WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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NOTIFICATION

Addendum

The following communication, received on 30 October 2026, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Türkiye.

Turkish Food Codex Regulation on Food Additives

Turkish Food Codex Regulation on Food Additives was notified to WTO through G/SPS/N/TUR/126 on 20 June 2022.

The purpose of this Regulation is to modify the content of previously notified Regulation. The main amendments introduced in this draft are:

Following the entry into force of the Turkish Food Codex Regulation on Food Additives (Official Gazette Date: 13 October 2023, Official Gazette No. 32338, Supplement), which is harmonized with Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008, Türkiye has continued to align its legislation with subsequent EU amendments. Türkiye has also introduced a number of additional amendments considered necessary under national conditions.

- The conditions for the use of E 476 polyglycerol polyricinoleate have been revised, permitting its use in "03. Edible ices and ice cream" and in emulsified sauces falling under food category 12.6.

- E 267, buffered vinegar, has been added to the regulations as a new food additive. This food additive, which serves as a preservative and acidity regulator, has been included in Group I, and its use is permitted at the "quantum satis" level.

- For E 249–250 nitrites and E 251–252 nitrates, the maximum permitted levels for addition in various categories, including meat, processed fish products, and dairy products, have been reduced. Furthermore, to more effectively monitor the total dietary intake of nitrites and nitrates, maximum limits have been established for residue levels from all sources throughout the shelf life of final products ready for market; the unit of expression has been changed from chemical formulas (sodium nitrite or sodium nitrate) to NO_2 and NO_3 ions.

- E 483 Stearyl tartrate has been removed from the list of approved food additives. With this regulation, authorizations for its use as an emulsifier in all previously permitted categories, including flavored fermented dairy products, baked goods, and confectionery, have been revoked.

- E 345(i) Trimagnesium dicitrate has been incorporated into the regulations as a new food additive for use in the "17.1 Solid dietary supplements" category. E 345(i) functions as a stabilizer and anti-caking agent in solid dietary supplements.

- The name of category 14.2.8 has been changed to "Other alcoholic beverages, including other distilled alcohol-based beverages with an alcohol content by volume of less than 15%". In addition, changes have been made to the permitted uses of certain food additives (such as

specific groups of colorants and stabilizers) in some traditional fermented alcoholic beverages produced in the EU.

- E 334 Tartaric acid (L(+)-), E 335 Sodium tartrates, E 336 Potassium tartrates, E 337 Sodium potassium tartrate, and E 354 Calcium tartrate have been removed from Group I and are now permitted only in specific categories with specified maximum usage levels. Their use in food enzymes and flavourings has also been restricted in Annex III.

- In the "16. Desserts" food category, the scope of use for E 200–202 Sorbic acid — potassium sorbate has been expanded to include water-based gelatine-based desserts.

- The scope of use for E 460 Cellulose powder and E 575 Glucono-delta-lactone has been expanded to permit their use in unripened soft spreadable cheese products within the "01.7.6 Cheese products" food category.

- In the "04.1.1 Whole fresh fruits and vegetables" food category, the authorization for surface applications of E 471 mono- and diglycerides of fatty acids and E 903 carnauba wax for glazing purposes has been extended to include passion fruit, kiwi, and cassava. E 322 Lecithins and E 570 Fatty acids have been authorized under Annex III as carriers in preparations intended for polishing cassava.

- E 960b Steviol glycosides produced by fermentation have been added to the regulations as a new food additive. This amendment includes E 960b in the existing "E 960a–960d: Steviol glycosides" group, allowing this sweetener to be used under the same conditions as other steviol glycosides.

- In Annex III, Section 5, Part B, the authorization for the use of E 466 sodium carboxymethyl cellulose (cellulose gum) has been revoked.

- In Annex III, Section 5, Part B, the use of E 301 sodium ascorbate has been authorized in microencapsulated vitamin A preparations used in infant and follow-on formulas.

- In Annex III, Section 1, the scope of use for E 1202 polyvinylpyrrolidone has been expanded to permit its use as a carrier in colouring tablets intended for the decorative colouring of eggshells.

- In the food category "16. Desserts; excluding products falling under categories 1, 3, and 4", the use of E 200–202 sorbic acid—potassium sorbate is permitted only in unheated plant-based mousses.

- The use of E 999 Quillaia extract is permitted in both solid and liquid food supplements (Categories 17.1 and 17.2). Additionally, provisions have been added to Annex III to allow its use as an emulsifier in flavourings.

- E 412 guar gum has been banned in the "13.1.1 Infant formula" food category.

