NOTIFICATION

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| **1.** | **Notifying Member:** PANAMA  **If applicable, name of local government involved:** |
| **2.** | **Agency responsible:** *Ministerio de Salud, Departamento de Protección de Alimentos (DEPA)* (Ministry of Health, Food Protection Department) |
| **3.** | **Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable):** HS code 67.100.01: Milk and dairy products in general |
| **4.** | **Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:**  **[X] All trading partners**  **[ ] Specific regions or countries:** |
| **5.** | **Title of the notified document:** *Reglamento Técnico Centroamericano 67.04.75:17 Productos Lácteos*. *Quesos Madurados. Especificaciones* (Central American Technical Regulation (RTCA) No. 67.04.75:17: Dairy products. Matured cheese. Specifications) **Language(s):** Spanish **Number of pages:** 7  Text available at: <https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2018/SPS/PAN/18_0956_00_s.pdf> |
| **6.** | **Description of content:** The notified Technical Regulation establishes the specifications to be met by matured cheese, as defined in Section 4 (Definitions) thereof. |
| **7.** | **Objective and rationale: [X] food safety, [ ] animal health, [ ] plant protection, [ ] protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, [ ] protect territory from other damage from pests.** |
| **8.** | **Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:**  **[ ] Codex Alimentarius Commission *(e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text)*:**  **[ ] World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) *(e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number)*:**  **[ ] International Plant Protection Convention (*e.g. ISPM No.*):**  **[X] None**  **Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?**  **[ ] Yes [ ] No**  **If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:** |
| **9.** | **Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:**  - CODEX STAN 234-1999: Recommended methods of analysis and sampling, and amendments thereto;  - CODEX STAN 193-1995: General Standard for contaminants and toxins in food and feed, and revisions thereof. |
| **10.** | **Proposed date of adoption *(dd/mm/yy)*:** To be determined.  **Proposed date of publication *(dd/mm/yy)*:** To be determined. |
| **11.** | **Proposed date of entry into force: [ ] Six months from date of publication, and/or (*dd/mm/yy*):** To be determined.  **[ ] Trade facilitating measure** |
| **12.** | **Final date for comments: [X] Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (*dd/mm/yy*):** 20 April 2018  **Agency or authority designated to handle comments: [X] National Notification Authority, [ ] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and email address (if available) of other body:** |
| **13.** | **Text(s) available from: [X] National Notification Authority, [X] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and email address (if available) of other body:**  Ministerio de Salud, Departamento de Protección de Alimentos (DEPA)  Antiguo Hospital Gorgas, Edificio 253, detrás del Instituto Oncológico  Ancón Panamá, Panamá  Tel.: (+507) 512 9180/9351  Email: ajdemeron@minsa.gob.pa  schen@minsa.gob.pa  jftello@minsa.gob.pa  Website: <http://www.minsa.gob.pa/> |