HEALTH CARE TECHNOLOGY					
AIDS FOR DEAF AND HEARING IMPAIRED PEOPLE	UNITED STATES	03/12/2020	G/TBT/N/USA/1058/Rev.1	Hearing aids - Revision <i>Proposed rule - In this document, the Federal Communications Commission ("Commission") proposes to adopt a new hearing aid compatibility technical standard and make related implementation revisions.</i>	6 April 2020
MEDICAL EQUIPMENT	CHINA	13/3/2020	G/TBT/N/CHN/1410	Medical electrical equipment and medical electrical system <i>This part is applicable to medical electrical equipment and medical electrical system. This part specifies general requirements for basic safety and basic performance of medical electrical equipment and medical electrical system.</i>	60 days from notification
MEDICAL EQUIPMENT	UNITED STATES	03/12/2020	G/TBT/N/USA/1113/Add.2	Electrical stimulation devices - Addendum <i>The Food and Drug Administration (FDA, the Agency, or we) is finalizing a ban on electrical stimulation devices (ESDs) for self-injurious or aggressive behavior. FDA has determined that these devices present an unreasonable and substantial risk of illness or injury that cannot be corrected or eliminated by labeling. This ban includes both new devices and devices already in distribution and use; however, this ban provides transition time for those individuals currently subject to ESDs for the identified intended use to transition off ESDs under the supervision of a physician.</i>	-
THERAPY EQUIPMENT	CHINA	13/3/2020	G/TBT/N/CHN/1411	Ultrasound physiotherapy equipment <i>This part specifies the basic safety and performance requirements of ultrasound physiotherapy equipment.</i>	60 days from notification
THERAPY EQUIPMENT	CHINA	13/3/2020	G/TBT/N/CHN/1412	Microwave therapy equipment <i>This part specifies the basic safety and performance requirements of microwave therapy equipment.</i>	60 days from notification
TRANSFUSION, INFUSION AND INJECTION EQUIPMENT	CHINA	13/3/2020	G/TBT/N/CHN/1408	Sealed and sterile plastic blood bags <i>This document specifies the requirements (including performance requirements) for sealed and sterile plastic blood bags.</i>	60 days from notification

Product Sector	Country	Date Notified	TBT Notification Symbol	Product Coverage / Title	Final Date for Comments
PACKAGING AND DISTRIBUTION OF GOODS					
BOTTLES. POTS. JARS	CHINA	13/3/2020	G/TBT/N/CHN/1406	Glass beer bottles <i>This standard specifies the terms and definitions, product classification, requirements, test methods, inspection rules, marks, packaging, transportation and storage of glass beer bottles. This standard is applicable to glass bottles containing beer.</i>	60 days from notification
SACKS. BAGS	TANZANIA	03/12/2020	G/TBT/N/TZA/405	High density polyethylene (HDPE)/polypropylene (pp) woven leno sacks <i>This Draft Tanzania Standard specifies the specific requirements and test methods for High Density Polyethylene (HDPE)/Polypropylene (pp) (excluding cordage) woven sacks for packaging and storage of various fruits and vegetables.</i>	60 days from notification
ROAD VEHICLES ENGINEERING					
ELECTRIC ROAD VEHICLES	REPUBLIC OF KOREA	03/12/2020	G/TBT/N/KOR/880	Electric vehicle conductive charging system <i>KATS proposes amending rules (KC 61851-1 Electric vehicle conductive charging system Part 1: General requirements / KC 62196-2 Plugs, socket-outlets, vehicle connectors and vehicle inlets - Conductive charging of electric vehicles Part 2: Dimensional compatibility and interchangeability requirements for a.c. pin and contact-tube accessories) to improve the charging speed by increasing the rated allowable current for the Type1 (AC 5pin) charging method.</i> <i>- The rated allowable current for the Type1 (AC 5pin): 32A - 80A</i>	60 days from notification
TRUCKS AND TRAILERS	UGANDA	03/11/2020	G/TBT/N/UGA/1197	Bulk LPG road tankers <i>This Draft Uganda Standard gives requirements for vehicle, equipment, accessories and assembling thereof used to form a bulk LPG road tanker to ensure that transportation, filling, and discharge operations can be carried safely.</i>	60 days from notification
TRUCKS AND TRAILERS	UGANDA	03/11/2020	G/TBT/N/UGA/1198	Welded steel tanks for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) <i>This Draft Uganda Standard specifies minimum requirements for materials, design, construction and workmanship procedures, and tests for welded LPG road tanker tanks and their welded attachments manufactured from carbon, carbon/manganese and micro alloy steels. This standard does not cover tanks for ISO type containers.</i>	60 days from notification
RUBBER AND PLASTIC INDUSTRIES					
