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Voluntary - Public

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## Morocco

**Post:** Rabat

### Food Labeling Requirements

**Report Categories:**

FAIRS Subject Report

Retail Foods

Food Service - Hotel Restaurant Institutional

Food Processing Ingredients

SP2 - Prevent or Resolve Barriers to Trade that Hinder U.S. Food and Agricultural Exports

WTO Notifications

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**Report Highlights:**

This report contains an unofficial translation of Morocco's [Decree #2-12-389](#) on food labeling, following proposed changes in [G/SPS/N/MAR/48](#). The changes, as denoted in *italics*, came into force on June 21, 2018. This report replaces [Morocco: Food Labeling Requirements](#), dated June 4, 2018.

**Decree No. 2-12-389 of April 22, 2013 (Joumada II 11, 1434) laying down the terms and conditions for the labeling of food products**

**BO n ° 6152 of May 16, 2013, page 1936; BO n ° 6158 of June 06, 2013, page 2004; BO n ° 6684 of the June 21, 2018, p 1319**

*Having regard to Law No. 28-07 relating to the safety of food products, in particular its articles 16 to 20 including and 26;*

*Having regard to Decree No. 2-10-473 of the Chaoual 7, 1432 (September 6, 2011) adopted for the application of certain provisions of the Law No. 28-07 relating to the safety of food products in particular its article 53;*

*After deliberation in Government Council, meeting on Mars 21, 2013 (Joumada I 9, 1434),*

## **DECREES:**

### **FIRST CHAPTER**

#### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**FIRST ARTICLE.** - This Decree lays down general provisions and requirements for the labeling of primary and food products in order to guarantee consumer information on these products.

It lays down, in application of the provisions of Article 18 of the abovementioned Law n ° 28-07, the constitutive elements, the characteristics and the forms of the mentions and the inscriptions, which must appear on the supports of the labeling of said products including nutritional labeling as well as the terms and conditions of their affixing.

**ART.2. (amended and supplemented by the Decree n ° 2-18-44 of the May 29, 2018 - BO n ° 6684 of the June 21, 2018, p 1319)** - In the sense of the present Decree, is meant by:

- 1) Labeling:** The particulars, indications, marks, images, drawings, logos or any other signs relating to a primary product or a food product and appearing on any packaging, document, sign, label, ring or collar accompanying or referring to this product;
- 2) Nutritional Labeling:** Any mention or other indication intended to inform the consumer about the nutritional properties of a product. Nutritional labeling has two components: nutrient information and complementary nutrition information;
- 3) Pre-packaged product:** The sales unit consisting of a food product and the packaging in which it is packaged for presentation for sale, so that its contents can not be modified without the packaging being subjected to an opening or a modification. This definition does not cover products packaged at the point

of sale at the request of the consumer or prepacked for immediate sale to a final consumer;

**4) Lot:** A set of sales units of a food product that has been produced, manufactured or conditioned under similar circumstances;

**5) Ingredient:** Any substance including water and food additives used in the manufacture or preparation of a food product and which remains in the finished product, possibly in a modified form;

**6) Primary ingredient:** Any ingredient that makes up more than 50% of a food product, which is usually associated with the name of this product by the consumer;

**7) Nutritional Claim:** Any message or representation that states, suggests or implies that a food product has particular nutritional properties:

- Either because of the energy (caloric value) it provides or does not provide, or it provides at a reduced or increased rate;
- Because of the nutrients that it contains, or does not contain, or contains in reduced or increased proportions.
- Does not constitute a nutrition claim the particulars relating to:
  - The substances indicated in the list of ingredients of the product;
  - Nutrients as mandatory elements of nutrition labeling;
  - The quality or quantity of certain nutrients or ingredients when they are prescribed by the regulations in force;

**8) Health claim:** Any message or representation that states, suggests or implies the existence of a relationship between, on the one hand, a category of food products or one of its components and, on the other hand, the health ;

**9) Nutrient:** Proteins, carbohydrates, lipids, dietary fibers, sodium, vitamins and minerals as well as substances that fall under, or that are components of one of these categories;

**10) Food enzyme:** Any substance obtained by extraction from plants or animals or by a fermentation process of micro-organisms which contains one or more enzymes capable of catalyzing a specific biochemical reaction and which is added to food products as technological auxiliary;

**11) Visual field:** All the surfaces of a package that can be read from a single angle of view;

**12) Main visual field:** The visual field of a packaging most likely to be seen at first glance by consumers when buying the product and allowing them the immediate identifying of the product according to its characteristics and its nature and, where appropriate, its trademark. If a packaging has several identical visual fields, the main visual field shall be that chosen by the relevant food business operator;

**13) Collective catering:** Any establishment, such as a restaurant, canteen, school, hospital or catering service including a vehicle or a fixed or mobile stall in which, in the frame of a professional activity, food products ready for consumption by the final consumer are prepared;

**14) Date of minimum durability:** *The date until which the food product retains its specific properties under appropriate storage conditions;*

**15) The consumption expiry date:** The date after which the shelf life of the product ends, microbiologically very perishable, presents a danger to human health.

**ART.3.** This Decree applies to primary products and food products, hereinafter referred to as "products", imported or placed on the national market, including those distributed free of charge and those delivered or served in collective catering as well as to any importer and any producer or operator of an establishment or a business in the food sector.

It shall apply without prejudice to any other labeling provision provided for by any legislation or regulation specific to certain products, in particular because of their nature, quality or origin or mode of production.

