

24 March 2015

Original: English

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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

NOTIFICATION

1. Notifying Member: <u>OMAN</u>
If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):

2. Agency responsible:

Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:

Ministry of Commerce & Industry

Directorate General for Specifications & Measurements

P.O. Box: 550, Postal Code: 113

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E-mail: mailto:nepic@moci.gov.om
Website: http://www.mocioman.gov.om

- 3. Notified under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [], 5.6.2 [], 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): Specific certificates for animal: animal products (meat and its derivatives); Birds products and derivatives products; Fish and products and their derivatives; Phytosanitary: plant products and their derivatives and products
- 5. Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document: Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Guide for Control on Imported Foods (36 pages, in English)
- **6. Description of content:** This Guide describes principles and regulatory requirements to be applied by the importing (GCC) countries in assuring the safety and suitability of shipments of imported food. Specific attestations for animal and plant health certification are also provided in the Guide.

The Guide incorporates Codex, OIE, IPPC standards as international benchmarks where appropriate.

There is ongoing work in GCC countries to harmonize all regulatory requirements for imported foods and provide a coordinated and efficient border inspection and clearance system. While regulatory requirements and procedures for imported foods are not as yet fully harmonized between the countries of the GCC, this Guide will contribute to the harmonization process. In particular, the countries of the GCC will continue to work towards a fully risk-based approach to assure the safety of imported foods.

- 7. Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable:
 Consumer health
- 8. Relevant documents: -

9. Proposed date of adoption: -

Proposed date of entry into force: First of June 2015 (Experimental)

10. Final date for comments: 60 days from the date of circulation

11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:

National Enquiry Point and Information Centre (NEPIC)

P.O. Box: 550

Postal code: 113 Muscat Sultanate of Oman Tel.: + (968) 2481 7252 Fax: + (968) 2481 7040

Email: <u>mailto:nepic@moci.gov.om</u>