WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/PHL/547

20 October 2026

(26-7298)

Page: 1/2

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1.	**Notifying Member:** PHILIPPINES **If applicable, name of local government involved:** Department of Agriculture
2.	**Agency responsible:** Department of Agriculture-Bureau of Plant Industry
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(s): 07; 08; 09; 10; 11; 12); (ICS code(s): 67.040; 67.060; 67.080)
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:** Department Circular no. 12 series of 2025 "Sequence of Compliance to Regulatory Limits for Implementing Maximum Residue Limit (MRL) of Pesticides and Maximum Level (ML) of Contaminants in Fresh and Minimally Processed Plant Food". **Language(s):** English. **Number of pages:** 3 https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2026/SPS/PHL/26_05450_00_e.pdf
6.	**Description of content:** This regulation provides clarifications on the hierarchy of food safety standards that have already been established and adopted as technical regulations, serving as points of reference for government agencies, international trading partners and local stakeholders. The scope of this regulation does not cover any requirements for compliance with regulatory procedures, issuances, or laboratory analyses, or any other substantial compliance costs to the stakeholders nor the government agencies. Tailored to meet the specific needs of Food Business Operators (FBOs), it serves as a clear reference point for determining the applicable food safety standards. The regulation offers alternatives for the regulatory agencies and the FBOs in cases of unavailability of PNS and Codex standards to cater the needs of the stakeholders while ensuring the safety of the plant foods.
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:** **[X] Codex Alimentarius Commission *(e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text)*:** CXS 193-1995 (as amended) **[ ] World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) *(e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number)*:** **[ ] International Plant Protection Convention *(e.g. ISPM number)*:**

	[ ] None **Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?** **[X] 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:**
10.	**Proposed date of adoption *(dd/mm/yy)*:** 9 September 2026 **Proposed date of publication *(dd/mm/yy)*:** 11 May 2026
11.	**Proposed date of entry into force: [ ] Six months from date of publication, and/or *(dd/mm/yy)*:** 26 May 2026 **[ ] Trade facilitating measure**
12.	**Final date for comments: [X] Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or *(dd/mm/yy)*:** 19 December 2026 **Agency or authority designated to handle comments: [X] National Notification Authority, [X] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:** Office of the Director Policy Research Service Department of Agriculture Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City Tel: +(632) 8926 7439 Fax: +(632) 8928 0590 E-mail: spspilipinas@da.gov.ph spspilipinas@gmail.com
13.	**Text(s) available from: [X] National Notification Authority, [X] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:** Office of the Director Policy Research Service Department of Agriculture Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City Tel: +(632) 8926 7439 Fax: +(632) 8928 0590 E-mail: spspilipinas@da.gov.ph spspilipinas@gmail.com