**ART.4. (amended and supplemented by the [Decree n ° 2-18-44 of the May 29, 2018 - BO n ° 6684 of the June 21, 2018, p 1319](#))** - Any importer and any producer or operator of an establishment or a food business is responsible for the labeling of the products they market, and they shall guarantee that this labeling is carried out in accordance with this Decree.

For this purpose, they:

- 1) *Ensure the presence and accuracy of the labeling information of their products in accordance with the provisions of this Decree and the conformity of the documents accompanying such products;*
- 2) Do not modify the information accompanying their products if such a modification is likely to mislead the final consumer or to create in his mind a confusion with any other product, or to reduce the level of protection of that consumer. In all cases, the importer, producer or operator remains responsible for any changes made;
- 3) Do not commercialize a product of which they know or have reason to know, in particular because of the information to which they have access as a professional, which they do not correspond to their labeling or they do not meet the requirements and prescriptions enacted by the aforementioned [Law No. 28-07](#), and [Decree No. 2-10-473](#), or a product which date of minimum durability or the expiry date for consumption has passed;
- 4) Ensures, in the case of a non-prepackaged product intended for the final consumer or intended to be distributed or delivered to the mass catering sector, that the information relating to the said product is transmitted to the operator or the receiving company in order to enable them to have all the necessary information in accordance with this Decree;
- 5) In the case where prepacked products are commercialized at a stage prior to sale to an end consumer, or where they are intended for distribution, or delivered to the collective catering, ensure that the mandatory particulars referred to in Article 11 below appear on the pre-packaging of the said products or on a label attached thereto or on the commercial documents accompanying it. In addition, they shall ensure that the particulars referred to in Article (1), (4), (5), (7), (8) and (14) of the same article 11 appear on the external packaging of the said pre-packed products when they are placed on the market;
- 6) *Ensures that the remaining time to the date of minimum durability or the expiry date, as the case may be, of the products to be imported, with a view to their placing on the market, and mentioned in their labeling or in the accompanying documents, shall be not less than one quarter of their durability. In this case, the date of production must be indicated in the documents accompanying the products concerned.*

In any case, the importer, producer or operator of an establishment or a food business undertakes ensure to provide any operator or receiving company with sufficient information to enable them to fulfill their obligations under this Article.

**ART.5. (amended and supplemented by the [Decree n ° 2-18-44 of the May 29, 2018 - BO n ° 6684 of the June 21, 2018, p 1319](#))** - According to Article 16 of the aforementioned [Law No. 28-07](#), any product imported or placed on the national market, must be labeled in accordance with the provisions of this Decree and must be accompanied, at all stages of its marketing or its distribution with the corresponding health and / or commercial documents containing information relating in particular to its nature, identity, quantity and country or place of provenance in accordance with its labeling.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **GENERAL PROVISIONS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR LABELING**

**ART.6.** - The labeling of any product must be done in such a way that it gives to every buyer including a final consumer information on:

- a) The identity, properties, composition and any other features of the product;
- b) The protection of human health and the safe use of the product, including information relating to:
  - Its composition may have an adverse effect on the health of certain groups of consumers;
  - Its period of validity, its storage conditions and its use;
  - Its possible health effects, including the risks and consequences of inappropriate or abusive use of the product.

The characteristics enabling the consumer, including those who must follow a special diet, to make an informed choice. This information must be provided and made readily available at all stages of product marketing. In particular, in the case of pre-packaged products, this information must appear directly on the packaging of the said products or on a label attached thereto.

**ART.7.** - Labeling and the manner in which it is carried out must not mislead the buyer including the end consumer or create confusion in his mind with any other product. This information must be clear, precise and easily understandable.

They must not:

- Mislead the characteristics of the product concerned and in particular its nature, identity, qualities, composition, quantity and validity duration, or the country of origin or place of provenance of the product, or how it was made or obtained;
- Attribute to the product concerned special effects, features or properties that it does not have;
- Identify the properties of prevention, treatment or cure of a disease, except in the case of application of a specific regulation relating to non-medicinal products intended for a particular diet;
- Make believe that the product has special characteristics while all similar products have the same characteristics, including insisting on the presence or absence of certain ingredients in said product;
- Suggest, by means of appearance, description or graphic representation, the presence of a specific ingredient, when it is in fact a product in which, that ingredient is naturally present or normally used to replace any other ingredient.

The provisions of this Article shall also apply to the presentation of products, including their shape or appearance or their packaging and labeling supports, as well as the advertising and the environment in

which they are exposed.

**ART.8.** - The information on the products must be written in Arabic and possibly in one or more other languages, without abbreviations other than those provided by the regulations specific to the product concerned or by the provisions of international conventions to which the Kingdom of Morocco is a Party.

May be [dispensed by Order of the Minister of Agriculture](#), the use of the Arabic language in terms of their labeling, certain products imported or intended for a particular clientele and some drinks made locally.

**ART.9.** - Any information relating to particular properties of the product, which are related to its conditions of production, may only be indicated on its labeling if the product has been obtained under the conditions provided for by the specific legislation applicable to those properties.

### **CHAPTER III:**

## **PROVISIONS RELATING TO MANDATORY INFORMATION ON PRODUCTS**

### **Section 1: Primary Products**

**ART.10.** - A poster, sign or other appropriate means of labeling shall be affixed to or in close proximity to any primary product to permit its exact identification without risk of confusion.

