

13 July 2020

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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Original: Spanish

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

COMMUNICATION FROM MEXICO

Supplement

The following communication under Article 15.2 of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade has been received from the delegation of Mexico.

1.1. Pursuant to Article 15.2 of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, the Government of Mexico wishes to notify that the "Decree issuing the Law on Quality Infrastructure and repealing the Federal Law on Metrology and Standardization" was published in the Official Journal (*Diario Oficial de la Federación*) of 1 July 2020.

1.2. The Law on Quality Infrastructure governs matters of public policy and social interest, and its provisions are generally applicable and binding throughout national territory, without prejudice to the international agreements to which the United Mexican States is party. It seeks to establish and develop the basis for industrial policy within the context of the National Quality Infrastructure System, through standardization, harmonization, accreditation, conformity assessment and metrology activities, thereby promoting economic development and quality in the production of goods and services, with a view to increasing productive capacity and ensuring a process of continual improvement in value chains, fostering international trade and protecting legitimate public interest objectives. The Law also seeks to:

- i. promote the involvement of the public, social and private sectors in the drafting and enforcement of Mexican Official Standards and other standards;
- ii. establish mechanisms for coordination and collaboration between the standardization authorities, the National Metrology Centre, designated metrology institutes, accreditation bodies and conformity assessment bodies, local and municipal bodies, and the social and private sectors, in the areas of standardization, conformity assessment and metrology;
- iii. foster technological innovation in respect of goods, products, processes and services, with a view to improving the quality of people's lives throughout Mexico;
- iv. encourage the creation of enhanced physical and digital infrastructure for the proper implementation of conformity assessment activities;
- v. with regard to metrology, establish and maintain the General System of Units of Measurement, set up designated metrology institutes and establish structures for scientific metrology, legal metrology and applied or industrial metrology; and
- vi. foster and disseminate standardization, harmonization, accreditation, conformity assessment and metrology activities.

1.3. Under this Law, the standardization authorities are required to pursue public policies that help to modernize the National Quality Infrastructure System, promote appropriate quality infrastructure that stimulates industrial growth and meet the various legitimate objectives of public interest provided for in the Law.

1.4. The Decree will enter into force 60 days after its publication in the Official Journal.

1.5. Upon its entry into force, the Decree will repeal the Federal Law on Metrology and Standardization published in the Official Journal on 1 July 1992 and the amendments thereto, as well as any provisions that are inconsistent with the Law on Quality Infrastructure.

1.6. The Federal Executive is required to issue the implementing regulations for the Law on Quality Infrastructure within 12 months of its entry into force; in the meantime, the regulations implementing the Federal Law on Metrology and Standardization will continue to be applied insofar as no inconsistency exists.

1.7. The texts are available from the national enquiry point:

1.8. *Secretaría de Economía* (Ministry of the Economy)

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