



Marketing Consultancy Division (MSCD)

Export Consultancy Unit (ECU)

Export Study

Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Part 1

Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

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Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

The importance of correct product labelling, marking and packing for exports cannot be overstated. Exporters who do not meet the labelling, marking and packaging regulations of their specific overseas markets could incur heavy penalties and loss of export business.

The regulations for product labelling, marking and packaging vary from country to country, however, certain basic information is constant in all regulations. In essence, these regulations are a policy instrument of governments which regulates the presentation of product-specific information relating to particular consumer groups in their respective country. They are, therefore, an import means of communicating product information between buyers and sellers and serves four primary functions:-

- ❑ Provides basic product information on characteristics, such as the common name, list of key ingredients, net quantity, durable life dates, grade/quality, country of origin and name/address of responsible manufacturer, dealer or importer.
- ❑ Provides health/safety and nutrition information including instructions for safe handling, nutritional profile or other specific information relevant to recommended possible uses of the product.
- ❑ Provides information on 'non-use' characteristics, such as the environmental impact or moral/ethical elements surround the product's manufacturing process - e.g. 'halal foods'.
- ❑ Provides a vehicle for marketing, promotion and competition as it can advertise and promote product sales and trade via their labels, promotional information and label claims.

In this manner, product label information constitutes the primary means by which consumers can differentiate between individual products and brands to make informed purchasing choices and decisions.

In order to assist the KSA Producer/Exporter, the ECU has brought together some product labelling, marking and packing requirements/regulations for various countries which are attached as 'Brief Notes'. The information is provided as an 'early warning' mechanism to assist local producers to understand the relevant regulations and, where necessary, adjust their product labelling, marking and packing specifications accordingly. Where possible additional information is also provided on:- (a) specific laws and decrees relevant to the subject concerned, (b) import regulations, (c) other formalities and documentary requirements, (d) quality standards, and (e) other general information.

The information provided is on a general and cursory basis and should only be used as 'direction indicators' by the Producer/Exporter. The ECU's, therefore, stresses the need for the Producer/Exporter to undertake their own market and legal investigation into the specific regulations relating to their precise product ranges and to use the attached data as 'basis-line' information which can be used as a building block to build upon.

The attached reports will illustrate 28 different individual countries as identified in the table of content and listed in alphabetic order.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: **Algeria**



The following are the basic labelling, marking and packing requirements, which are provided to give a general idea of the Algerian regulations:-

- ❑ **Labelling** - The containers of fruit and vegetables should be labelled as to country of origin, variety of fruit, or vegetable and quality class.
- ❑ **Marking** - Marks required for country of origin apply mainly for nuts , canned foods, prunes, honey, margarine and various milk products.
- ❑ **Packing** - Goods should be packed to withstand weather conditions, rough handling and pilferage.

The products prohibited for imports are the following:- (a) firearms, (b) explosives, (c) narcotics, (d) pork products, (e) pornographic materials, and (f) other items prohibited for reasons of health, safety, national security or religion.

The restricted products are as follows:- (a) some agricultural products [cheese, honey], (b) luxury products [such as yachts, perfumes and automobiles]. The list of products subject to restrictions is revised every six months.

Imported consumer goods must have a warranty of six months to eighteen months depending upon the type of products.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Bangladesh



In Bangladesh the following basic packing, marking and labelling requirements are generally required for all categories of products:-

- ❑ All goods should be marked with an indication of origin.
- ❑ Trademarks and wordings should be in the English language.
- ❑ Markings indicating quantity, weight, measurements, trade descriptions, component materials or purity of the product must be accurate.
- ❑ All dyes, chemicals and pharmaceutical products should be marked with a full description of the product, including quality and code numbers.
- ❑ Dangerous or poisonous drugs and medicines must be marked to show the ingredients.
- ❑ Special regulations govern the marking of patent or proprietary medicines.
- ❑ Piece goods, sold by the length or by piece, made wholly or partly of cotton or wool, must be marked with the yardage.
- ❑ Packages should bear the consignee's mark, including the port mark. They should be numbered, unless the shipment is such that the contents of the package can be readily identified without them.

Other Formalities & Documents

Import of Pharmaceutical raw materials and packing materials is subject to approval by the Director of Drugs Administration, Government of Bangladesh. Special documents are required for the import of food items, animal, poultry feed.

Quarantine restrictions apply in case of import of live animal, plants and plant products. Permissible live animals are importable only with clearance from the Directorate of Livestock Services. Permissible explosive items are importable with prior clearance from the Chief Inspector of Explosives.

Specific requirements for certain products include:-

- ❑ **Sanitary Certificate** - is required for all livestock and plants and plant products (except fruit and vegetable) certifying that they are free of injurious insects, pests and diseases.
- ❑ **Radiation Certificate** - imports of milk and milk products, edible oils, and certain other food items, including food for poultry and animals, may require radioactivity test reports issued by the competent authority in the country of export.
- ❑ **Fumigation Certificate** - a fumigation certificate must accompany used clothing.
- ❑ **Straw & Hay** - straw or hay used in packing must be certified to be free of insects and disease.
- ❑ **Iron & Steel** - imports of iron and steel require a Producer's Certificate.
- ❑ **Textiles** - law for textile imports requires a Certificate of Cleanliness.
- ❑ **Printed advertising matters** - such as posters, pamphlets, trade catalogues, and advertising circulars are admitted duty-free.

Quality Standards

Quality standards are set and monitored by the Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institute, which is a member of ISO. Bangladesh also recognises and accepts goods bearing certification from Standard Institutions of other countries. Standards for pharmaceuticals and all imported food are controlled by separate government agencies. Neither the imported goods nor their containers must bear text or pictures which may harm the religious feelings and beliefs of any citizen of Bangladesh.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Brunei



In Brunei the following basic packing and marking requirements are generally required for all categories of products:-

- ❑ **Marking** - there are no stipulations regarding how shipments must be marked, and any common shipping practice may be followed. In general, all identifying marks, including the consignees mark with port marks, should be inscribed plainly on the packages to facilitate the arrival of the shipment. Packages should be numbered unless the contents are such that they can be identified readily without numbers.
- ❑ **Packing** - inside wrapping, greasing, insulating and stowing should be considered for exports to Brunei. Soft or corrugated fibre cases should be used only when absolutely unavoidable, since they generally are too absorbent to withstand the humid climate. Hard fibre is suitable for light materials, but wood remains the most suitable type of packing.

Imports Regulations

Most goods may be imported under open general license. Dangerous drugs are prohibited, and some goods are restricted, namely:- (a) petrol, (b) kerosene, (c) cigarettes, (d) spirits and liquors, (e) firecrackers, and (f) items bearing the imprint of state emblems. Specific import licenses are required for a few imports, including (i) plants, (ii) cattle, (iii) birds, (iv) fish (live or dead), (v) drugs, (vi) gambling machines, and (vii) used vehicles.

Other Formalities & Documents

Certain goods may only be imported into Brunei with the approval of the appropriate authorities, namely:-

- ❑ Pharmaceutical and drug related products must be approved by the Ministry of Health.
- ❑ Animals and plants must be approved by the Agriculture Department.
- ❑ Automobiles must be approved by the Customs Department.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Comoros Islands



In the Comoros Islands the following basic packing, marking and labelling requirements are generally required for all categories of products:-

- ❑ **Labelling** - Application of French labelling regulations.
- ❑ **Marking** - Any common shipping practice may be followed. In general, all identifying marks, including the consignee's mark with port marks, should be inscribed plainly on the packages to facilitate arrival of the shipment. Packages should be numbered unless the contents can be identified readily without numbers.
- ❑ **Packing** - Packing material which can bring disease into the Country is prohibited.

The following import regulations should be taken into consideration:-

- ❑ Product originating from EU members, Monaco and countries whose currencies are pegged to the Euro are imported freely. But imports from other countries are subject to individual licensing.
- ❑ Import licenses are issued by the Directorate-General of Economic Affairs in the Ministry of Economy, Industry, Commerce and Planning.
- ❑ Import licenses are valid for six months, with a possibility of extension for another six-month only; Goods must be shipped prior to expiration of the license.
- ❑ There are some products that are prohibited for imports from all countries.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Djibouti



In Djibouti the following basic labelling, marking and packing requirements are generally required for all categories of products:-

- **Labelling & Marking** - labels should indicate the following:-
 - Descriptive name of the product.
 - The list of ingredients.
 - The name, address and the phone number of the manufacturer or distributor.
 - The net weight or volume in metric units.
 - Instructions for storage and use.