This sign, poster or any other means must include the mention of the sales denomination, of the country of origin or place of provenance and if applicable the mention of the lot.

In the case of distance selling including by electronic means, and without prejudice to the application of any legislation or regulation relating to this type of sale, these particulars must appear on the sales proposal, and be accompanied by all other information necessary or the identification of the product concerned, its main characteristics as well as its country of origin or place of provenance.

### **Section 2: prepackaged Products**

**ART.11.** (amended and supplemented by the [Decree n ° 2-18-44 of the May 29, 2018 - BO n ° 6684 of the June 21, 2018, p 1319](#)) - Labeling of any prepackaged product shall, subject to the exceptions provided for in this section, contain the following mandatory particulars:

- 1) The denomination of the product;
- 2) The list of ingredients;
- 3) The name of any ingredient or technological aids likely to cause an allergy or intolerance or any substance derived from these are set out in Annex I of this Decree;
- 4) The net quantity of the product and certain ingredients or categories of ingredients composing

the product;

- 5) *Date of minimum durability or the consumption expiry date as the case may be;*
- 6) The particular conditions of conservation;
- 7) The name or company name and address of the producer or operator of the establishment or food company concerned, according to the case, as well as the name or business name and address of the importer of the imported products;
- 8) The country of origin or the place of provenance of the product;
- 9) The instructions for use whenever its mention is necessary for an appropriate use of the product as well as, where appropriate, the particular conditions of use, particularly the precautions for use;
- 10) The actual alcoholic strength by volume for beverages containing more than 1.2% alcohol by volume;
- 11) The nutrition information when they are mandatory under a regulation in force or when reference is to a nutrition or health claim on the product or in advertising concerning it;
- 12) The indication of the production lot or manufacturing or packaging to which the prepackaged product belongs;
- 13) The additional mandatory particulars appearing on the list set out in Annex II to this Decree for products of the types or categories mentioned in that Annex;
- 14) The number of the authorization or approval referred to in Article 14 of Decree n° 2-10-473 and any other obligatory indication provided, where appropriate, by the regulatory provisions specific to the product under consideration.

The affixing of the above-mentioned compulsory information must be made in accordance with the provisions of Articles 12 to 29 below.

**ART.12.** - In addition to the characteristics mentioned in Article 7 above, the information subject to the mandatory particulars referred to in Article 11 must be legible and visible, in particular by using appropriate typography and contrast elements.

They are expressed in words and numbers and may include pictograms or symbols when the use of these does not interfere with the understanding of the information they express.

These mandatory particulars must be printed in a body of character whose height as defined in Appendix III of this Decree:

- The letter « م » in the case of the Arabic language must be equal to or greater than 1 mm, except in the case of packages or containers whose largest face is less than 80 cm<sup>2</sup> for which a height of less than 1 mm may be permitted without it being less than 0.7 mm;
- The letter « x » in the case of a foreign language must be equal to or greater than 1.2 mm, except in the case of packaging or containers the largest surface of which is less than 80 cm<sup>2</sup> for which a height of less than 1.2 mm may be permitted without being less than 0.9 mm.

**ART.13.** (amended and supplemented by Decree n° 2-15-218 of Rejeb 30, 1436 (May 19, 2015) [BO](#)

[n° 6366 of June 4, 2015, page 3077](#)) - The mandatory information referred to in Article 11 above must be affixed using a process that makes them indelible and must be placed clearly so as to be immediately visible.

These particulars must not be concealed, veiled, truncated or separated from each other by other interfering elements.

Subject to the provisions of (III° -b) of Article 14 below, the compulsory particulars referred to in 1), 4) and 10) of Article 11 above must be placed in the same visual field.

**ART.14.** - By way of derogation from the provisions of Article 11 above:

**I °** - The list of ingredients is not required in the labeling of the following products:

- a. Fresh fruit and vegetables including potatoes which have not been peeled, cut up or any other similar treatment;
- b. Carbonated waters, the name of which indicates this characteristic;
- c. Fermentation vinegars if they come exclusively from a single basic product and as long as no other ingredient has been added;
- d. Cheeses, butter, fermented milks and creams, provided that no ingredients other than milk products, food enzymes and micro-organism cultures required for the manufacture have been added, or in the case of cheeses other than fresh cheese and processed cheese, than the salt necessary for their manufacture;
- e. Products containing only one ingredient, provided that the denomination of the product is identical to the name of the ingredient or allows the nature of the ingredient to be determined without risk of confusion.

**II °** - The mention of the constituents indicated below is not obligatory in the list of ingredients of a product, except those referred to in 3) of Article 11 above:

- a) The constituents which, during the manufacturing process, have been temporarily removed and subsequently reincorporated in a quantity not exceeding the initial content;
- b) The food additives and enzymes:
  - whose presence in a food product is solely due to the fact that they were contained in one or more ingredients of that product and provided that they no longer fulfill any technological function in the final product or,
  - which are used as processing aids;
- c) The substances used in strictly necessary doses such as solvents or carriers for nutritional substances, food additives and flavorings unless these substances are known to cause allergies;
- d) The substances which are not food additives but which are used in the same way and for the same purpose as processing aids and which are still present in the final product, even in a modified form, unless these substances are known to cause allergies
- e) The water when used in the manufacturing process solely to allow the reconstitution, in its original state, of an ingredient used in concentrated or dehydrated form or when used as a simple liquid cover and is not normally consumed;



