

03 February 2025

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 11 to 17 January 2025.

Relative thereto, we respectfully invite stakeholders to comment on the notified draft technical regulations from: Argentina, Egypt, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, the Kingdom of Bahrain, the State of Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Yemen, and United States.

Document Symbol	Notifying Member	Relevant Dates	Products Covered	Summary
G/TBT/N/A/RG/461	Argentina	Date of Distribution: 17 January 2025 Deadline for Comments: 06 March 2025	Coconut oil	The notified project proposes the amendment of Article 538 of the Argentine Food Code (CAA) and the inclusion of Article 538bis to distinguish virgin coconut oil from neutral coconut oil.
G/TBT/N/E/GY/2/Add.30	Egypt	Date of Distribution: 17 January 2025 Deadline for Comments: Not indicated	Wheat (Triticum Durum Desf.)	This addendum concerns the notification of the draft Egyptian Standard ES 1601-2, "Wheat - Part 2: General Principles for Wheat (Triticum Durum Desf.)," which cancels and supersedes the previous version ES 1601_2005. The draft aligns with ISO 11051:1994 (confirmed in 2020) and Codex Stan CXS 199 (adopted in 1995, amended in 2019). Producers and importers are informed of any amendments via official gazette publications. The adoption and entry into force dates are yet to be determined. Comments can be directed to the Egyptian Organization for Standardization and Quality.
G/TBT/N/A/RG/460	Argentina	Date of Distribution: 16 January 2025 Deadline for Comments: 06 March 2025	Maca, roasted maca flour, and gelatinized maca flour	The notified project refers to the inclusion of Maca, as well as Roasted Maca Flour and Gelatinized Maca Flour, into the Argentine Food Code (CAA), establishing physico-chemical characteristics and microbiological criteria for the flours.
G/TBT/N/U/KR/329	Ukraine	Date of Distribution: 16 January 2025 Deadline for	Natural mineral water	This draft Resolution establishes criteria for classifying drinking water as natural mineral water in alignment with European Union law. It defines a mechanism for the Ukrainian Ministry of Health to oversee classification and outlines exclusions,

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)

		Comments: 17 March 2025		including medicinal and other specific types of water. Compliance requires meeting specified criteria, undergoing inspections, and submitting applications with supporting documents. The classification process, managed by the Ministry, is free and includes registration in an electronic public database. Transitional provisions allow previously compliant products to remain on the market for up to three years post-enactment. The draft is also notified under the SPS Agreement.
G/TBT/N/A/RE/484/Ad d.2 ; G/TBT/N/B/HR/581/Ad d.2 ; G/TBT/N/K/WT/553/Ad d.2 ; G/TBT/N/O/MN/415/Ad d.2 ; G/TBT/N/Q/AT/574/Ad d.2 ; G/TBT/N/S/AU/1144/Ad d.2 ; G/TBT/N/Y/EM/180/Ad d.2	United Arab Emirates, the Kingdom of Bahrain, the State of Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Yemen	Date of Distribution: 13 January 2025 Deadline for Comments: Not indicated	Additives permitted for use in food stuffs	Content or scope of notified measure on Additives permitted for use in food stuffs changed and text available from1: This addendum includes new definitions and modifications as shown in the following: 1. Food additives 2. Foods in which additives are permitted. 3. Foods in which the use of additives is not permitted. 4. Maximum limits allowed for the use of food additives https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2025/TBT_SAU_modification_25_00536_00_e.pdf New deadline for comments (if applicable): 60 days from notification
G/TBT/N/A/RE/646 ; G/TBT/N/B/HR/727 ; G/TBT/N/K/WT/707 ; G/TBT/N/O/MN/551 ; G/TBT/N/Q/AT/703 ; G/TBT/N/S/AU/1371 ; G/TBT/N/Y/EM/307	United Arab Emirates, the Kingdom of Bahrain, the State of Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Yemen	Date of Distribution: 13 January 2025 Deadline for Comments: 14 March 2025	Plant-based substitutes for meat and other products of animal origin (vegetarians, vegan)	This standard specifies the requirements for vegetarian and vegan foods that are alternatives to meat products and products of animal origin such as: eggs, milk, dairy products, meat, fish, fats, etc., and which have the claims (Vegans or Vegan).
G/TBT/N/A/RE/647 ; G/TBT/N/B/HR/728 ; G/TBT/N/K/WT/708 ; G/TBT/N/O/MN/552 ; G/TBT/N/Q/AT/704 ; G/TBT/N/S/AU/1372 ; G/TBT/N/Y/EM/308	United Arab Emirates, Kingdom of Bahrain, the State of Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Yemen	Date of Distribution: 13 January 2025 Deadline for Comments: 14 March 2025	Soybean seeds	This draft technical regulation applies to this technical regulation is for soybean seeds suitable for human consumption.
G/TBT/N/A/RE/648	United Arab Emirates,	Date of Distribution:	Wheat bran	This technical regulation applies to wheat bran.