- The following additions have been made to the list of food categories under Section D of Annex II:

    - 18.1 Processed foods not covered by Categories 18.2 and 18.3, excluding foods for infants and young children.
    - 18.2 Meal-replacement foods intended for weight loss.
    - 18.3 Foods specifically manufactured to reduce the gluten content of gluten-containing ingredients or to substitute gluten-containing ingredients.

- The following food categories listed under Annex II, SECTION D have been deleted. Authority over these categories lies with the Ministry of Health:

    - 13.1.4 Special medical-purpose dietary foods for infants and young children, as defined in the Turkish Food Codex Regulation on Special Medical-Purpose Dietary Foods / Special formulas for infants.

  - 13.1.4.1 Dietary foods for special medical purposes for newborns and special formulas for newborns.
  - 3.1.4.2 Dietary foods for special medical purposes for infants and young children as defined in the Turkish Food Codex Regulation on Dietary Foods for Special Medical Purposes.
  - 13.2 Dietary foods for special medical purposes as defined in the Turkish Food Codex Regulation on Dietary Foods for Special Medical Purposes (excluding those listed in category (13.1.4)).

- E 942 The sale of nitrous oxide to the end consumer is prohibited.

- The phrase "Non-alcoholic wine-like products" has been removed from the name of the food category "14.2.2 Turkish Food Codex – Wine Regulation: Wine and Other Products".

- In the subcategories under the "08. Meat" category, the definition has been used instead of the word "sausage". The term "sausage" (sausages) is used in EU countries to refer to meat products served in casings and is not limited to the narrower meaning used in Türkiye.

- To prevent the uncontrolled use of sorbic acid and benzoates, which may be present due to carry over from ingredients in meatless çiğ köfte products, under the category "12.7 Salads and savoury/spiced spreads for sandwiches", the following limits have been established for meatless çiğ köfte: E 200–202 Sorbic acid — potassium sorbate; E 210-113 Benzoic acid—benzoates at a maximum usage level of 200 mg/kg for each additive group.

- In the "14.1.1 Turkish Food Codex Regulation on Fruit Juices and Similar Products", pickle brine has been excluded from the list of foods in the "Fruit Juices and Vegetable Juices" category where Group I food additives may be used. The use of E 210–213 (benzoic acid—benzoates) is permitted at a maximum level of 200 mg/l.

- Additional restrictions have been introduced in Annex VI, titled "Certain Products Produced in Türkiye and Food Additives Prohibited in These Products":

  - In sucuk: water-holding agents in the E 400–469 range, E 235 natamycin, and E 553b talc are prohibited.
  - In heat-treated sucuk, the following are prohibited: E 400–469, E 235 natamycin, E 243 ethyl laurol arginate, and E 553b talc.
  - In pastırma, raw or cooked döner, poultry döner, and raw or cooked meatballs and poultry meatballs, E 400–469 are prohibited.
  - All additives are prohibited in ground meat kavurma.

- In Annex VI, titled "Certain Products Produced in Our Country and Food Additives Prohibited in These Products", certain food additives are exempt from these restrictions:

  - While the use of all food additives is prohibited in çiğ köfte, meatless çiğ köfte, and mezze (such as haydari, Arnavut liver, fava beans, shakshuka, hummus, and similar dishes), E 267 (buffered vinegar) is exempt from this prohibition.
  - While the use of all food additives is prohibited in köme, pestil, bastık, walnut-stuffed sucuk, and similar products, as well as in baklava, E 330 citric acid is exempt from this prohibition.

This Regulation enters into force on the date of its publication with a transitional period as 31 December 2028. Products placed on the market before 31 December 2028 by food businesses operating before the publication date of the Regulation establishing this article, and foods containing these products, may remain on the market until the end of their shelf life.

https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2026/SPS/TUR/26_05656_00_x.pdf

This addendum concerns a:

[ ] Modification of final date for comments
[ ] Notification of adoption, publication or entry into force of regulation
[**X**] Modification of content and/or scope of previously notified draft regulation
[ ] Withdrawal of proposed regulation
[ ] Change in proposed date of adoption, publication or date of entry into force
[ ] Other:

Comment period: ***(If the addendum extends the scope of the previously notified measure in terms of products and/or potentially affected Members, a new deadline for receipt of comments should be provided, normally of at least 60 calendar days. Under other circumstances, such as extension of originally announced final date for comments, the comment period provided in the addendum may vary.)***

[**X**] Sixty days from the date of circulation of the addendum to the notification and/or *(dd/mm/yy)*: 29 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:

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