**III °** - Certain mandatory information are not required in the following cases:

- a) The glass bottles intended for re-use which are indelibly marked and which therefore do not bear a label, ring or collar may contain only the particulars listed in 1), 3), 4), 5) and 11), of the said Article 11;
- b) The packaging and containers which their largest side has a surface area less than 10 cm<sup>2</sup>, the particulars listed in 1), 3), 4) and 5) of Article 11 are the only compulsory particulars to appear on the packaging or on the label. The particulars referred to in 2) of this same Article 11, must be provided by other means or must be available to the consumer at his request;
- c) The particulars referred to in 2) and 11) of the said article 11, are not compulsory for beverages containing more than 1.2% alcohol by volume;

**IV °** - The lot indication referred to in 12) of Article 11 above is not required in the following cases:

- 1. Products that from the holding are:
  - a) Sold or delivered to stations of storage, preparation or packaging;
  - b) Routed to organizations of producers;
  - c) Collected with a view to their immediate use in a process of preparation or processing;
- 2. Products presented at the point of sale directly to the final consumer who:
  - a) are not prepacked, even if they are subsequently packed at the request of the purchaser;
  - b) are prepackaged with a view to their immediate sale;
- 3. Individual doses of ice cream. However, the indication of the lot must appear on the combined package.;
- 4. Prepackaged products with a bar code in accordance with the standards recognized in the matter.

**ART.15.** - The denomination of a product referred to in 1) of Article 11 above shall be that prescribed by the regulations in force or, failing that, by the Codex Alimentarius.

In the absence of regulation or denomination of the Codex Alimentarius, this name must consist of a description of the product and, if necessary, its use. This description must be sufficiently precise enable the purchaser to know the real nature of the product and to distinguish it from any other product with which it could be confused.

The denomination of a protected product in the context of the intellectual property or of a particular legislation of the said product, a trademark or a fancy name cannot be substituted for the name of the said product established in accordance with the provisions of the above paragraphs.

**ART.16.** - The denomination of the product must be followed by an indication of the physical conditions in which it is found or of the specific treatment it has undergone, such as: (powdered), (freeze-dried.), (pasteurized), (sterilized), (reconstituted), (concentrated), (smoked), (salted), (dried), (cooked), (deep-frozen), (frozen) or (thawed), whenever the omission of that indication is of a nature to create confusion in the mind of the purchaser.

However, the requirement for (thawed) does not apply in the case of products that have been frozen before to sale and are sold thawed when freezing is a necessary technical step in the production process.

The labeling of products treated with ionizing radiation must bear the mention "irradiated" or "treated with ionizing radiation" and any other mention provided for by the applicable regulations.

The specific technical provisions relating to the denomination of the products and to the particulars to which it must be accompanied as well as the modalities of its establishment and its indication on the labeling of such products shall be adopted by the Minister of Agriculture.

**ART.17. (amended and completed by Decree n° 2-15-218 of Rejeb 30, 1436 (May 19, 2015) [BO n° 6366](#) of June 04, 2015, page 3077)** - The list of ingredients referred to in 2) of Article 11 above must be accompanied by a heading or preceded by a statement including the term "ingredient".

This list must include the indication of all the ingredients of the product in descending order of their weight at the time of their implementation in the manufacture of said product.

The ingredients must be designated by their name in accordance with the rules established in Article 15 above and in accordance with the [technical procedures laid down by Order of the Minister of Agriculture](#).

All ingredients in the form of manufactured nanomaterials must be clearly indicated in the list of ingredients with the indication of their name followed by the word [nano] in square brackets.

**ART.18.** - For each of the food additives in the list of ingredients, the name of the category to which the additive belongs, followed by its specific name or identification number established in accordance with the relevant legislation is mandatory.

**ART.19.** - The names of the ingredients or processing aids referred to in 3) of Article 11 above must be highlighted in the labeling by an impression which clearly distinguishes it from the rest of the list of ingredients, in particular by means of the character, the style of character or the color of the background used.

Where the product is exempted from the list of ingredients in accordance with Article 14 above, the indication referred to in 3) of the said Article 11 shall include the word 'contains' followed by the name of the substance or product listed in Annex I to this Decree.

Where several ingredients or processing aids of a product come from a single product or substance listed in Annex I mentioned above, the labeling shall mention that product or substance for each ingredient or processing aid concerned.

**ART.20.** - The quantity of an ingredient or category of ingredients used in the manufacture or preparation of a product is mandatory when that ingredient or category of ingredients:

- a) Appear in the denomination of the product or is generally associated with that name by the consumer;
- b) Is highlighted in the labeling by words, images or a graphic representation;
- c) Is essential to characterize a product and to distinguish it from products with which it might be confused by reason of its name or aspect.

However, the mention of this quantity is not compulsory in the case where the ingredient or the category of ingredients is used at low concentration as a flavoring agent.

**ART.21.** - The mention of the net quantity of a product referred to in 4) of Article 11 above shall be indicated according to the metric system (units of the international system) using, as the case may be, the liter, the centiliter, the milliliter or the kilogram or gram, as follows:

- a) In units of volume for liquid products;
- b) In mass units for solid products;
- c) By weight or by volume for pasty or viscous products.

This quantity can be expressed in number of pieces for some particular products such as eggs. However, the indication of the net quantity in terms of the number of pieces shall be accompanied by an indication of the quantity by weight or volume expressed in accordance with this Article whenever possible.