RUBBER AND PLASTICS PRODUCTS IN GENERAL	CHINA	13/3/2020	G/TBT/N/CHN/1413	Feeding bottles and teats <i>This standard specifies the terms, definitions, requirements, test methods, inspection rules, identification, transportation and storage of feeding bottles and teats.</i>	60 days from notification

Product Sector	Country	Date Notified	TBT Notification Symbol	Product Coverage / Title	Final Date for Comments
TEXTILE AND LEATHER TECHNOLOGY					
PRODUCTS OF THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY	TANZANIA	03/12/2020	G/TBT/N/TZA/407	Sisal bags <i>This Draft Tanzania Standard specifies requirements and test methods for 100% sisal bags</i>	60 days from notification
PRODUCTS OF THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY	TANZANIA	03/12/2020	G/TBT/N/TZA/408	A-Twill jute bags <i>This Draft Tanzania Standard mainly prescribes the technical requirements relating to the manufacture of A-Twill jute bags and does not purport/ imply to include all the provisions of a contract.</i>	60 days from notification
TEXTILE FABRICS	TANZANIA	03/12/2020	G/TBT/N/TZA/406	Tanzania - Hessian bags <i>This Draft Tanzania Standard specifies requirements and test methods for hessian bags. This specification may be used by mutual agreement between the buyer and seller to establish purchasing specification requirements.</i>	60 days from notification
TEXTILE FABRICS	TANZANIA	03/12/2020	G/TBT/N/TZA/409	Woven and warp knitted quilt fabrics <i>This Draft Tanzania Standard specification covers woven and warp knitted quilt fabrics, composed of any suitable textile fibre, or fibre blends. The requirements apply to the length and width directions for those properties where fabric direction is pertinent.</i>	60 days from notification
TEXTILE FABRICS	TANZANIA	03/12/2020	G/TBT/N/TZA/410	Woven and knitted, flocked, flannelette sheets, sheeting and pillow cases, bedspread fabrics and bedspreads <i>This Draft Tanzania Standard specifies performance requirements and test methods for the following: Woven cotton sheeting, sheets and pillowcases; Woven sheeting, sheets and pillowcases of polyester-and-cotton or other synthetic-and-cellulosic fibre blends; Woven flannelette sheeting, sheets and pillowcases; Woven bedspread fabrics and bedspreads; Warp-knitted sheeting, sheets and pillowcases.</i> <i>These requirements apply to the length and width directions for those properties where fabric direction is pertinent.</i>	60 days from notification
YARNS	TANZANIA	03/12/2020	G/TBT/N/TZA/411	Open mouth woven poly-sacks made from high density polyethylene (HDPE) / polypropylene (PP) tape-yarns <i>This Draft Tanzania Standard specifies requirements and test methods for open mouth poly - sacks made from HDPE/PP tape yarn</i>	60 days from notification

Product Sector	Country	Date Notified	TBT Notification Symbol	Product Coverage / Title	Final Date for Comments
	CZECH REPUBLIC	03/12/2020	G/TBT/2/Add.127/Suppl.1	<p>Statements from Members under article 15.2 - Statement by Côt[...] 27 February 2020 - Supplement</p> <p><i>The following communication, dated 26 February 2020, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Côte d'Ivoire.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>I am taking the floor today to inform you of the implementation of the TBT Agreement in Côte d'Ivoire. My name is Agnimel Fréjus Lasme and I am responsible for international trade agreements at the Directorate for International and Subregional Cooperation in the Ministry of Trade and Industry.</i> <i>In February 2015, Côte d'Ivoire officially established by decree the National Inter-Institutional Advisory Committee on WTO Agreements (CNIC-OMC), which is responsible for coordinating the implementation of WTO agreements, as well as all multilateral matters related to international trade.</i> <i>This entity comprises focal points and representatives of government and parastatal agencies, the private sector and civil society working on international trade matters. The CNIC-OMC meets once every three months and whenever the need arises. Furthermore, there are subcommittees for matters that may be specific to an agreement or topic area, such as the SPS/TBT subcommittee, which meets once every two months, or at the request of the Chair.