

18 April 2024

Original: English

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

NOTIFICATION

- 1. Notifying Member: <u>SEYCHELLES</u>
 - If applicable, name of local government involved:
- **2. Agency responsible:** Seychelles Public Health Authority
- 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): All processed food imported into or exported out of Seychelles for sale; with the exemption of the import and export of food products of plant and animal origin that is provided for under the Animal and Plant Biosecurity Act, 2014; and export of fishery products that is provided for under the Export of Fishery Products Act, 1996.
- 4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:
 - [X] All trading partners
 - [] Specific regions or countries:
- **5. Title of the notified document:** Draft Food Act (Import and Export of Foods) Regulations, 2023. **Language(s):** English. **Number of pages:** 17

https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2024/SPS/SYC/24 02620 00 e.pdf

6. Description of content: The Food Act 2014 refers to general provisions for the protection of foods from contamination, adulteration, and deception and prevents the sale of food that is injurious to health. However, the Act, on its own, does not provide the Authority with a clear direction on how to mitigate food safety risks associated with imported and exported foods.

Hence, the need for a regulation on the importation and exportation of food, with the intention of addressing the existing gaps and weaknesses to augment public health protection and improve fair trade.

- 7. Objective and rationale: [X] food safety, [] animal health, [] plant protection, [X] protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, [] protect territory from other damage from pests.
- 8. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:
 - [X] Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text): The Draft Regulations is a Sub-Regulation under the Food Act 2014. Section 38 (2) of The Food Act, 2014 requires that in making regulations under subsection (1) of the Food Act, 2014, account shall be taken of the Codex Alimentarius and the World Trade Organization Agreement on the application of SPS measures.
 - [] World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number):
 - [] International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number):

[] None

Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?

[X] Yes [] No

If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:

- 9. Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:
- **10. Proposed date of adoption (***dd/mm/yy***):** To be determined.

Proposed date of publication (*dd/mm/yy***):** To be determined.

- 11. Proposed date of entry into force: [] Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): The Regulations will enter into force on such date as the Minister of Health may, by notice in the Gazette, appoint.
 - [] Trade facilitating measure
- 12. Final date for comments: [X] Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): 17 June 2024

Agency or authority designated to handle comments: [X] National Notification Authority, [X] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

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13. Text(s) available from: [X] National Notification Authority, [X] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

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