The mention of the net quantity of a product is not compulsory for prepackaged products whose net quantity is less than five grams or five milliliters, with the exception, however, of spices and aromatic plants.

**ART.22.** - When a product is presented in a liquid blanket, the drained net weight of this product shall be indicated on the label of the product. Liquid medium shall mean, the liquids alone or in a mixture, present in the product in an accessory manner with respect to the essential elements of the product, such as: water, aqueous solutions of salts, brines, aqueous solutions of food acids, aqueous sugar solutions, aqueous solutions of other substances or sweeteners, and fruit or vegetable juices in the case of canned fruits or vegetables.

**ART.23.** - [The detailed rules for the implementation of Articles 20, 21 and 22 above](#) as well as any special cases in which one or more of the particulars prescribed in the articles may not appear in the labeling of a product shall be adopted by the Minister of Agriculture taking into account the specific category of the product concerned.

**ART.24.** (amended and supplemented by the [Decree n ° 2-18-44 of the May 29, 2018 - BO n ° 6684 of the June 21, 2018, p 1319](#)) - Date of minimum durability and the consumption expiry date referred to in 5) of Article 11 above must be expressed in the labeling as follow:

I. For the date of minimum durability:

- a) It must be preceded by the words:
  - To be consumed preferably before (date)...» when « the date includes the indication of the day, or;
  - To consume preferably before end ... "in the other cases;
- b) The terms in (a) above shall be followed:
  - Either the date itself,

- *Either an indication of where the date is' mentioned in the labeling*

*The indicated date must mention, in order, the day, the month and, possibly, the year. However, for food products:*

- *Whose durability is less than three (03) months, the indication of the day and the month is sufficient;*
- *Whose durability is more than three (03) months, but does not exceed eighteen (18) months, the indication of month and year is sufficient;*
- *Whose durability is more than eighteen (18) months," the indication of the year is sufficient.*

*The above-mentioned indications are completed, if necessary, by the indication of the conditions to ensure the durability indicated in the labeling.*

*The mention of the date of minimum durability is not necessary for the products mentioned in Annex V of this Decree. The justifications necessary for the establishment of the date of minimum durability must be presented whenever so required by the competent services of ONSSA.*

## **II. *For the consumption expiry date:***

**a) *It must be preceded by the words «to be consumed until... »;***

**b) *The terms in a) above shall be followed:***

- *Either by the date itself,*
- *Either by an indication of where the date is mentioned in the labeling.*

*The indicated date must mention, in order, the day, the month and the year.*

**c) *The consumption expiry date must be indicated on each individual pre-packaged portion of the product.***

*For frozen meat, preparations of frozen meat, frozen and unprocessed fishery products referred to in point 6 of Annex II in this Decree, the date of freezing or the date of first freezing must be stated as follows:*

**a) *It must be preceded by the words «Frozen product « on.... »;***

**b) *The terms in a) above shall be followed:***

- *Either by the date itself,*
- *Either by an indication of where the date is mentioned in the labeling.*

**c) *The indicated date must mention, in order, the day, the month, and the year.***

*The above-mentioned indications must be followed by a description of the conservation conditions to be respected.*

*The list of microbiologically highly perishable products, for which a final date of consumption must be mentioned as well as the temperature of their conservation, is set by Joint Order of the governmental authority charged of Agriculture and the governmental authority charged of health.*

*This Joint Order also fixes the elements useful for the determination of the microbiological life period of such products.*

**ART.25.** - The reference to the country of origin or place of provenance referred to in 8) of Article 11 above shall apply without prejudice to the labeling required under the specific geographical indication or appellation of origin of a product.

Where the country of origin or the place of provenance of the primary ingredient of a product is not the same as that of such product, the country of origin or the place of provenance of that primary ingredient shall also be indicated in the labeling, in accordance with the regulations issued to that effect by the Minister of Agriculture.

**ART.26.** - The nutritional information referred to in 11) of Article 11 above must include the list and the quantities of all the nutritive elements that make up the product concerned.

The indication in the labeling of this information must be made in accordance with the [prescriptions and modalities agreed jointly by the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Health](#). They must be presented in the same field of vision.

The products mentioned in Annex IV of this Decree are exempted from nutrition labeling in their labeling even if they are the subject of a nutrition or health claim.

**ART. 26a. (amended and supplemented by the [Decree n ° 2-18-44 of the May 29, 2018 - BO n ° 6684 of the June 21, 2018, p 1319](#))** - *Only health claims appearing on the list set by Joint Order of the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister for Health may be mentioned on food products as well as the conditions of their use.*

**ART.27.** - [The methods for indicating the lot](#) referred to in 12) of Article 11 above shall be laid down by the Minister of Agriculture.

**ART.28.** - When prepackaged products are sold remotely, including electronically, the mandatory information referred to in Article 11 above must be provided before the conclusion of the contract except for that provided for in 5) of the said article which may be presented at the time of delivery.

Such information must appear on the distance marketing medium and may be transmitted by any appropriate means, which clearly indicates receipt by the food company operator concerned.

In this case, this transmission must be made at no additional cost to the consumer. In all cases, all mandatory information must be provided at the time of delivery.