</i> <i>At the national level, thanks to technical assistance activities, particularly the regional trade policy course and the WTO national SPS workshop in December 2018, the SPS/TBT subcommittee's attention has been drawn to aspects of the transparency principle and, more specifically, the non-notification of certain measures. Thus, since early 2019, the subcommittee has been compiling the technical regulations that are already in force or have been proposed. The matter was referred to the notification authority in July 2019 and our first notifications were submitted through the TBT IMS online notification system that month.</i> <i>In addition, following the regional TBT workshop held by the WTO in Abidjan in October 2019, the status of notifications by country revealed that Article 15.2 on the implementation of the Agreement had not yet been notified.</i> <i>This workshop was attended by key players, namely the notification authority, Côte d'Ivoire Normalisation (CODINORM), the Directorate for Control and Quality, as well as the Service responsible for the conformity assessment procedure (VOC), which led to the organization of working sessions of the SPS/TBT subcommittee in October 2019. The draft notification was then shared with all CNIC-OMC members for comments.</i> <i>The Secretariat, which assisted us in this process, must be commended for its invaluable support. Côte d'Ivoire eventually notified Article 15.2 on 15 January 2020.</i> <i>With regard to the implementation of the TBT Agreement in Côte d'Ivoire, the country is keeping track of TBT measures taken at the international level, with notifications regularly published on ePing for some time now. In addition, meetings to raise awareness on this information tool have been planned so that all stakeholders can make better use of it.</i> <i>To conclude, I would like to highlight that, to date, Côte d'Ivoire has notified 18 measures, including:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• 16 technical regulations,</i> <i>• one measure linked to conformity assessment procedures and</i> <i>• one notification on the implementation of the TBT Agreement.</i> <i>Efforts to compile regulatory texts are ongoing so as to fully ensure transparency.</i> <i>We wish to once again thank the WTO for its technical assistance and, above all, continued capacity building.</i> 	-

Product Sector	Country	Date Notified	TBT Notification Symbol	Product Coverage / Title	Final Date for Comments
	CZECH REPUBLIC	03/12/2020	G/TBT/2/Add.128/Suppl.1	<p>Statements from Members under Article 15.2 - Statement by the[...]27 February 2020 - Supplement</p> <p><i>The following communication, dated 2 March 2020, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of the United Kingdom.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As set out in document number WT/GC/206 , dated 1 February 2020, the United Kingdom ceased to be a Member State of the European Union at 23.00 United Kingdom time on 31 January 2020. 2. The United Kingdom submitted document G/TBT/2/Add.128 dated 21 February 2020, informing the Technical Barriers to Trade Committee of measures in place to ensure the implementation and administration of the Technical Barriers to Trade Agreement, following our exit from the European Union on 31 January 2020. In this document, we describe the United Kingdom's regulatory system, our standardisation and accreditation bodies, and our approach to notification and transparency. 3. The United Kingdom and the European Union have agreed a Withdrawal Agreement which provides for a time-limited transition period during which European Union law, as implemented through the Withdrawal Agreement, will continue to apply to and in the United Kingdom. This transition is due to end on 31 December of this year. 4. The WTO's transparency provisions, including Article 15.2 of the TBT Agreement, are an essential part of the rules-based multilateral trading system and contribute to making trade smoother and more predictable. After 25 years, notification has perhaps become routine, but we should not underestimate its importance to economic operators engaged in international trade, particularly in the regulatory arena. Timely and full notifications are one of the most important responsibilities of WTO Members. The United Kingdom is committed to transparency and our aim in circulating this notification under Article 15.2 is to provide as much information as possible for other Members. In addition, we would be happy to answer any questions related to technical regulations and standards via the United Kingdom Technical Barriers to Trade Enquiry Point 5. The United Kingdom looks forward to engaging with all World Trade Organization members to take forward the important work of the TBT Committee, in our collective effort towards a more integrated, viable and durable multilateral trading system. 	-