Some details may be required in the case of a new market for imports, such as:-

- The country of origin.
 - Expiry date.
 - Percentages of the predominant product ingredients.
 - The consignee's marks and port's marks should be inscribed on the packages to facilitate arrival of the shipments.
- **Packing** - packing should be made in such a way as to withstand rough handling and the tropical climate of Djibouti.

Imports Regulations

Foreign trade operations are generally free from all controls and restrictions. The imports of arms and ammunition, drugs and salacious literature require a license from the competent authorities.

Other Formalities & Documents

It is advisable to use a form comprising both the English and French languages. Imports estimate at US\$ 1,000 or above must go through pre-shipment inspection in the country of origin involving the verification of prices invoice and the system of customs classification as well as quality.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Egypt



Imports into Egypt must comply with very strict labelling and marking requirements which are covered by the following regulations:-

- ❑ **Decision 16/1993** of the Egyptian Government provides for compulsory use of the Arabic language for the labelling of all industrial commodities.
- ❑ **Decree No. 553 of 1998 amends Law 118 of 1975**, adding two provisions to Article No. 275 of 1991, and imposes an '*original labelling*' for imported products. The Decree stipulates that the imported products can leave the Customs Zone only when the shipment is in accordance with all the Egyptian labelling conditions. The Decree states also that it is compulsory to re-export the products if the inspection shows that those products are not in accordance with labelling conditions. When the products are allowed to leave the Customs territory and to be stored in the importers warehouse, the importer cannot sell the products until all the results of the analysis and the inspections are ready and the products are released by the Egyptian Authorities.
- ❑ **Decree 106 of 2000** stipulates that the verification of the labelling requirements and of the other requirements will be performed by the General Organisation for Import-Export Control. While this measure aims to reduce the time needed for inspection purposes, the implementation of the measure can create some delays due to the absence of necessary laboratory equipments.
- ❑ **Decree No. 465 of 1997**, relates to labelling requirements for the importation of frozen meat and poultry. The Decree requires that all the products must be packaged in sealed bags. The product labels must be incorporated in the inner and outer packaging of the product.
- ❑ **Decree 619/98** - stipulates that some products can be exported to Egypt only if they are shipped from the country of origin. This rule concerns about 55 consumer products.
- ❑ **Decree No 42 of 1994, amended by Decree No. 180/1996**, goods which conform to ISO/IEC Standards, as well as with the National Standards of Japan, USA, Germany and France, will be accepted unless other specific Egyptian Standards requirements apply.
- ❑ **Circular No. 12/1998 from the Ministry of Trades & Supply (General Organisation for Export & Import Control)** - imposes marking requirements on every package of industrial commodities imported into Egypt.
- ❑ **Decree No. 1 of 1998 from the Ministry of Industry** - applies to the technical provisions for fabrics and establishes stricter requirements regarding the marking of imported knitted and woven fabrics. These are additional requirements that are over and above those from the Ministry of Trade.

- ❑ **Decree No. of 1998 from the Ministry of Trade & Supply** - this set the requirements for textile products, which include the inscriptions on the selvage of the fabrics and quoted as:-

"the name of the importer and the country of origin shall be inscribed on the selvage in the fabric, at the beginning as well as the end of the cloth, providing the length of the cloth shall not be less than 30 metres' (Article 2, A)

Labelling Requirements for Foodstuffs

Regulations stipulate that all products should be packaged in appropriate packages, in order to preserve the product and not affect its characteristics. Production and expiry date must be shown on the product packaging. Information on the label should be printed in such a manner that it cannot be erased, scratched or altered in any way. The labelling must include the following information:-

- ❑ The name and address of manufacturer.
- ❑ The brand and trademark.
- ❑ The country of origin.
- ❑ The type of product or grade.
- ❑ The production and expiry date should be marked as follows:-
 - Prod: (in Arabic) - (date).
 - Exp: (in Arabic) - (date).
- ❑ The product use instructions (optional).
- ❑ The product ingredients.
- ❑ The storage instructions and storage temperature.
- ❑ The net weight.
- ❑ The gross weight and the total number of packages per case or carton.
- ❑ If the product contains preservatives, the percentage of each preservative should be indicated.
- ❑ If the product is meat or poultry, the following statement must appear:-
"slaughtered according to the Islamic ritual" or "Halal slaughtered".

There are special labelling requirements for frozen meats and poultry which relate to Decree No. 464 of 1997, where the labelling must include the following information:-

- ❑ The country of origin.
- ❑ The producer name and logo.
- ❑ The name of the slaughter house.
- ❑ The name and address of the importer.
- ❑ The name of the entity that issued the "Islamic Slaughter" certification.

There are also a number of regulations that relate to the use of food additives and shelf-life, which include the following:-

- ❑ **Artificial Colours** - The Ministry has increased the number of artificial colours that can be used in food production to 40 colours from the 11 previously allowed. The scientific name of the colours and the percentage must be indicated on the analysis certificate.
- ❑ **Preservatives** - all preservatives should be included on the label.
- ❑ **Flavourings** - the Ministry of Health does not have a positive list of approved flavourings. However, all flavourings which conform to the Codex Alimentations rules of the World Health Organisation (WHO) are approved.
- ❑ **Shelf-life** - contrary to the normal practice applied in other countries, where the producers determine the validity of the products in Egypt, the Government determines the validity period of the products. Any product that exceeds its established shelf-life date is considered no longer fit for human consumption. In 1994, the Government declared that all food products should have at least 50% of the Government established shelf-life remaining at the time of importation, otherwise the products would be rejected. The shelf-life is calculated from the date of the production until the date of completion of all the Customs procedures and Import Certification in the Egyptian port of entry. Some exceptions to this rule are accepted for cereals and green coffee.

Labelling Requirements for Industrial Commodities

All industrial commodities imported into Egypt require Customs to check the existence of the following information on labels is in Arabic:-

- ❑ The product name and its trademark.
- ❑ The technical data according to the stipulations and standard specifications.
- ❑ The international data or marks according to the nature of the commodity.
- ❑ The country of origin.
- ❑ The production date and, where necessary, the expiry date.

All of these details have to be in indelible ink or be printed directly on the packages or on the information sheet/booklet provided with the products. For apparatus, machines or other equipments, the information printed/stamped/marked on the equipment must be the same as that on their packaging. The same rule applies to the country of origin.

All imported products must meet the relevant Egyptian Standard(s), as conformity to the Standards will be assessed during the Customs clearance procedure. The majority of Egyptian Standards relate to products in the food, engineering, textiles and clothing sectors. These Standards are periodically reviewed to ensure their relevance to the current requirements of the Country. The majority of the Egyptian Standards are compulsory but only 25-30 conform to International Standards.

Labelling of Textile Products

The labelling requirements for a range of woven and knitted fabrics being imported into Egypt are applied according to the relevant Decree relating to textiles. The following refer to the labelling requirements for these product sectors.

A. Woven Fabrics

The following is a quote from the Decree that applies to this sector:-

"woven fabrics are to be prepared in the form of cloth at least 30m long. Clothes are to be packed in bales which must be bound in a cross structure or with new elastic which is not fixed.

The following information must be given on the fabrics, "clothes and bales"

The labelling information required is as per the following:-

- **Fabrics** - must be marked every 3 metres with the following information:-
 - Name of the manufacturing company or factory and/or registered trademark.
 - The name of the importer or the agent.
 - Name of the item and the type of raw material - in the case of blended fabrics, indication of the blend.
 - The specification of the country of origin.
- **All Cloths** - has to carry a label indicating identical information as is required for 'Fabrics'. In addition, the label must contain:-
 - The date of manufacture.
 - Length of cloth in metres and width of fabric in centimetres.
 - The cloth length must be no less than 30 metres.
 - Weight per square metre in grams.
 - Type of dyeing of prepared fabrics
 - Yarn count (warp/weft).
 - Number of threads in warp and weft per unit length (cm).
 - Type of preparation.
 - For treated fabrics (fire, water, moth) an indication of type and date of treatment.
- **Bales** - are to be marked in Arabic and the language of the country of origin with the following information:-
 - Name of items.
 - Number of clothes in bale.

