



**NOTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY MEASURES**

<b>1. Notifying Member:</b> <u>SWITZERLAND</u> <b>If applicable, name of local government involved:</b>
<b>2. Agency responsible:</b> Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office
<b>3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable):</b> All foodstuffs on the Swiss Market
<b>4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All trading partners <input type="checkbox"/> Specific regions or countries:
<b>5. Title of the notified document:</b> Revision of the Ordinance on Foodstuffs and Utility articles. <b>Language(s):</b> German, French, Italian. <b>Number of pages:</b> 2 <a href="https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2020/SPS/CHE/20_2902_00_x1.pdf">https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2020/SPS/CHE/20_2902_00_x1.pdf</a> <a href="https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2020/SPS/CHE/20_2902_00_f.pdf">https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2020/SPS/CHE/20_2902_00_f.pdf</a> <a href="https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2020/SPS/CHE/20_2902_00_x2.pdf">https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2020/SPS/CHE/20_2902_00_x2.pdf</a>
<b>6. Description of content:</b> Due to the COVID-19 pandemic certain food ingredients and packaging material may be in short supply. To provide food manufacturers more flexibility and to avoid reduced availability of foodstuffs for consumers, the labelling requirements for food products are relaxed for a time limited period of six months. The derogation will allow food producers to source alternative ingredients or packaging materials to substitute ingredients or materials in short supply without having to amend the packaging information.  For the derogation to apply, the following conditions have to be met:  First, the manufacturer has to demonstrate that the supply shortage is a direct consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic;  Second, the alternative ingredients used have no bearing on the relevant health information provided on the packaging (e.g. ingredients that are allergen or may cause undesired reactions); and  Third, foodstuff produced according to this derogation has to be labelled with a red round sticker followed by an internet address where consumers can obtain information about the ingredients and packaging materials used, and how these may differ from the information contained on the packaging.
<b>7. Objective and rationale:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests. The changes are aimed at ensuring the availability of foodstuffs whilst ensuring human health and avoid misleading consumers.

8.	<b>Nature of the urgent problem(s) and reason for urgent action:</b> Avoid reduced availability of foodstuffs due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
9.	<p><b>Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text):</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number):</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number):</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>None</b></p> <p><b>Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><b>If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:</b></p>
10.	<b>Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:</b>
11.	<p><b>Date of entry into force (dd/mm/yy)/period of application (as applicable):</b> 16 April 2020</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Trade facilitating measure</b></p>
12.	<p><b>Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</b></p> <p>State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO Holzikofenweg 36, 3003 Berne E-mail: <a href="mailto:sps@seco.admin.ch">sps@seco.admin.ch</a></p>
13.	<p><b>Text(s) available from: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</b></p> <p>State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO Holzikofenweg 36, 3003 Berne E-mail: <a href="mailto:sps@seco.admin.ch">sps@seco.admin.ch</a></p>