



14 February 2014

(14-0883)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1.	Notifying Member: <u>SINGAPORE</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore (AVA)
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): Food
4.	Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All trading partners <input type="checkbox"/> Specific regions or countries:
5.	Title of the notified document: Draft Food (Amendment) Regulations 2014 Language(s): English Number of pages:
6.	Description of content: The Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore (AVA) has completed a review of the Food Regulations and proposes the following amendments: a) To allow the use of the following new food additives: i. Chromium picolinate as a nutrient source of chromium (under the Seventh Schedule). ii. Serine protease (trypsin) from a genetically modified strain of <i>Fusarium venenatum</i> (under the Eighth Schedule). iii. Polygalacturonase from <i>Aspergillus niger</i> (under the Eighth Schedule). iv. Invertase from <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> (under the Eighth Schedule). b) To specify a maximum limit for mercury in predatory fish: Singapore proposes to specify a maximum level of 1 ppm for total mercury in predatory fish and their products. c) To allow the use of phytosterols, phytosterol esters, phytostanols and phytostanols in more food products. The addition of phytosterols/phytostanols is currently limited to only three groups of food products: low fat milk, low fat yoghurt, and fat spreads. AVA has conducted a review and noted that the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) and Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) have found no safety issues for the consumption of phytosterols/phytostanols by the general public. As such, there is no need to continue restricting the use of these substances. Nonetheless, the use of phytosterols is proposed to be limited to the following foods to ensure that phytosterols are not added to foods that have the potential to increase blood cholesterol levels: i. edible vegetable fats and oils containing not more than 20g of saturated fat per 100g total fat, and margarine and fat spread containing not more than 27g of saturated fat per 100g total fat; and ii. other foods containing not more than 3g of total fat per 100g or 1.5g of total fat per 100ml.

7.	Objective and rationale: <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.
8.	<p>Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission (<i>e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text</i>) Codex General Standard for Food Additives (CODEX STAN 192-1995), Codex General Standard for Contaminants in Food (CODEX STAN 193-1995)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (<i>e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number</i>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention (<i>e.g. ISPM number</i>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:</p>
9.	Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: None
10.	<p>Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): 1 June 2014</p> <p>Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy): 1 June 2014</p>
11.	<p>Proposed date of entry into force: <input type="checkbox"/> Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): 1 June 2014</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trade facilitating measure (approval of use of new food additives and ingredients)</p>
12.	<p>Final date for comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): 15 April 2014</p> <p>Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</p>
13.	<p>Texts available from: <input type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</p> <p>The proposed regulations will be made available at the following website: http://www.ava.gov.sg/Legislation/ListOfLegislation/</p> <p>Alternatively, please write in to: Regulatory Administration Group Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority 5 Maxwell Road #18-00 Tower Block MND Complex Singapore 069110 Tel: +(65) 6325 3092 Fax: +(65) 6220 6068 E-mail: low_teng_yong@ava.gov.sg</p>