- Total length contained in bale in metres.
- Gross bale weight.
- Net bale weight.
- Sequential number of bales.
- Name of the manufacturing company and/or its registered trademark along with the name of the agent or importer.
- Date of manufacture.
- Specification of the country of origin.

B. Knitted Fabrics

The Decree does not foresee specific marking requirements for knotted fabrics. However, knitted clothes and corresponding bales are subject to requirements close to those imposed on woven clothes and bales (as above - which relates to Point 8 of the Decree).

Requirements for Packages

Circular No.12/1998 imposes marking requirements on all imported packages of industrial commodities. The stipulations of this regulation are (Point 1.a):-

- ❑ All markings are to be written in Arabic, in clear indelible handwriting.
- ❑ Writing the product name or its trademark.
- ❑ The technical data to be marked on the package by the manufacturer according to what is specified in the applicable Standards Specification (specification number or marks/logos).
- ❑ The country of origin.
- ❑ The production date and the expiry date must be written according to the applicable Standard Specification.

It is important to note that all the above details must be in indelible ink and printed and sealed directly on to the package or the original documentation for the product.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: France



Labelling is strictly controlled in France and there are many labelling regulations which are sector related and labelling must provide customers with precise information. The following basic labelling requirements are generally required for all categories of products:-

- ❑ **Name and Address** - of manufacturer or vendor.
- ❑ **Language** - label must be written in French. French or international law must have authorised any foreign words or abbreviations. The writing must be clear and non-promotional.
- ❑ **Designation** - stating what the product is, for example: "Laundry Soap"
- ❑ **Brand Names/Trademarks** - any names symbols and marks relating to the product must be found on the exterior of the packaging, the product label, and the bottle top or lid, as the case applies. The manufacturer can only use registered brand names and trademarks.
- ❑ **Composition** - all ingredients or materials constituting the product must be listed.
- ❑ **Usage Instructions** - explaining how the product is to be used.
- ❑ **Required dates** - these include when the product was made, the consumption limit for perishable items, and recommended "use by" date for pre packaged and frozen food products.
- ❑ **Qualifiers** - relates to any special method used - e.g. "made by hand" on leather goods.
- ❑ **Specifications** - labels must inform the consumer of any particular product limitations or sales conditions.
- ❑ **Price** - the price (including all taxes) must be marked on all pre-packaged goods, unless they are sold by mail order.

Bar Code Price Labelling (GENCOD): stores are increasingly using this system to speed up the passage of clients at cash registers. GENCORD, France's bar code price labelling system, is generally used for products with a low per unit value and rapid turnover, as well as for food and non food products requiring an individual price marking because of their value, nature, or presentation.

Quality and Ecological Labels: More established quality seals and labels exist in France than in any other European country. Although desirable because they offer extra information to the customer, they are not mandatory.

Quality Labels

In France, there are two types of quality certificates, namely: -

- **Certificates issued by professional associations** - each must be contacted individually for more information. For a list of professional associations, contact the Conseil National du Patronat Français (CNPF) at:-

CNPF
31, avenue Pierre-Ier-de-Serbie
75784 Paris Cedex 16,
France
Tel: (33) 1-40-69-44-44
Fax: (33) 1-47-23-47-32

- **Certificates issued by AFNOR** - which controls the coveted and highly regarded French "NF" Mark. This quality seal certifies that a product complies with all applicable French Standards.

Environmental Labels

AFNOR also issues the "NF Environment" label, which certifies that a specific product meets the environmental criteria to qualify for a NF mark. This label is only available for a limited number of goods, as it is still in the early stage of development. Currently, an "NF Environment" label can be issued for paints, lubricants, trash bags, household chemicals, heating equipment, cosmetics, insulating material and paper.

The member states of the European Union are currently developing a European "Ecolabel", which would certify products as environmentally friendly across the EU. AFNOR is the issuer of the "Ecolabel" for products manufactured in, first marketed in, or imported to France. An "Ecolabel" can already be issued for washing machines and dishwashers. There are further twenty-five products, for which certification criteria are being drawn up by member states of the EU.

General Information

Export firms entering the French market are strongly advised to examine EU as well as French laws. Each European Union country is integrating the rulings of the EU into its national legislation. As much legislation regarding labelling is still in the developmental stage, EU labelling regulations and standards need to be carefully monitored. For agricultural products, the office of Agricultural Affairs has an up to date extensive listing of labelling and packaging regulations and requirements on a product by product basis.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: **Gambia**



In the Gambia the following basic labelling, marking and packing requirements are generally required for all categories of products:-

- **Labelling & Markings** - a specific regulations regarding labelling and package marking do not exist, however, the following applies:-
 - The net weight must be shown in labelled canned goods and foodstuffs.
 - The importation of goods with fraudulent or misleading marks or labels is prohibited.
 - Any Common shipping practice may be followed in the absence of regulations regarding how shipments must be marked.
- **Packing** - goods should be packed securely to withstand rough handling. Goods adversely affected by the tropical heat should be packed to withstand the hot and humid climate.

Imports Regulations

The import of certain specific goods is prohibited from all sources, predominately on social, health, security, and moral grounds. All other imports are permitted freely under open general license.

Other Formalities & Documents

With respect to **Plant Permits**, the director of agriculture must give his permission for all imports of vegetable seeds defined as all seed-producing plants, especially herbaceous plants, parts or all of which could be used as food-Packages or containers in which vegetable seeds are imported should be date stamped by the original suppliers.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Germany



In Germany the following basic packing, marking and labelling requirements are generally required for all categories of products:-

- ❑ **Standards, Labelling & Packing** - Germany is a signatory to the agreement on technical barriers to trade, commonly known as the standards agreement, negotiated under the Tokyo round of multilateral trade negotiation. This is designed to eliminate the use of standards and certification systems as impediments to trade.
- ❑ **Labelling** - there is no general requirement for labels to indicate the country of origin. However, certain commodities imported into Germany are subject to special regulations regarding the manner in which they must be labelled, showing the manufacturer, composition, the common product name, contents in metric units, or country of origin.
- ❑ **Marking** - there are no special marking requirements. However, according to sound shipping practice, packages should bear the consignee's mark, including port of origin and they should be numbered to identify the contents of the package.
- ❑ **Prohibitions** - firearms and similar articles, playing cards, articles bearing political or religious notations on the address side, are prohibited.
- ❑ **Restrictions** - German authorities authorise restrictions on imports of medicines.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: India



The Indian labelling regulations, in general, are governed by the Standard of Weights & Measures Rules of 1977. Foodstuff products must comply with the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act 1954 - through Notification Nos. 44/2000 and 3/2001 of this Act, all imported food products are required to meet the requirements of this Act. Additionally, other requirements for some foodstuff products (meats, eggs, milk and primary agricultural products) require the importer to seek approval from the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying for specific import sanitary authorisation.

Notification No. 44/2000 relates to labelling and marking rules for imported products and it stipulates the following:-

"all such packaged products, which are subject to the provisions of the Standard of Weights & Measures (Package commodities) Rules 1977, when produced/packed/sold in the domestic market, shall be subject to compliance of all the provisions of the said rules, when imported into India. The compliance of these shall be ensured before the import consignment of such commodities is cleared by Customs for home consumption. All pre-packaged commodities, imported into India, shall in particular carry the following declarations:-

- (a) *Name and address of the importer.*
- (b) *Generic or common name of the commodity packaged.*
- (c) *The net quantity in terms of standard units.*
- (d) *The month and year of packing in which the commodity is manufactured or packed or imported.*
- (e) *The maximum retail sales price at which the commodity packaged form may be sold to the ultimate consumer. This price shall include all taxes, local or otherwise, freight, transport charges, commission payable to dealers, and all charges towards advertising, delivery, packing, forwarding and the like, as the case may be"*

Under Policy Circular No. 38 (RE-2000) of January 22, 2001, the labelling requirements mentioned in Notification No. 44 (RE-2000), dated January 24, 2001, are:-

"applicable only to imports of those pre-packaged commodities, which are intended for retail sale"

Therefore, they do not apply to raw materials, components, bulk imports, etc., which would go under processing or assembly before selling to consumers.

