

15 February 2016

Original: French

(16-0960) Page: 1/2

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

NOTIFICATION

1. Notifying Member: MADAGASCAR

If applicable, name of local government involved: Direction des services vétérinaires (Veterinary Services Directorate); Direction de la protection des végétaux (Plant Protection Directorate); Autorité sanitaire halieutique (Fisheries Health Authority); and Agence de contrôle de la sécurité sanitaire et de la qualité des denrées alimentaires (Agency for Monitoring Food Safety and Quality)

- 2. Agency responsible: Ministère de l'Agriculture (Ministry of Agriculture); Ministère de l'élevage (Ministry of Livestock); Ministère des ressources halieutiques et de la pêche (Ministry of Fisheries Resources and Fishing); Ministère de la santé (Ministry of Health); Ministère du commerce et de la consommation (Minister of Trade and Consumer Affairs); and Ministère de l'industrie (Ministry of 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): All food and feed of animal or plant origin
- 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: Loi alimentaire (Food Law) Language(s): French Number of pages: 25

Text available at:

http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2016/SPS/MDG/16_0582_00_f.pdf

6. Description of content:

The main aims of the notified Law are as follows:

- to establish the general principles governing food for human consumption and animal feed, in particular measures to guarantee the food safety of such products in the country;
- to establish common principles and responsibilities, provide for assessment on a sound scientific basis, and set forth provisions on and efficient organizational procedures for decision-making in respect of the safety of food for human consumption and animal feed.

In this respect, the Law:

- provides for the creation of two new structures, one responsible for coordinating the food safety system (National Coordination Office) and the other in charge of assessing health risks (National Health Risk Assessment Agency). It also establishes the official services and competent authorities in relation to the food safety system and defines their areas of competence and mandates and the powers granted to their inspectors in the exercise of their functions;
- establishes procedures in relation to the issues that directly or indirectly affect the safety of food for human consumption and animal feed.

The notified Law regulates all stages of the production of food for human consumption and animal feed, from processing to distribution to consumers.

It also sets out the related non-compliance offences and penalties.

