



25 August 2020

(20-5756)

Page: 1/2

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Original: English

### NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

<b>1. Notifying Member:</b> AUSTRALIA <b>If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):</b>
<b>2. Agency responsible:</b> Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) <b>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:</b>  Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Email: <a href="mailto:tbt.enquiry@dfat.gov.au">tbt.enquiry@dfat.gov.au</a>
<b>3. Notified under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [ ], 5.6.2 [ ], 5.7.1 [ ], other:</b>
<b>4. Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable):</b> Hand sanitisers and rubs containing alcohol available commercially for consumer use; ESSENTIAL OILS AND RESINOIDS; PERFUMERY, COSMETIC OR TOILET PREPARATIONS (HS 33); SOAP, ORGANIC SURFACE-ACTIVE AGENTS, WASHING PREPARATIONS, LUBRICATING PREPARATIONS, ARTIFICIAL WAXES, PREPARED WAXES, POLISHING OR SCOURING PREPARATIONS, CANDLES AND SIMILAR ARTICLES, MODELLING PASTES, 'DENTAL WAXES' AND DENTAL PREPARATIONS WITH A BASIS OF PLASTER (HS 34)
<b>5. Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:</b> Consumer Goods (Cosmetics) Information Standard 2020 (12 pages) (12 page(s), in English)
<b>6. Description of content:</b> The ACCC is reviewing the Trade Practices (Consumer Product Information Standards) (Cosmetics) Regulations 1991 (the information standard). The information standard requires that products supplied as cosmetics provide, either on the packaging or the cosmetics container, a list of ingredients contained in the product in descending order by volume or mass. This list allows consumers to make informed choices about the contents of the product to ensure safe use.  Hand sanitisers and rubs are categorised as cosmetics under the information standard. Hand sanitisers and rubs containing alcohol are only effective in getting rid of bacteria and microorganisms if they contain a minimum of 60% alcohol. Currently there are no mandatory requirements for suppliers to list the alcohol content of the product. In addition as these alcohol based products have certain safety risks due to their potential flammability and ingestion or use hazards (especially for children), warnings relating to these safety issues are considered desirable.  These additional requirements will not apply to hand sanitisers made to the World Health Organisation formula, or where the hand sanitiser is classed as a therapeutic good by the Therapeutic Goods Administration, or to a hand sanitiser which does not contain alcohol.  The new legislative instrument will amend the information standard and include requirements for information on alcohol content and usage warnings.

<b>7. Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable:</b> The proposed revision to the information standard will provide consumers with more information on both the likely effectiveness of alcohol based hand sanitisers and rubs and the safe use and storage of these products.; Consumer information, labelling; Prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection; Protection of human health or safety
<b>8. Relevant documents:</b> The draft standard is attached and available from <a href="mailto:tbt.enquiry@dfat.gov.au">tbt.enquiry@dfat.gov.au</a> .
<b>9. Proposed date of adoption:</b> TBC - anticipate November 2020 <b>Proposed date of entry into force:</b> The instrument will commence the day after it is registered. The instrument applies to cosmetic products if the manufacture or importation occurs 90 days after the commencement of the instrument.
<b>10. Final date for comments:</b> 60 days from notification
<b>11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:</b> WTO TBT Enquiry Point The Director Goods and Government Procurement Section Office of Trade Negotiations Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Canberra A.C.T 0221 Tel: + (61 2) 6261 1111 + (61 2) 6261 3111 (Fax) <a href="mailto:tbt.enquiry@dfat.gov.au">tbt.enquiry@dfat.gov.au</a> <a href="https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2020/TBT/AUS/20_5038_00_e.pdf">https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2020/TBT/AUS/20_5038_00_e.pdf</a>