Additional Requirements for Some Food Products

The following requirements for food products should be complied with:-

- ❑ **Vegetarian Logo** - regulations covering all vegetarian foods require a declaration, which can be made by using a symbol and colour code so stipulated for this purpose, to indicate the product is Vegetarian. The code is a green colour filled circle, with a diameter not less than the minimum size specified in the regulation. Depending upon the size of the principal display panel, the minimal size of its diameter is 3 - 8mm.
- ❑ **Certification Required for Some Products** - In addition to the provisions regarding the application of the Standards of Weight & Measures rules for all imported pre-packed food products, Notification No. 44 also contains provisions regarding the application of Indian Quality Standards for 131 products.
- ❑ **Shelf Life Data Requirements** - the regulations relating to this subject are quoted below:-

"all edible/food products, domestic sale and manufacture of which are governed by Prevention of Food & Adulteration Act 1954 shall also be subject to the conditions that, at the time of importation, the products are having a valid shelf life of not less than 60% of its original shelf life. Shelf life of the product is to be calculated, based on the declaration given on the label of the product, regarding its date of manufacture and the due date for expiry."

Meat & Poultry Products (Notification No. 3 DGFT/2001) - Labelling Requirements

This notification comes from the Directorate General for Foreign Trade (DGFT) who implement the following regulation:-

"Import of meat and poultry products will be subject to the compliance of conditions regarding manufacture, slaughter, packing labelling and quality conditions as laid down in Meat Food Product Order, 1973"

and

"Imports of such edible/food products, domestic sales and manufacture of which are governed by PFA 1954 shall be subject to the conditions laid down in the aforesaid Act"

For these two product ranges, the Notification requires compliance with these requirements before allowing Customs clearance of any of the consignments. Therefore, the food products imported into India shall include the following labelling data:-

- ❑ Name of the company, together with complete address, telephone and fax numbers.
- ❑ Address of the distributor.
- ❑ Manufacturing licence number.
- ❑ Brand name of the product.
- ❑ Standard certification number.
- ❑ Quality logo.
- ❑ Batch number.

- ❑ Net weight on the package item - i.e. Content: ingredients used with indication of the units per ingredient.
- ❑ Date of manufacture.
- ❑ Date of packaging.
- ❑ Expiry date (from the manufactured date, the total validity should not exceed 4 months).
- ❑ Maximum retail price.

Sanitary Import Permit

Since July, 2001, imports of meat/meat products, eggs/egg powder, and milk/milk products, are subject to a Sanitary Import Permit to be issued by the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, of the Ministry of Agriculture - as per section 3A of Livestock Importation Act, as incorporated by the Livestock Importation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2001.

The application for an import permit must be sent to the Joint Secretary Trade Division of the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Ministry of Agriculture. The sanitary permit is delivered only after a detailed risk analysis is carried out. The notification also foresees detailed examination of the products at the point of entry by the officer in charge of the Animal Quarantine & certification Services or any other duly authorised officer. The examination is conducted according to the guidelines issued by the Department of Animal Husbandry.

Clearance of Food Articles

Customs Circular No. 36 of 2001 covers the clearance of food articles - Customs are required to carry out general checks in addition to the testing of samples prior to Customs clearance, as per the following:-

- ❑ The condition of the hold in which the products were transported.
- ❑ The physical/visual appearance of the products in terms of possible damage.
- ❑ The labelling requirements under the PFA and the Packaged Commodities rule.

If the products do not satisfy these requirements, clearance of goods is not allowed. In addition, under the Circular 36/2001-CUS, the following is stated:-

"all the consignments of edible food products imported through ports, airports, ICDs CFSs, land customs stations shall be referred to PHOs for testing and clearance shall be allowed only after receipt of the test report. Pending receipt of the test report, such consignments shall be allowed to be stored in warehouses under Section 49 of the Customs Act 1962. If the products fail the tests, the Customs Authorities will ensure that the goods are re-exported out of the Country by following the usual adjudication procedure or destroyed as required under the relevant rules."

Import Conditions for Textiles

Import of textile products is permitted under the condition that the products shall not contain any of the hazardous dyes whose handling, production, carriage or use is prohibited by the Indian Government under the provisions of clause (d) of sub-section (2) of Section 6 of the Environment (Protection) Act 1986 - together with other relevant rules. The import consignment shall accompany a Pre-shipment Certificate from notified agencies. In cases where certificates are not available, the consignment will be cleared after testing of the same from the notified agencies.



Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Indonesia

Food labelling is required under the Government Regulations No. 69 of 1999. Additionally, according to law No. 7 of 1996, food products should be registered and labelled before they are sold in Indonesia. The registration is undertaken by the National Agency for Drug & Food Control (BPOM), who test the products before granting registration. The registration number must be indicated on the product labels, as well as detailed information about the product.

Regulation No. 69 makes compulsory the labelling in the Indonesian national language - Bahasa. According to these regulations, the label should be permanently attached and easy to see and read. However, it is not clear if label stickers are admitted by the Indonesian Authorities, although indications are that they might be accepted. The content of the label should be as follows:-

- ❑ The name of the product and/or brand name
- ❑ The list of food ingredients as well as any additives and their individual net weights.
- ❑ The name and address of the producer, distributor or importer.
- ❑ The expiry date for the products with shelf life (e.g. dry milk, by food, bread and bread products, nutritional supplements, etc.).
- ❑ The registration number of the product as assigned by the Ministry of Health.
- ❑ Certain food must be labelled with a code of production or lot number and/or identification.
- ❑ The nutrition information (should be mentioned in the following order - total energy in detail by virtue of energy number value stemming from fat, protein and carbon hydrate, the total values of fat, saturated fat, cholesterol, total carbohydrate, fibre, sugar, protein and mineral.
- ❑ The instruction for use and preparation must be provided when applicable.
- ❑ The instruction for storage (if required).

The following are some additional requirements that are applicable for special types of food:-

- ❑ **Irradiated Food** - the words 'genetically modified food' should be recorded on the label.
- ❑ **Processed Food (for infants, children under 5 years of age, pregnant or breast feeding mothers, special diet for elderly)** - should contain consumer information on any procedure for use.

- **Halal Food** - is subject to special requirements. All products (except pork meat products, products containing alcohol and intoxicants, blood and blood products and foods containing ingredients such as gelatine and enzymes) can be certified as 'halal food'. The products certified must bear the inscription "Halal Food" on the label. The products can only be certified by a Muslim authority.

To facilitate the certification of 'halal food', the Indonesian Government has created the Indonesian Council of Ulama (AIFDC). As soon as the AIFDC receives an Application, a team of auditors is sent to audit the factory in the country of origin. If all conditions for halal meats are met, then AIFDC issues the "Halal Certificate", which is valid for two years, except for imported meat for which a new certificate is required for every shipment. One month before the expiration of the certificate, the producer should apply for a new one. The certificate can also be issued by a competent Muslim Institution in the country of origin.

Other Labelling Requirements

Drugs, cosmetics and medical devices are subject to registration with POM. Samples are also required for testing. The registration period is variable and is dependent upon the product. In all cases the registration number should be printed on all labels.

Markings

Indonesian regulations do not require special markings. As a matter of fact, the marking requirements of the country of origin are acceptable. Yet the import reference number assigned by the importer's bank should be part of the marking on the outer container to facilitate identification. In order to ensure the safety of goods shipped to foreign destination, the supplier may insert the country of origin and other marks.

Packing

The possibility of long storage at dock warehouses in the tropical climate, rough treatment by Dockers and pilferage at ports should be taken into consideration in packing goods intended for this market. Packing may be made with oil-lined paper to withstand heat and humidity and prevent deterioration.

Import Regulations

Imports are classified into four main groups as per the following:-

- **Group A** - includes rice, flour, iron and steel products, chemicals, organic and pharmaceutical products, cotton, medicine, fertilizers and insecticides, agricultural and industrial machinery and some raw materials.
- **Group B** - includes materials and spare parts for industry.
- **Group C** - is made up of locally produced goods that require import protection.
- **Group D** - is made of luxury products, some consumer goods and some goods produced locally.

Imports of processed foods and other foodstuffs (that is produced locally) must be registered with the Ministry of Health, which requires a sample of the product and the product label, an explanatory brochure, a letter of certification delivered by the authorised body of the country of origin.