**ART. 28a. (amended and supplemented by the [Decree n ° 2-18-44 of the May 29, 2018 - BO n ° 6684 of the June 21, 2018, p 1319](#))** - *The indication on the food products of the authorization number or the approval provided for in point 14) of Article 11 above must conform to the model established by ONSSA and available on its website.*

**ART.29.** - Any information on the product other than the mandatory particulars referred to in Article 11 above and provided on a voluntary basis by the operators of an establishment or a company in the food

sector shall comply with the general requirements referred to in Chapter II of the present Decree.

### **Section 3: Miscellaneous Provisions**

**ART.30.** - Compliance of the labeling of products imported or intended for export which, for technical or commercial reasons, can not be labeled in accordance with certain provisions of this Decree, may be granted to the holders of such products on their request according to the forms and methods laid down by Order of the Minister of Agriculture.

Non-conformities of labeling of the products referred to above that may be subject to compliance as well as the requirements and procedures to be followed are set by Order of the Minister of Agriculture.

**ART.31.** - The types or categories and lists of food products and / or ingredients listed in Annexes I, II and IV of this Decree may be amended and supplemented by Order of the Minister of Agriculture after opinion, as the case may be, of the Minister of Health, for the purpose of taking into account scientific and technical progress and knowledge on these products or ingredients in relation to the protection of the health of consumers or the safe use of such products.

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS**

**ART.32.** - This Decree shall enter into force one (1) year after the date of its publication in the Official Bulletin.

However, products labeled and placed on the market before the above-mentioned date of entry into force whose labeling does not comply with the requirements of this Decree may continue to be marketed until stocks are exhausted.

**ART.33.** - Are repealed all provisions contrary to this Decree and in particular:

- Decree n° 2-01-1016 of Rabii I 22, 1423 (June 04, 2002) regulating the conditions of labeling and presentation of food products, as amended and supplemented;
- Order of June 24, 1930 (Moharrem 26,1349) laying down new regulations for the protection of preserved foods, as amended and supplemented;
- Order of January 2, 1915 specifying the conditions under which products must be presented to consumers and ensuring the fairness of the sale in merchandise trade, as amended and completed.

In the legislation in force, the references to the provisions of the texts mentioned above are deemed to have been made to the corresponding provisions of this Decree.

**ART.34.** - The Minister of Agriculture and Maritime Fisheries, the Minister of Health and the Minister of the Economy and Finance are charged, each one in what relates to it, of the execution of this Decree, which shall be published in the Official Bulletin.

**Done at Rabat, on jourmada II 11, 1434 (April 22, 2013)**

**The Head of Government, ABDELILAH BENKIRAN**

**FOR CONTRESEING:**

**The Minister of Agriculture and Maritime Fisheries, AZIZ AKHANNOUCH**

**The Minister of Health, EL HOUSSAINE LOUARDI**

**The Minister of Economy and Finance, NIZAR BARAKA**

**ANNEX I**  
**TECHNOLOGICAL INGREDIENTS OR AUXILIARIES**  
**THAT MAY CAUSE ALLERGY OR INTOLERANCE**  
**« (3) Of Article 11 above) »**

- 1. Cereals** containing gluten: wheat (*Triticum*), rye (*Secale cereal* L.), barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), oat (*Avena sativa*), spelt (*Triticum spelta*), kamut (*Triticum turgidum ssp.turanicum*) or their hybridized strains and products made from these cereals, with the exception of:
  - a. Wheat glucose syrups including dextrose <sup>(1)</sup>;
  - b. Wheat-based maltodextrins <sup>(1)</sup>;
  - c. Glucose syrups made from barley;
  - d. Cereals used for the manufacture of alcoholic distillates, including ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin.
- 2. Crustaceans and crustacean products;**
- 3. Eggs and Eggs-products;**
- 4. Fish and fish products, except:**
  - a) Fish gelatin used as a carrier for vitamin or carotenoid preparations;
  - b) Fish gelatin or isinglass used as a clarifying agent in beer and wine.
- 5. Peanuts and products to basis of peanuts;**
- 6. Soybean (*Glycine max(L)Messill*) and soy products, with the exception of:**
  - a) Oil and grease fully refined soybean<sup>1</sup>;
  - b) Mixed tocopherols natural (E306), d-alpha-tocopherol Natural, the acetate of d-alpha-tocopheryl natural and succinate of d-alpha-tocopheryl natural derivatives of soybean;
  - c) Phytosterols and phytosterol esters derived from vegetable oils of soybean;
  - d) Plant stanol ester produced from sterols derived from vegetable oils of soybeans.
- 7. Milk and dairy products including lactose with the exception of:**
  - a) Whey used for the manufacture of alcoholic distillates including ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin;
  - b) Lactitol
- 8. Nuts:** almonds (*Amygdalus communis* L.), hazelnuts (*Corylus avellana*), walnuts (*Juglans regia*), cashews (*Western Anacardium*), pecans [*Carya illinoensis (Wangenh.) K. Koch*], Brazil nuts (*Bertholletia excelsa*), pistachio nuts (*Pistacia vera*), Macadamia nuts or Queensland nuts (*Macadamia ternifolia*) and products made from these nuts, with the exception of nuts used in the manufacture of alcoholic distillates, including ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin.

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<sup>1</sup> In addition, derived products, insofar as the transformation they have undergone is not likely to raise the level of allergenicity evaluated for the basic product from which they are derived.



