



25 May 2023

(23-3586)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

**NOTIFICATION**

<b>1. Notifying Member:</b> <u>SWITZERLAND</u> <b>If applicable, name of local government involved:</b>
<b>2. Agency responsible:</b> Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)
<b>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):</b> All mixed foodstuffs that might inadvertently be contaminated with an allergen. The allergen must be below the tolerable upper limit.
<b>4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All trading partners <input type="checkbox"/> Specific regions or countries:
<b>5. Title of the notified document:</b> Ordonnance du DFI concernant l'information sur les denrées alimentaires. <b>Language(s):</b> French. <b>Number of pages:</b> 2 <a href="https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2023/SPS/CHE/23_09794_00_f.pdf">https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2023/SPS/CHE/23_09794_00_f.pdf</a>
<b>6. Description of content:</b> Producers are allowed to voluntarily indicate potential allergens (traces or unintentional mixtures) whose content is below the defined maximum level. Only in this cases it is allowed to use general terms such as "nuts", "hard-shelled fruit" or "edible nut" for allergens according to Annex 6 number 8 of the Ordinance on labelling of food stuffs or "cereals containing gluten" for allergens according to Annex 6 number 1 in such a case. It should be noted that the presence of peanuts must always be indicated separately as they are botanically and allergologically different from nuts (Annex 6 item 5).
<b>7. Objective and rationale:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests.
<b>8. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text): <input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number): <input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None <b>Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <b>If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:</b>

<b>9.</b>	<b>Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:</b>
<b>10.</b>	<b>Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy):</b> 31 October 2023 <b>Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy):</b> 23 November 2023
<b>11.</b>	<b>Proposed date of entry into force: [ ] Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy):</b> 1 January 2024  <b>[X] Trade facilitating measure</b> Although the labelling of unintentional mingling of allergens is neither compulsory nor regulated in the European Union, traces of allergens below the allergen-specific threshold are usually labelled with general terms such as "nuts" or "edible nuts". In order to ensure that products destined for the European market can also be placed on the Swiss market without further trade barriers, unintended mingling of allergens shall be labelled with the group name.
<b>12.</b>	<b>Final date for comments: [X] Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy):</b> 24 July 2023  <b>Agency or authority designated to handle comments: [X] National Notification Authority, [ ] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</b>  State Secretariate for Economic Affairs SECO Holzikofenweg 36, 3003 Bern Switzerland E-mail: <a href="mailto:sps@seco.admin.ch">sps@seco.admin.ch</a>
<b>13.</b>	<b>Text(s) available from: [X] National Notification Authority, [ ] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</b>  State Secretariate for Economic Affairs SECO Holzikofenweg 36, 3003 Bern Switzerland E-mail: <a href="mailto:sps@seco.admin.ch">sps@seco.admin.ch</a>