Cosmetics regulations are in effect for the registration, packaging, marking, and advertisement of imported or produced locally cosmetics and hygiene articles.

A special permit from the Director General of medicines and food control of the Ministry of Health is required for the import of medicines. All imported or locally produced medicines must be specially registered and licensed.

The importation of hypodermic needles, acetic anhydride and opium pipes are subject to a special license delivered by the Director General of medicine and food control. Importation of printed material using Chinese characters or written in Chinese is prohibited.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Iran



The following basic labelling, marking and packaging regulations are provided to give a general idea of the Iranian requirements:-

- ❑ **Labelling** - there are special labelling regulations for pharmaceutical, foodstuffs sold in containers, beverages, mineral waters, syrups, juices and extracts and toilet and beauty articles and accessories. It is advisable that labels, instructions and description of imported goods be printed in Farsi (Persian).
- ❑ **Marking** - all packages should show gross weight in kilograms or metric tons. In general, all identifying marks should include the consignee's mark and port marks. They should be clearly indicated to facilitate the arrivals of shipments.
- ❑ **Packing** - all goods consigned to Iran should be adequately packed in order to be protected against rough handling, extreme heat and pilferage. Containers should be adequately waterproofed.

In Iran there are three import categories:-

- ❑ Products imported within the framework of the general regulations are:-
 - Machinery.
 - Industrial equipment.
- ❑ The products which are imported under special conditions are the following:-
 - Drugs.
 - Food products.
 - Cosmetics.
- ❑ The products which are prohibited for imports are:-

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Narcotics products. ❑ Ammunitions. ❑ Transmitter receiver apparatus. ❑ Cassettes. ❑ Indecent photographs. ❑ Alcoholic beverages. ❑ Any kind of fashion magazines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Guns ❑ Aerial photo cameras. ❑ Unpleasant records. ❑ Videos. ❑ Vulgar films. ❑ Pork meats.
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Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Jordan



The following basic labelling and packaging regulations are provided to give a general idea of the Jordanian requirements:-

- ❑ Products must be clearly marked, stamped, branded or labelled, to indicate the country of origin.
- ❑ For added safety, bilingual (English and Arabic) labelling is advisable, particularly if the product is aimed at the mass market.
- ❑ Labels also provides information regarding:-
 - Placement of identification data.
 - Identification of the manufacturer.
 - Product information.
 - Standard quality disclosures.
 - Production and expiry date.
- ❑ Differing requirements govern the import of foodstuffs, medicines, chemicals and other consumer products.
- ❑ The Standard and Measures Department determines labelling regulations.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Lebanon



The following basic labelling and packaging regulations are provided to give a general idea of the Lebanese requirements:-

- Products (particularly food and medicines) must be clearly marked, stamped, branded or labelled, to indicate the country of origin. In compliance with Lebanese Customs regulations, imported pharmaceutical products and foodstuffs must bear specific labels containing the following information:-

- The manufacturing and expiry date of the product;
- The product's country of origin.

Violations of the labelling rules are liable to sanctions under article 358 of the Lebanese Customs Code and can lead to the re-exportation of the infringing products.

- Use of English is acceptable, but for added safety, bilingual or even trilingual language (Arabic and French) labelling is advisable, particularly if the product is aimed at the mass market.
- Providing information on labels for:-
 - Country of origin.
 - Placement of identification data.
 - Identification of the manufacturer.
 - Product information.
 - Standard quality disclosures.
 - Ingredients.
 - Date of manufacture.
 - Date of expiry (no goods are permitted with an expiry date of less than six months).

Imports Regulations

The Lebanese government has abolished all discriminatory barriers against foreign imports. Lebanon does not impose any import quotas but it has maintained a complex system of import licenses. Oil and oil products imports are restricted to twenty local firms. Import licenses cannot be transferred to third parties. Goods prohibited for imports are as follows:-

- ❑ Narcotics.
- ❑ Arms and military equipment.
- ❑ Cars older than eight years.
- ❑ Products threatening public morals.
- ❑ Products threatening public health.
- ❑ Certain agricultural products.

There are three categories of licenses that are required for the import of agricultural products:-

- ❑ **Seasonal licenses** - required for the import of fresh or frozen potatoes, onions, garlic, cucumbers, tomatoes, squashes, eggplant, green beans, cabbage, cauliflower, green barnia, watermelon, sweet green pepper, pears, peaches, grapes, apricots, passion flowers, green almonds, lima beans and green peas.
- ❑ **Licenses required all year round** - olives, pine seeds, potatoes and onions for plantations and silk cocoon.
- ❑ **Goods banned for import** - all kind of citrus produce, apples, quince, sweet tomatoes, cherries, plums, almonds, strawberries, leaf vegetables, parsley, mint, coriander, spinach, thyme, lettuce, green onion, carrots, radish and olives.

The following products require import licenses that should be obtained from the following:-

- ❑ **The Ministry of Foreign Trade** - wheat, wheat by-products, olive oil, orange, juice, apple juice, mustard seed, silk worms.
- ❑ **The Ministry of Industry** - white cement, gypsum, tar, petroleum, fuels, fuels oils, gas kerosene, silk thread, pyjamas, electrical wire, unprocessed leather, telecom wire, copper wire, industrial machinery and equipment.
- ❑ **Other Ministries** - pharmaceutical (Ministry of Health), chemicals (Ministry of environment).

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Libya

The following basic labelling, marking and packaging regulations are provided to give a general idea of the Libyan requirements:-

- ❑ **Labelling & Marking** - goods and containers should be labelled and marked clearly to facilitate accurate identification of the items listed on the bill of lading and on the packing list. It is recommended that that packages show the name of the consignee and the port from which they are being shipped. It is advisable that labels attached to goods be printed in Arabic.
- ❑ **Requirement for Foodstuffs are: -**
 - Standards specifications are essential for all imported food products and processed foodstuffs according to a notice from the Council for Nutrition Affairs & Maritime Wealth. The Standards must be registered with the proper authorities in Libya. The notice also specifies that the date of manufacture and especially the expiry date and storage and preservation conditions should be indicated in Arabic on the packaging. Trademarks should be shown clearly.
 - Fresh egg imports must be stamped with the name of the exporting company and with the name of the country of origin and the date of production.
 - Pork and products containing pork fat are prohibited for import. Exporters may be requested to supply analyses of the products to verify that the latter do not contain any prohibited imported products.
- ❑ **Packing** - goods should be packed adequately so as to withstand rough handling, pilferage, and bad weather conditions.

Imports Regulations

Prohibited items are all alcohol products as well as the import of obscene literature, pork, pork products and any kind of related products.

The following commodities are on the prohibited import list:- (a) mineral water, (b) fruit juices, (c) instant tea, (d) certain types of coffee, (e) green vegetables, (f) poultry, (g) preserved meat and vegetables, (h) alcoholic beverages, (i) peanuts, (j) oriental rugs, (k) soaps, (l) envelopes, (m) crystal chandeliers, (n) toys guns, (o) luxury cars, and (p) furs.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Malaysia



Under the Food Act and the Food Regulations, certain information must be stated on the labels of all foodstuffs. It is compulsory for all processed food products to state the following on the product label:-

- ❑ Name of the manufacturer and packer or importer.
- ❑ The weight or volume of the product.
- ❑ Designation of food.
- ❑ Brand name.
- ❑ Content or list of ingredients, listed in accordance to proportion or weight.
- ❑ Listing of additives.
- ❑ Storage instructions.

Expiry dates are only compulsory for certain products mainly perishable foods, good with short shelf-life and products which contain certain ingredients. The "*use by*" date or "*best before*" date is determined by the manufacturer based on past experience on how long their products can last. Manufacturers are supposed to call-back their products after the expiry dates. The types of food for which expiry date is mandatory under the Food Regulations 1985 are:-

- ❑ Biscuits and breads.
- ❑ Canned foods for infants and children's chocolate, white chocolate and milk chocolate.
- ❑ Coconut cream, coconut milk powder and desiccated coconuts.
- ❑ Edible fat and edible oil other than margarine in hermetically sealed containers.
- ❑ Food additives with a shelf-life of less than 18 months.
- ❑ Infant formula.
- ❑ Liquid egg yolk, liquid egg white, dried egg, dried egg yolk and dried egg white.
- ❑ Meat products in non-hermetically sealed containers, milk and milk products other than hard cheese.