**9. Celery and celery products;**

**10. Mustard and mustard products;**

**11. Sesame seeds (*Sesamum indicum*) and sesame seed products;**

**12. Sulphurous anhydride and sulphites** in concentrations of more than 10 mg / kg or 10 mg / liter in terms of total SO<sub>2</sub> for the products offered ready for consumption or reconstituted according to the manufacturer's instructions;

**13. Lupine and lupine products;**

**14. Molluscs and products derived from marine molluscs**

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**ANNEX II**  
**PRODUCTS WHOSE LABELLING MUST INCLUDE ONE OR SEVERAL**  
**COMPLEMENTARY MANDATORY PARTICULARS**

« (13) Of Article 11 above) »

(Amended and supplemented by the [Decree n ° 2-18-44 of the May 29, 2018 - BO n ° 6684 of the June 21, 2018, p 1319](#))

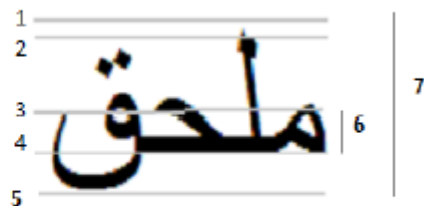
PRODUCT TYPE OR CATEGORY	PARTICULARS
<b>1. PRODUCTS PACKED IN CERTAIN GASES</b>	
<b>1.1</b> Products whose durability has been extended by packaging gases.	« <i>Conditioned under protective atmosphere</i> ».
<b>2. PRODUCTS CONTAINING SWEETENERS</b>	
<b>2.1</b> Products containing one or several sweeteners.	The name of the product shall bear the mention « <i>with sweetener (s)</i> ».
<b>2.2</b> Products containing both added sugar (s) and one or more sweeteners.	The name of the product shall bear the mention « <i>with sugar (s) and sweetener (s)</i> ».
<b>2.3</b> Products containing aspartame/salt of aspartame-acesulfame	« <i>Contains a source of phenylalanine</i> » « <i>Contains aspartame (source of phenylalanine)</i> » This mention appears on the label if the aspartame or salt of aspartame-acesulfame is included in the list of ingredients only by reference to a number preceded by the letter E. « <i>Contains a source of phenylalanine</i> ». This mention appears on the label if the aspartame or the salt of aspartame-acesulfame is designated in the list of ingredients by its specific name.
<b>2.4</b> Products in which the polyols have been incorporated at a rate greater than 10%.	« <i>Excessive consumption may have laxative effects</i> »
<b>3. PRODUCTS CONTAINING GLYCYRRHIZINIC ACID OR ITS AMMONIUM SALT</b>	
<b>3.1</b> Confectionery or beverages containing glycyrrhizinic acid or its ammonium following the addition of the substance or substances as such or the liquorice ( <i>Glycyrrhiza glabra</i> ) at a concentration equal to or greater than 100 mg/kg or 10 mg/l.	The mention « <i>Contains liquorice</i> » is added immediately after the list of ingredients unless the term « <i>liquorice</i> » is already in the list of ingredients or in the name of the product. In the absence of a list of ingredients, the name of the product is accompanied by this mention.

<p><b>3.2</b> Confectionery containing glycyrrhizinic acid or its ammonium following the addition of the substance or substances as such or the liquorice (<i>Glycyrrhiza glabra</i>) at a concentration equal to or greater than 4g/kg.</p>	<p>The mention «<i>contains liquorice - persons suffering from hypertension should avoid excessive consumption</i>» must be added just after the list of ingredients. In the absence of a list of ingredients, The name of the product must be accompanied by this mention.</p>
<p><b>3.3</b> Beverages containing glycyrrhizinic acid or its ammonium salt following the addition of the substance or substances as such or the liquorice (<i>Glycyrrhiza glabra</i>) in concentrations equal to or higher than 50 mg/l or in concentrations equal to or greater than 300 mg/L in the case of beverages containing more than 1.2% alcohol by volume <sup>(1)</sup></p>	<p>The mention "<i>contains liquorice - persons suffering from hypertension should avoid excessive consumption</i>" is added immediately after the list of ingredients.</p> <p>In the absence of a list of ingredients, the name of the product must be accompanied by this mention.</p>
<p><b>4. BEVERAGES WITH HIGH CAFEIN CONTENT</b></p>	
<p><b>4.1</b> Beverages, except those based on coffee, tea, or coffee or tea extract, the denomination of which includes the term "<i>coffee</i>" or "<i>tea</i>":</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- intended for consumption in the natural state and containing caffeine, whatever the source, in a proportion greater than 150 mg / l or</li> <li>- in concentrated or dehydrated form and, after reconstitution, containing caffeine, whatever the source, in a proportion greater than 150 mg / l.</li> </ul>	<p>The mention "<i>high caffeine content, not recommended for children and pregnant or lactating women</i>" must appear in the same visual field as the name of the beverage, followed, in brackets and in compliance with the conditions laid down in Articles 7 and 13 of this Decree, the caffeine content expressed in milligrams per 100 milliliters (mg /100 ml).</p>
<p><b>4.2</b> Non-beverage products to which caffeine is added for physiological purposes.</p>	<p>The mention "<i>contains caffeine, not recommended for children and pregnant women</i>" must appear in the same visual field as the name of the product, followed, in brackets of a reference to the caffeine content expressed in mg for 100g/ml in the respect of the conditions laid down in Articles 7 and 13 of this Decree.</p> <p>In the case of food supplements, the caffeine content is expressed as a function of the daily portion of consumption as recommended by the labelling.</p>
<p><b>5. PRODUCTS WITH THE ADDITION OF PHYTOSTEROLS, ESTERS OF PHYTOSTEROLS, PHYTOSTANOLS OR ESTERS OF PHYTOSTANOLS</b></p>	

