

**IMPLEMENTATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE AGREEMENT
ON TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE**

Communication from Honduras

Addendum

The following Statement under Article 15, paragraph 2, of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade has been received from the Government of the Republic of Honduras.

1. The Government of the Republic of Honduras accepted the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade by ratifying the Final Act of the Uruguay Round on 15 December 1994. The Agreement became law in Honduras, as an integral part of the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization (WTO), following its ratification and entry into force on 1 January 1995.

2. The full text of the Agreement was published in the Official Journal, "La Gaceta", pursuant to Decree No. 177-94 of 25 February 1995. This ensures that all agencies of the Honduran Government responsible for issuing and applying technical regulations, standards and conformity assessment procedures are aware of the country's obligations under the Agreement.

3. The Ministry of Industry and Trade, through the Department of Engineering and Standardization, has analysed the Agreement and disseminated it among the public and private sector entities concerned that have responsibilities in connection with its implementation.

4. The enquiry point for notifications as provided for in the WTO framework is the following:

Secretaría de Industria y Comercio (Ministry of Industry and Trade)
Dirección General de Integración
Económica y Política Comercial (Directorate-General of Economic Integration and Trade
Policy)
Edificio Larach, piso No. 10
Tegucigalpa, Honduras
Tel: (504) 222-60-55/222-18-19
Fax: (504) 238-13-36

The enquiry point for consultations concerning technical regulations, standards and conformity assessment procedures is the following:

Secretaría de Industria y Comercio (Ministry of Industry and Trade)
Dirección General de Protección al Consumidor (Directorate-General of Consumer Protection)
Departamento de Normalización y Metrología (Department of Standardization and Metrology)
Edificio Larach y Cía Piso No. 8
Tel: (504) 222-70-48
Fax: (504) 238-13-36
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

5. Final adoption of technical regulations, standards and conformity assessment procedures is the responsibility of the Government of Honduras through its agencies having powers and specific responsibilities in the various areas. These agencies are aware of Honduras' notification commitments and obligations under the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade.
 6. Honduras does not apply official standards but adopts international ones: Codex Alimentarius, FDA, Pan-American Standards, ICAITI, etc.
 7. Laws and regulations are published in the Official Journal, "La Gaceta".
 8. In accordance with the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, a 60-day period will be allowed for interested parties to submit comments on the draft standards before they are adopted by the agency concerned. Nevertheless, this period may be curtailed if pressing security, health or environmental problems arise or threaten to arise.
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