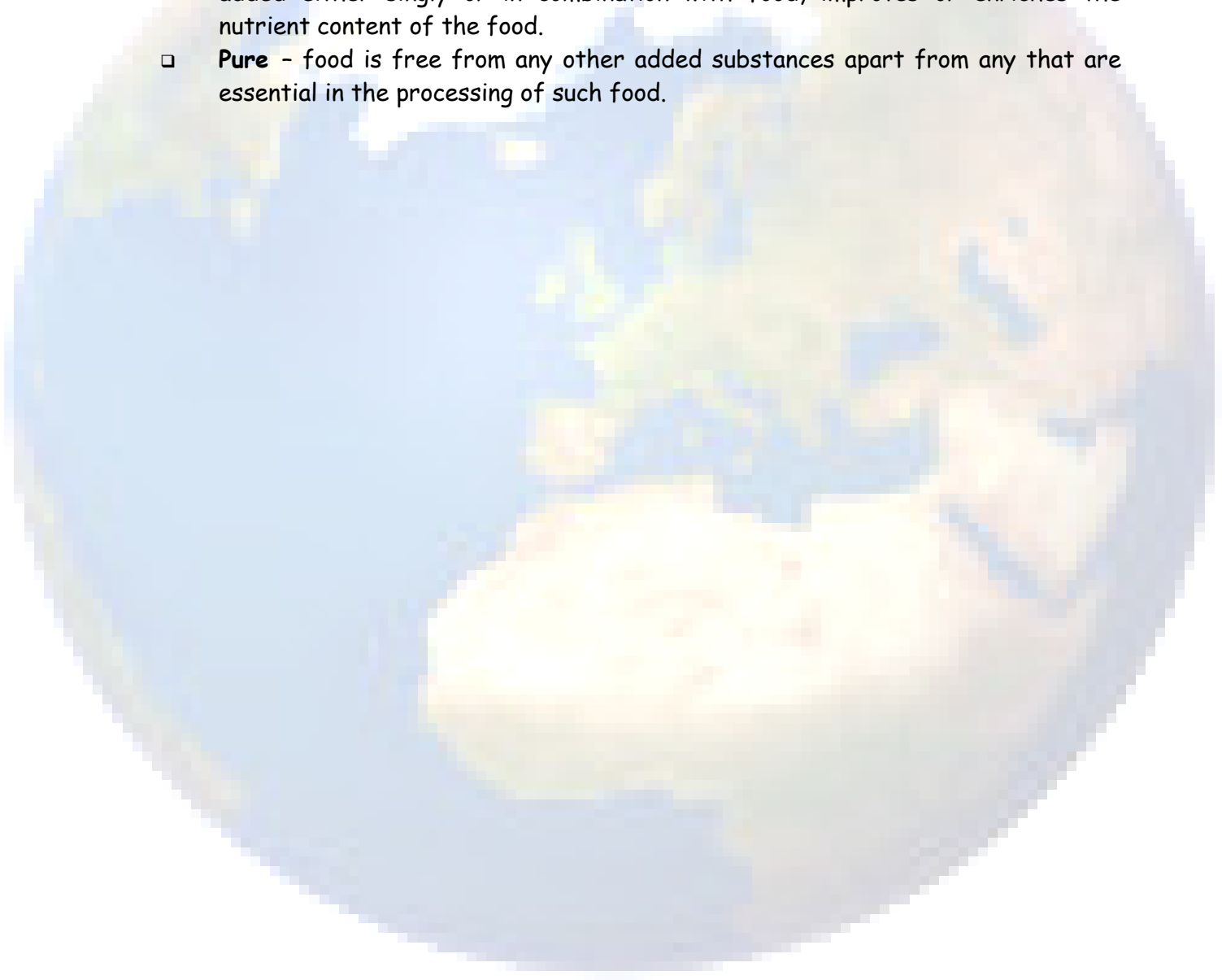
Nutritional information or labelling is optional except for baby food, processed food for children, cereal and food for dietary purposes. Nutrition labels state the nutrient contents such as vitamins and minerals, fat, fibre, energy, carbohydrate and protein in the food product. Special purpose foods which require nutritional labelling are:-

- ❑ Infant formula.
- ❑ Canned food for infants and children's cereal-based food for infants and children.

- ❑ Low energy food - formula dietary food.

The terminology to be used for nutritional labelling should be as follows:-

- ❑ **Enriched** - flour and other grain products lose some nutrients during the refining process. Some of these nutrients are replaced in the "*enriched*" product.
- ❑ **Fortified** - Some foods are "*fortified*" with vitamins and minerals not normally found in these products. "*Fortified*" whole wheat and whole-grain products are usually more nutritious than "*enriched*" products.
- ❑ **Supplements** - include any mineral, vitamin, essential fatty acid which, when added either singly or in combination with food, improves or enriches the nutrient content of the food.
- ❑ **Pure** - food is free from any other added substances apart from any that are essential in the processing of such food.



Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Morocco



The following basic labelling and packaging regulations are provided to give a general idea of the Moroccan requirements:-

- ❑ In compliance with Decree No. 2249-94, use of animal products in manufactured foodstuff must be accompanied by an official 'Sanitary Certificate' of the country of origin.
- ❑ The same Decree applies to cattle, poultry, egg imports etc. and these products must be submitted to the Authority authorised to undertake sanitary and phytosanitary controls.
- ❑ As concerns packaging, labelling rules are notably applied to pharmaceutical, food products or to canned or packaged goods and dangerous substances.

Imports Regulations

Importers are, in general, compelled to register their names at the foreign trade operators files in order to obtain an importer's card. Any import operation must be subjected to an import title which can be delivered under three forms:-

- ❑ Import commitment when goods imports are duty free.
- ❑ Import license when imported goods are included in the negative list.
- ❑ And a prior import declaration provided for in order to safeguard national production against illicit trade practice (dumping, subventions etc).

When imported goods benefit from tariff preferences within the framework of trade and tariff conventions, the importer must submit an application to the Ministry of Foreign Trade to obtain exemption from customs duties.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Mozambique



The following basic labelling, marking and packaging regulations are provided to give a general idea of the Mozambique requirements:-

□ **Labelling** - product labels must indicate the following information:-

- Descriptive name of the product.
- The list of ingredients including food additives.
- The name, address, and telephone number of the manufacturer or distributor.
- The net weight or volume in metric units.
- Instructions for storage and use.

The labelling of pharmaceutical products must show the composition of the product.

The labelling of food products and canned food must indicate the following:-

- The net and gross weight.
- The country of origin.
- The name and address of the manufacturer.
- Contents - ingredients.
- Product grade.
- Brand name.

□ **Marking** - the consignee's mark with port mark should be inscribed on the package to facilitate arrival of the shipment. Packages should be numbered legibly.

□ **Packing** - goods should be packed to withstand high humidity and pilferage.

Imports Regulations

Imports exceeding a value of \$500 require an import license (Boletim de Registro de Importacao or BRI). The license indicates:- (a) the place of embarkation or disembarkation of goods, (b) the country of origin, (c) the amount and currency of payment, and (d) the source of financing.

The importation of narcotics is forbidden. Arms imports require a license delivered by local authorities.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: **Nigeria**



The following basic labelling, marking and packaging regulations are provided to give a general idea of the Nigerian requirements:-

- ❑ **Labelling** - pre-packaged goods sold in or imported into Nigeria require exclusive metric units for content marking. All imports with dual labelling in metric and non-metric units will be confiscated or refused entry.
- ❑ **Marking** - there are no general marking regulations, but packages should be marked according to sound shipping practices, with the consignee's mark, including port marks and they should be numbered to correspond with the number of packages shown on the invoice.
- ❑ **Packing** - no special regulations applied to packing, however, goods packed in straw will not be admitted because materials, such as straw, originating from small cereals are prohibited importation. Parcels should be packed securely and should have waterproof covers to guard against the elements, pilferage and rough handling.

Imports Regulations

Some goods essential for human welfare and economic development are admitted duty-free. Non-essential goods and luxury items are subject to the highest rate of duties.