<p><b>5.1.</b> The products or ingredients with added phytosterols, phytosterol esters, phytosterols or phytostanol esters.</p>	<p><b>1.</b> The mention "<i>contains added plant sterols</i>" or "<i>contains added plant stanols</i>" must appear in the same field of vision as the name of the product;</p> <p><b>2.</b> The content of added phytosterols, phytosterol esters, phytosterols or phytostanol esters expressed in% or in grams of plant sterols / free plant stanols per 100 g or 100 ml of product must be indicated in the list of ingredients.</p> <p><b>3.</b> It should be mentioned that the food product is intended exclusively for those wishing to lower their blood cholesterol level;</p> <p><b>4.</b> It should be mentioned that patients on cholesterol-lowering drugs are advised to consume the product only under medical supervision;</p> <p><b>5.</b> It should be mentioned that the product may not be nutritionally appropriate for pregnant and lactating women and children under five years old;</p> <p><b>6.</b> A recommendation must mention that the product must be used within the framework of a balanced and varied diet including a regular consumption of fruit and vegetables in order to maintain the levels of carotenoids;</p> <p><b>7.</b> In the same field of vision as the statement referred to in 3 above, it must be stated that consumption of more than 3 grams of plant sterols / plant stanols per day should be avoided;</p> <p><b>8.</b> A definition of a portion of the product or of the food ingredient concerned (preferably in grams or milliliters) must be included, with the mention of the amount of plant sterols/stanols that contains each portion of the said product.</p>
<p><b>6. FROZEN MEAT, FROZEN MEAT PREPARATIONS AND FROZEN AND NON-PROCESSED FISH PRODUCTS</b></p>	
<p><b>6.1.</b> Frozen meat, frozen meat preparations and frozen and non-processed fishery products.</p>	<p><i>Freezing date or date of first freezing if the product has been repeatedly frozen, indicated in accordance with the provisions of Article 24 of this Decree.</i></p>

<sup>(1)</sup> The content shown applies to products such as proposed ready for consumption or as reconstituted according to the instructions of the manufacturers

**Annex III**  
**DEFINITION OF THE HEIGHT OF THE CHARACTER OF REFERENCE**  
**(Article 12 above)**



**Key**

1	Ascending line
2	Capital line
3	Midline
4	Baseline
5	Down line
6	Height of x
7	Body of character

**مفتاح الملحق**

خط تصاعدي	1
خط التصيف	2
خط متوسط	3
خط أساسي	4
خط تنازلي	5
علو الحرف	6
خاصية الكتابة	7

**ANNEX IV**  
**PRODUCTS TO WHICH THE NUTRITIONAL REQUIREMENTS**  
**DO NOT APPLY IN THEIR LABELING**

**(Article 26 above)**

- 1.** Non-processed products that include a single ingredient or a single category of ingredients;
- 2.** Processed products which have only been matured and which comprise a single ingredient or a single category of ingredients;
- 3.** Water intended for human consumption including those whose only added ingredients are carbon dioxide and / or flavorings;
- 4.** The Aromatic plants, spices or their mixtures;
- 5.** The salt and the substitutes for salt;
- 6.** Table sweeteners;
- 7.** Products covered by the regulation on the trade in coffee, chicory and tea;
- 8.** Herbal or fruit infusions as well as teas, decaffeinated teas, instant or soluble teas or tea extracts, instant or soluble teas or decaffeinated tea extracts, with no added ingredients other than flavors that do not alter the nutritional value tea ;
- 9.** Fermenting vinegars and their substitutes, including those whose only added ingredients are flavorings;
- 10.** The aromas;
- 11.** Food additives;
- 12.** The technological aids;
- 13.** Food enzymes;
- 14.** Gelatin;
- 15.** Gelling substances;
- 16.** Yeasts;
- 17.** Chewing gum;
- 18.** Products packaged in packages or containers in which the largest surface that has an area of less than 25 cm<sup>2</sup>;
- 19.** Products including artisanal manufacture provided directly by the manufacturer in small quantities to the final consumer or to local retail establishments directly supplying the final consumer.

## **ANNEX V**

### **LIST OF PRODUCTS FOR WHICH THE MINOR DURABILITY DATE IS NOT REQUIRED:**

**(Article 24 above)**

**(Amended and supplemented by the [Decree n ° 2-18-44 of the May 29, 2018 - BO n ° 6684 of the June 21, 2018, p 1319](#))**

- 1.** Fresh fruit and vegetables, including potatoes, which have not been peeled, cut up or other similar treatments; this derogation does not apply to germinating seeds and similar products such as pulses jets;
- 2.** Wines, liqueur wines, sparkling wines, aromatized wines and similar products obtained from fruit other than grapes;
- 3.** Beverages containing 10% or more by volume of alcohol.;
- 4.** Bakery and pastry products, which, by their nature, are normally consumed within 24 hours after manufacture;
- 5.** Vinegars;
- 6.** Cooking salt;
- 7.** Sugars in solid form;
- 8.** Confectionery products consisting almost solely of flavored and / or colored sugars;
- 9.** Chewing gums and similar chewing products.