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India

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WTO Notified- Draft Amendments on Standards and Labeling Regulations

Report Categories:

WTO Notifications
Dairy and Products
Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety
FAIRS Subject Report

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Report Highlights:

On February 20, 2015, the World Trade Organization (WTO) published on its website draft regulations which update Indian standards and labeling requirements for dairy products, analogues of infant nutrition, and artificial sweeteners. The WTO is currently accepting public comments for these draft regulations and has cited April 17, 2015, as the deadline.

General Information:

DISCLAIMER: The information contained in this report was retrieved from the Government of India (GOI) and WTO websites: http://www.fssai.gov.in/ and www.wto.org. The Office of Agricultural Affairs and/or the U.S. Government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity.

The GOI's Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) recently published updated draft regulations regarding limits of isomaltulose, high-fiber dextrin, arachidonic acid (ARA), and docosahexaenoic acid (DHA) in various infant food products. The updated draft also mandatory infant food labeling requirements, as well as mandates that infant food products cannot be sourced from genetically engineered materials. On February 20, 2015, these draft regulations were published on the WTO website for comment (WTO Notification Number: G/SPS/N/IND/96). The deadline for final comments is April 17, 2015.

Comments should be sent to:

Mr. P. Karthikeyan Assistant Director SPS Enquiry Point Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road New Delhi – 110 002 Ph: 91-11-2323 7419

Fax: 91-11-2322 0994 Email: baranip@yahoo.com

For more details, please refer to: <u>Draft Food Product Standards cum Packaging and Labeling</u> (<u>Amendment</u>) <u>Regulations</u>, <u>2015</u> (available online at: <u>http://www.fssai.gov.in/</u> or on the <u>WTO website</u>)

Final details on the draft regulations:

• Publication Date on the FSSAI website: February 6, 2015

Date of Implementation: To be determined
WTO Notification Number: G/SPS/N/IND/96
WTO Notification Date: February 16, 2015
Final date for comments: April 17, 2015

Products Affected: All food products that have Isomaltulose, high fiber dextrin, ARA and DHA

• Agency in Charge: Government of India, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India