

23 October 2023

NOTICE TO RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

Dear Sir/Ma'am:

This refers to the draft regulations distributed through the World Trade Organization – Technical Barriers to Trade (WTO-TBT) website (www.epingalert.org) from 07 to 13 October 2023.

Relative thereto, we respectfully invite stakeholders to comment on the three (3) notified draft technical regulations from three (3) WTO Members:

Document Symbol	Notifying Member	Relevant Dates	Products Covered	Summary
G/TBT/N/CAN/706	Canada	<p>Date of Distribution: 11 October 2023</p> <p>Deadline for Comments: Not Applicable</p>	Sacks and bags	<p>The Single-Use and Plastic Waste Prevention Regulation (the Regulation)</p> <p>1. Prohibits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • single-use plastic shopping bags including those made from compostable and biodegradable plastics. • food service providers from using foodservice packaging (e.g., containers, cartons, egg cartons, cups, plates, bowls, trays, meat trays and film wrap) made from compostable plastics, biodegradable plastics polystyrene foam, PVC (polyvinylchloride) and PVDC (polyvinylidene chloride) to package prepared food and beverages for sale in B.C. • businesses from selling, distributing or using foodservice packaging (e.g., containers, cartons, egg cartons, cups, plates, bowls, trays, meat trays and film wrap) made from biodegradable plastics, polystyrene foam, PVC (polyvinylchloride) and PVDC (polyvinylidene chloride) to package food and beverages for sale in B.C. • single-use plastic utensils (e.g., cutlery, chopsticks and stir sticks) including those made from compostable and biodegradable plastics. • pre-packaged bundles of

BUREAU OF PHILIPPINE STANDARDS

Membership:

- International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
- International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)
- World Trade Organization (WTO) Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT)
 - National Enquiry Point (NEP)
 - National Notification Authority (NNA)

				<p>foodservice accessories (including napkins and single-serve condiments).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all packaging and single-use products made from oxo-degradable plastics. <p>2. requires minimum charges for alternatives to single-use plastic shopping bags (i.e., single-use paper shopping bags and reusable bags). Businesses are also be required to enable a no-fee option (e.g., facilitating the use of reusable bags or reuse of an existing bag or cardboard box).</p> <p>3. requires single-use foodservice accessories (e.g., wooden utensils, drinking straws, napkins, wet wipes, single-serve condiments) to be made available only by-request/optin (i.e., a customer must either ask for or be offered an item) including through online/remote food order delivery platforms. Self service stations are also permitted.</p> <p>4. includes, exemptions for reasons of accessibility, affordability, or if no suitable alternative is available.</p>
G/TBT/N/E GY/365	Egypt	<p>Date of Distribution: 13 October 2023</p> <p>Deadline for Comments: 11 December 2023</p>	Packaging materials and accessories	<p>1.1 This draft Standard covers the determination of gross leaks in flexible packaging containing a headspace gas. Test sensitivity is limited to 1×10^{-5} atm cm³/s (1×10^{-6} Pa m³/s) or even less sensitive as indicated in a recent inter laboratory test (reported in Section 12).</p> <p>1.2 Small leaks may not be detected by this procedure. Viscoelastic effects on the products, or entrapped air, become significant and prevent passage through small openings. Positive pressure inside the pouch after the vacuum is drawn may force the product to plug small leaks. The size of the leak that can be detected is dependent upon the products contained, the nature of the packaging material, and the test parameters selected.</p>

				<p>1.3 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to SI units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.</p> <p>1.4 This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use. Worth mentioning is that this draft standard is technically identical with ASTM D3078 – 2021.</p>
G/TBT/N/TH/668/Ad d.2	Thailand	<p>Date of Distribution: 10 October 2023</p> <p>Deadline for Comments: Not Indicated</p>	Label controlled products - Addendum	This addendum is to inform that the effective date of the Notification of the Committee on Labels entitled the Quality of the Commodity Label is Subject to the Controlled Label (No. 3) B.E. 2565 (2022) was repealed. The new effective date of the Notification of the Committee on Labels entitled the Quality of the Commodity Label is Subject to the Controlled Label (No. 4) B.E. 2566 (2023) is 15 October 2023.

To access the notification form, right click the document symbol to open the hyperlink. Should you have any queries on this matter or request for full text of draft regulation in English, please do not hesitate to email us at BPS@dti.gov.ph copy bps.smd@dti.gov.ph.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

NEIL P. CATAJAY
Director