

12 November 2020

Original: English

(20-8095) Page: 1/2

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

NOTIFICATION

- 1. Notifying Member: <u>EGYPT</u>
 - If applicable, name of local government involved:
- **2. Agency responsible:** The National Food Safety Authority
- 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): Food
- 4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:
 - [X] All trading partners
 - [] Specific regions or countries:
- **Title of the notified document:** The Decision of the Board of Directors of the National Food Safety Authority (NFSA) No. 6/2020 on Rules Governing Food Import Licensing. **Language(s):** Arabic. **Number of pages:** 4
- **Description of content:** This Decision regulates the procedures and requirements to obtain a license to import food into the Arab Republic of Egypt. This measure is necessary to ensure the safety and compliance of imported food. In addition, this decision lays down the administrative and financial obligations of the food importers, the enforcement measures and the responsibilities of NFSA.

This decision has provided a six months transitional period for currently operating food importers to obtain the stipulated license and be registered at NFSA in order to ensure the smooth flow of trade and avoid any trade disruptions.

This measure will enhance the clearance procedures of imported food consignments by requiring the importers to verify the application of the relevant preventive measures by foreign suppliers, as well as the ability to ensure optimum traceability of products.

Moreover, NFSA has issued this decision to enhance its ability to control and evaluate food importers and ensure their compliance with the food safety requirements. Moving forward, the history of food importers' compliance with requirements will be an essential pillar of assessing the risk of imported food consignments.

These new rules will have an impact on the protection of the consumer against the risks associated with imported food.

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.

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): Codex Guidelines for Food Import Control Systems (CAC/GL 47-2003).
[] 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): 25 June 2020Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy): 16 July 2020
- 11. Proposed date of entry into force: [] Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): 17 July 2020
 - [] Trade facilitating measure
- 12. Final date for comments: [] Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy):

Agency or authority designated to handle comments: [] National Notification Authority, [X] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

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13. Text(s) available from: [X] National Notification Authority, [] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

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