The following products are not allowed to be imported into Nigeria:- (a) used vehicles and motorcycles more than eight years old from the date of the manufacture, (b) buses, trucks and lorries more than 10 years, (c) mineral water, (d) soft drinks, (e) maize and maize products, (f) vegetable oils, (g) fresh or preserved vegetables, (h) meat and meat products, (i) live or dead poultry (except a day old chicks and parent stock), (j) eggs in the shell, (k) fertilizer, (l) bentonite and barytes, (m) retreaded and used tires, (n) textile fabrics of all types, (o) processed wood, (p) furniture and furniture pieces, (q) fluorescent light bulbs, and (r) kaolin.

The following specific documents are required to be submitted with imports into Nigeria:-

- ❑ **Sanitary Certificate** - a sanitary certificate is required for the imports of certain animals, animal products, meat and meat products, plants, seeds, soils, and used merchandise. In many cases special import permits guaranteed by appropriate Nigerian agencies are required for the import of the above mentioned commodities.

- ❑ **Disinfecting Certificate** - a disinfecting certificate meeting the requirements of the Nigerian Ministry of Health must accompany imports of used clothing.
- ❑ **Free Sale Certificate** - the imports of food, drugs, cosmetics and pesticides must be accompanied by certificates of free sale stating that the commodities in question are in free circulation in the country of export.
- ❑ **Certificate of Analysis** - a certificate of analysis is required for the imports of food, drugs, cosmetics and pesticides from the manufacturer and the country where the goods were manufactured.
- ❑ **Pre-shipment Inspection** - imports to Nigeria, regardless of volume and whether containerised or non-containerised are subject to mandatory pre-shipment inspection to verify the price, the quantity and the quality of the merchandise. The physical inspection is intended to determine whether goods conform to contractual requirements. The Nigerian Government will send a completed, modified 'Form M' and a copy of the pro-forma invoice to the inspection agency. Upon receipt of these documents, the inspection agency will contact the seller to request additional information about the shipment and to arrange for inspection of the goods, however the seller bears the ultimate responsibility for seeing that goods are inspected.

Standards & Provisions

Nigeria is a member of the African Regional Organization for Standardization; an intergovernmental body designed to harmonise standards of member states and to promote standardization in Africa. Additional information concerning ARSO is available from the Secretary General, African Regional Organization For Standardization, P.O.BOX. 57363 Nairobi, Kenya. Tel: 254-224561. Fax: 254-2218792.

Food and drugs - the manufacture, sale and advertising of food, drugs and cosmetics are regulated by decree. Certain drugs are prohibited importation into Nigeria and some permitted imports require special certificate. All pharmaceuticals and drugs for sale in Nigeria must be registered in accordance with regulations issued by the Ministry of Health.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Philippines



The Philippine Agency tasked with food labelling regulations is the Bureau of Food & Drugs (BFAD) in the Department of Health. The Philippine general regulatory guidelines which includes labelling of pre-packaged foods is the Administrative Order No. 88 - B series, 1984 - this covering the rules and regulations governing the labelling of prepared food products distributed in the Philippine. The above regulations are patterned after Codex Alimentarius guidelines and those of USA's FDA. A complete copy of the guidelines can be obtained from www.doh.gov.ph/bfad2/main.htm - it is found under "Food Section", "Regulatory Guidelines". A summary of food labelling regulations can also be found on <http://ats.agr.ca/info/asean-e.htm#Philippines>.

To assist exporters, the information provide below is a brief overview of the Philippine labelling regulations:-

- ❑ The label is required to use language and terminology that can be read and understood by the ordinary individual under customary conditions of purchase and use. It must not contain anything that will mislead the shopper/consumer (e.g. word, statements, designs, or devices - including overtly prominent words or pictures).
- ❑ Unless exempted by the food regulations (e.g. under small package exemptions, etc.), the label must contain:-
 - The name and place of business of the manufacturer.
 - An accurate statement of the quantity of the contents in terms of weight, measure or numerical count.
 - The name and address of the importer.
- ❑ A description of the product which complies with the definition and standard of identify that has been prescribed by law - i.e. the common or usual name of the food, including the common names of optional ingredients that are present in the product (other than spices, flavouring, and colour).
- ❑ The names of any artificial flavouring, artificial colouring or chemical preservatives that are included in the product.
- ❑ The labels of food which are marketed for special dietary uses (e.g. diabetic foods) must include information concerning its vitamin, mineral and other dietary properties required by the BFAD. The information on the label should be in a manner that fully informs purchasers as to the product's intrinsic value in terms of its special use.
- ❑ If the food product is an imitation of another food type, its label should include in uniform size and prominence, the word "*imitation*" and immediately thereafter, the name of the food imitated. As an example "*imitation crab meat*".

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Singapore



The following basic labelling and marking regulations are provided to give a general idea of the requirements for Singapore:-

- **Labelling & Marking** - Labels are required on imported food, drugs, paints and solvents and they must specify the following:-
 - Country of origin.
 - The minimum quantity stated in metric net weight or measure.
 - The name and address of the manufacturer or seller
 - A description (in English) of the contents of the package may be added to the face of the label, provided the additional language is not contrary to, or a modification of any statement on the label.
 - Any pictorial illustrations must not mislead the true nature or origin of the food.
 - Foods having defined standards must be labelled to conform to those standards and be free from added foreign substances.
 - Packages of food described as 'enriched', 'fortified', 'vitamins added' or in any other description that implies that the article contains added vitamins or minerals, must show the quantity of vitamins or minerals added per metric unit.
 - Repackaged foods must be labelled to show (in English) the appropriate designation of the food content printed in capital letters at least 1/16 inch high, whether foods are compounded, mixed or blended.

Certain foods, medicines and goods such as edible animal fat as well as paints and solvents require special labels. Processed foods and pharmaceuticals must be inspected and approved by the Ministry of Health. The Public Utilities Board must check electrical goods before they can be installed, while paints and solvents are the responsibility of the Chief Inspector of Factories, Ministry of Labour.

Import Policy

Singapore maintains one of the most liberal trading regimes in the world. It pursues a free and fair trade policy. Goods can be imported and exported out of Singapore freely. About 99% of imports that enter Singapore are duty free. Singapore imposes tariffs on only four categories of imported goods, namely automobiles, petrol, cigarettes, and alcoholic for revenue purposes and for public policy and environment reasons.

Prohibited Imports

Singapore prohibits the import of chewing gum, firecrackers, horns, sirens, silencers, toy coins/currencies and lighters in the shape of revolvers or pistols. A full list of prohibited products can be obtained from the Trade Development Board.

Quality Standards

Singapore uses the metric system. The Productivity & Standards Board (PSB) has developed standards for certain electrical, building and sanitary products. PSB is the national standards and certification authority. PSB also administers the Good Manufacturing Practice Scheme and the PSB Certification Mark Scheme. They are awarded to manufacturers whose quality assurance systems and products comply with the ISO 9000 series of quality systems or relevant Singapore Standards.

Under the Consumer Protection (Safety Requirements) Regulations of 1991, there are 17 products that are potentially hazardous to consumers, which must be registered and declared "safe", before they can be sold in Singapore. These products include LPG systems, cooking ranges, electric irons, gas cookers, hair dryers, microwave ovens, televisions, video display units, video cassette recorders, table fans, high-fidelity equipment, immersion water heaters, kettles, refrigerators, rice cookers, room air-conditioners, vacuum cleaners and washing machines.

The Consumer Protection Act (CPA) mark is a compulsory stamp of approval given by PSB to ensure that consumers are safe from hazards such as fire, explosion and electrical shock when using these appliances. Test reports issued by accredited testing laboratories and national certification bodies are recognized by PSB. A list of accredited laboratories and national certification bodies can be obtained from PSB.

Similarly, telecommunications equipment imported for use in Singapore is subject to "Type-Approval" by the Telecommunications Authority of Singapore. For the construction industry, the Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) has introduced the Construction Quality Assessment System (CONQUAS).

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: **Somalia**



The following basic labelling, marking and packaging regulations are provided to give a general idea of the requirements of Somalia:-

- ❑ **Labelling** - there are no general labelling requirements for goods imported into the Country. However, the country of origin should be indicated.
- ❑ **Marking** - any common shipping practice may be followed. In general, all identifying marks, including the consignee's mark with port marks, should be inscribed plainly on the packages to facilitate arrival of the shipment. Packages should be numbered unless the contents can be identified readily without numbers.
- ❑ **Packing** - goods should be packed securely to withstand rough handling and pilferage.

