

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/TBT/N/ARE/53

1 November 2010

(10-5753)

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>UNITED ARAB EMIRATES</u> If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):
2.	Agency responsible: Emirates Authority for Standardization and Metrology Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, e-mail and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above: P. O. Box: 2166 Abu Dhabi United Arab Emirates Tel.: (+971) 2 403 2613 Fax: (+971) 2 671 0999 E-mail: esma@esma.ae Website: http://www.esma.ae
3.	Notified under Article 2.9.2 [], 2.10.1 [], 5.6.2 [X], 5.7.1 [], other:
4.	Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): All oxo-biodegradation of plastic bags and other disposable plastic objects which covers, but is not limited to, flexible shopping bags and semi-rigid plastic packaging for food, magazines, consumer-durables, garbage bags, bin-liners for household use, shrink wrap, pallet wrap, cling film etc., and other articles normally used over short periods and subsequently discarded.
5.	Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document: Specific requirements for the registration of oxo-biodegradable plastic bags and other related packaging materials according to UAE standard # UAE.S 5009:2009 (6 pages in Arabic and English).
6.	Description of content: A unified Conformity assessment procedure to be applied in the state of United Arab Emirates that defines the Criteria for the product registration of oxo-biodegradable plastic bags and other related packaging materials under the Emirates Conformity Assessment Scheme (ECAS) being implemented by the Emirates Authority for Standardization and Metrology (ESMA). The requirements defined in this document are issued for the information, guidance and compliance of manufacturers and traders intending to promote and sell plastic bags in the United Arab Emirates.

7.	Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable: The environment in the United Arab Emirates, as in the rest of the GCC, presents certain characteristics particular to the region as for example, an abundance of sunlight (a strong UV source) and high ambient temperatures – especially during the summer months. The general sandy topography is not an intensely microbial environment, leaving little or no room for a purely biotic degradation and soil assimilation processes. This Standard therefore focuses on the oxo-degradative effects through thermal and UV degradation under atmospheric conditions.
8.	Relevant documents: – 1 – UAE.S 5009:2009: Standard & Specification For Oxo–Biodegradation Of Plastic Bags And Other Disposable Plastic Objects
9.	Proposed date of adoption: Proposed date of entry into force: } To be determined
10.	Final date for comments: 60 days from the date of notification
11.	Text available from: National enquiry point [X], or address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail and website addresses, if available of the other body: Emirates Authority for Standardization and Metrology (ESMA) UAE TBT Enquiry Point Tel.: (+971) 2 403 2657 Fax: (+971) 2 671 5999 E-mail: uaetbt@esma.ae Website: http://www.esma.ae