G/TBT/N/B/HR/729 ; G/TBT/N/K/WT/709 ; G/TBT/N/O/MN/553 ; G/TBT/N/Q/AT/705 ; G/TBT/N/S/AU/1373 ; G/TBT/N/Y/EM/309	Kingdom of Bahrain, the State of Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Yemen	13 January 2025 Deadline for Comments: 14 March 2025		
G/TBT/N/A/RE/649 ; G/TBT/N/B/HR/730 ; G/TBT/N/K/WT/710 ; G/TBT/N/O/MN/554 ; G/TBT/N/Q/AT/706 ; G/TBT/N/S/AU/1374 ; G/TBT/N/Y/EM/310	United Arab Emirates, Kingdom of Bahrain, the State of Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Yemen	Date of Distribution: 13 January 2025 Deadline for Comments: 14 March 2025	Baker's yeast and inactive dried yeast	This draft technical regulation applies to baker's yeast and inactive dried yeast.
G/TBT/N/A/RE/650 ; G/TBT/N/B/HR/731 ; G/TBT/N/K/WT/711 ; G/TBT/N/O/MN/555 ; G/TBT/N/Q/AT/707 ; G/TBT/N/S/AU/1375 ; G/TBT/N/Y/EM/311	United Arab Emirates, Kingdom of Bahrain, the State of Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Yemen	Date of Distribution: 13 January 2025 Deadline for Comments: 14 March 2025	Harees, jareesh and mofalq	This draft technical regulation applies to this technical regulation is the basic requirements for harees , jareesh and Mofalak as defined herein.
G/TBT/N/A/RE/651 ; G/TBT/N/B/HR/732 ; G/TBT/N/K/WT/712 ; G/TBT/N/O/MN/556 ; G/TBT/N/Q/AT/708 ; G/TBT/N/S/AU/1376 ; G/TBT/N/Y/EM/312	United Arab Emirates, Kingdom of Bahrain, the State of Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Yemen	Date of Distribution: 13 January 2025 Deadline for Comments: 14 March 2025	Flavoured concentrate d drinks	This draft technical regulation applies to concentrated flavoured beverages prepared for consumption after diluting with water.
G/TBT/N/A/RE/652 ; G/TBT/N/B/HR/733 ; G/TBT/N/K/WT/713 ; G/TBT/N/O/MN/557 ; G/TBT/N/Q	United Arab Emirates, Kingdom of Bahrain, the State of Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Kingdom of	Date of Distribution: 13 January 2025 Deadline for Comments: 14 March 2025	Kleija	This technical regulation is for KLEIJA.

AT/709 : G/TBT/N/S AU/1377 : G/TBT/N/Y EM/313	Saudi Arabia, Yemen			
G/TBT/N/U SA/1872/A dd.2	United States	Date of Distribution: 13 January 2025 Deadline for Comments: Not indicated	Wine and distilled spirits containers	This final rule from the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) amends regulations to introduce 13 new standards of fill for wine and 15 for distilled spirits, while eliminating the distinction between container types for distilled spirits. A previous proposal to remove all standards of fill was not adopted following public comments. These amendments aim to provide industry members greater flexibility in container sizes, enhance trade opportunities, and offer consumers more options. The rule takes effect on January 10, 2025. Additional details and supporting documents are accessible on Regulations.gov under Docket Number TTB-2022-0004.
G/TBT/N/U SA/2168/A dd.1	United States	Date of Distribution: 13 January 2025 Deadline for Comments: 14 March 2025	Food date labeling	The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) have extended the comment period by 30 days for a joint Request for Information (RFI) on date labeling practices, consumer perceptions, and its potential effects on food waste and grocery costs. The new deadline for comments is March 5, 2025. The extension, prompted by an industry association's request, allows stakeholders more time to respond. The RFI, originally published on December 4, 2024, is identified by Docket Number FSIS-2024-0021, with documents and comments available on Regulations.gov. Feedback from WTO Members and stakeholders submitted by the deadline will be shared with FSIS and added to the Docket.

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