Imports Regulations

The following products are subject to prior approval for import:- (a) alcohol, (b) tobacco and tobacco products, (c) crude oil and petroleum products, (d) medical and pharmaceutical products, (e) explosives, (f) precious metals, and (g) jewellery and minerals.

All other items, with the exception of items prohibited for reasons of public safety and social policy, may be imported freely.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Sudan



The following basic labelling, marking and packaging regulations are provided to give a general idea of the Sudanese requirements:-

- ❑ **Labelling & Marking** - all goods and containers should be labelled and marked clearly to facilitate arrival of the shipment and identification of the items listed. All textiles must be folded indicating the length and width of each item. The marks of the consignee with port marks must be inscribed on numbered containers. All marks and numbers must be shown on all shipping documents.
- ❑ **Packing** - it is recommended to pack goods securely to protect them against rough handling and pilferage.

Imports Regulations

The imports of consumer goods and products locally manufactured are prohibited. The full list of these products is available at the Department of Trade & Industry. Import licenses are valid for three months.

Products not allowed to be imported include:- (a) sugar, (b) cars, and (c) other products prohibited for religious, health and national security reasons.

Other Formalities & Documents

Importers must obtain specific licenses from the Ministry of Commerce, Co-operation & Finance for all goods.

Sudanese insurance companies must cover all shipments to Sudan.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Syria



The following basic labelling and packaging regulations are provided to give a general idea of the Syrian requirements:-

Labelling

- ❑ Products must be clearly marked, stamped, branded or labelled, to indicate the country of origin.
- ❑ Bilingual language (Arabic and English) labelling is advisable, particularly if the product is aimed at the mass market.
- ❑ Arabic labels must be placed on packages sold to the public.
- ❑ Information on country of origin.
- ❑ Use of English is acceptable.
- ❑ The label must be placed on the goods themselves or on the outer packaging.
- ❑ Medicines should be labelled with a batch number.
- ❑ Certain chemicals may require a certificate of analysis.
- ❑ Labelling information required: -
 - Placement of identification data.
 - Identification of the manufacturer.
 - Product information.
 - The name of the producer/exporter, ingredients, date of manufacturing and date of expiry.

Markings

There are no special regulations. Packages must necessarily bear the mark of the consignee, including port marking and must be numbered.

Packing

There are no special packing considerations that affect the import of goods into Syria.

Imports Regulations

Imports not allowed in to the Country if not on the permitted list - with certain exceptions. In principle, imports must be made directly from the country of origin, without the intervention of any foreign firm. All imports, except those valued at less than £52, 000 (£5 500 for imports from Lebanon) require import licenses before the date of shipment of the goods. In addition, there is a license fee of 2% on the issue of import licenses, except for those covering Government imports and the imports of certain essential items, including raw materials, petroleum and petroleum products. Certain imports from Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia are exempted from licensing in accordance with the Arab Common Market Agreement.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Thailand



The following are the basic labelling, marking and packing requirements, which are provided to give a general idea of the Thai regulations:-

- **Labelling** - weight and measures on labels must always be in metric units. Whenever weights and measures shown on merchandise or containers offered for sale are not in metric units, the equivalent in the metric system carried out to one decimal point must be given. For most food products, the origin must be stated clearly on the label. Certain types of packaged commodities should display their net volume clearly on the outside of the package.

For certain food products and beverages, special labelling requirements apply. For canned milk, labels must show the category, kind, and trademark of the milk, the name of the manufacturer and the location of the factory. For skimmed milk, labels must state clearly in Thai letters at least seven millimetres high, "skimmed milk - not to be used for nursing babies."

For butter and cultured milk, milk and milk products, canned foods, monosodium glutamate, vinegar, bottled drinking water, and non-alcoholic drinks, special labelling requirements apply. The labels of food or 'pure monosodium glutamate', and 'not recommended for mixing with food for infants and pregnant women', whichever is applicable. Most importers prefer to have labels, instructions and descriptions printed in the Thai language.

Food products generally must be labelled in the Thai language to show the name of the food and its registration number, the name and address of the manufacturer, date of manufacture, net weight or contents and additives used.

Irradiated onions imported or manufactured for distribution must be labelled with the following information: 'onion irradiated with gamma rays', name and food registration number, name and location of the place of manufacture, date, month and year of irradiation and net weight in metric units. The labels must be in Thai and clearly legible.

Containers of tea should be labelled with at least the word 'tea', name and food registration number, name and location of factory, net weight in metric system and kind and amount of admixtures for flavour or taste, if any. Labels for coffee should contain at least the words 'unadulterated coffee', 'mixed coffee', or 'artificial coffee', as the case may be, name and location of factory, net weight

in metric units, kind of mixtures for mixed coffee and artificial coffee and volume in percentage of coffee (for artificial coffee).

Certain packaged goods are required to have printed on the container, wrapper, or fastener the contents of the package (exclusive of container, wrapper, or fastener) in units of the metric system. Either Thai or Arabic characters should be printed indelibly in a size not smaller than two millimetres tall. All statements of quantity should correspond.

In the case of drugs such as methaqualone, or similar formula drug, drugs containing as a mixing ingredient, any substance causing harmful effects as may be caused by secobarbital, amobarbital, cyclobarbital, pentobarbital, metagalone barbital, ethquavinol, ethinamate, methyphenobarbital, methiprilon, phenobarbital, mebrobamatem, amidopyrine, drprone and phenacetin, must carry cautionary and warning labels as to the possible harmful effects and side effects to users including those driving, working with machinery, consuming alcohol pregnant women and children.

Dyestuff is subject to certain labelling regulations under various sections of the Poisonous Substances Act BE 2516. In addition, dyestuff must also be labelled "prohibited for use with food."

Items not carrying the required labelling must be corrected before clearance. Rubber-stamping or the use of additional labels may do corrections. Failure to comply may result in destruction of the goods or fines.

- ❑ **Marking** - there are no stipulations regarding how shipments must be marked and any common shipping practice may be followed. In general, all identifying marks including inscribed plainly on the packagers, should facilitate arrival of the shipment. Packages should be numbered unless the contents are such that they can be identified readily without numbers.
- ❑ **Packing** - careful and adequate packing should be practiced in order to discourage pilfering in the harbours and to withstand the rough handling of cargo by dockworkers. Secure packing is essential and banding of cases is desirable. Directions for handling merchandise should be inscribed on cases such as 'this side up' in case of goods requiring a certain position and 'fragile' when such is the case. Since Thailand is a tropical country, merchandise affected by excessive heat and humidity should be treated and packed to withstand deterioration. Also since merchandise is very often transferred in open lighters, waterproof packing is advisable for articles subject to water damage. Oil lined paper should be used whenever possible.

General Information

The following information is specific to the product sectors identified and provides additional data:-

- **Foodstuffs** - shipments of milk and milk products, canned foods, concentrated drink, drinking water in airtight containers, monosodium glutamate, vinegar and imitation vinegars, food colours, cooking oil, and irradiated foods require licenses. They must also be registered with the Control Division, Ministry of Public Health.

When seeking registration, importers must supply two samples of each product, six labels and a list of ingredients, indicating the percentage composition. The certificate of registration, issued by the Control Division, must be presented for customs clearance of the goods.

Import of coffee requires a permit issued by the Commodity Control Division, Department of Foreign Trade. The Ministry of Public Health controls the importation and production of irradiated foodstuffs. Special permits are required for their importation. The foodstuffs are subject to the provisions of the Food Quality Control Act.

Irradiation of onions for the purpose of stopping growth must be by gamma rays, from the irradiating machines having Cobalt-60 as source and with rays not exceeding 10 kilorads. Shipments of white, glutinous, paddy or prepared rice require a special permit. Oils and fats are subject to standards for quality, manufacture and labelling. Specific regulations are in effect for peanut oil.

The importation of any food containing cyclamic acid or its salts is prohibited. In addition, the following substances are prohibited: brominated vegetable oils, boric acid, borax, salicylic acid, calcium iodide and potassium iodide (except for treatment of goitre), potassium chlorate and nitrofurazone. Food, food mixtures, or food preparations, containing AF2, generally known as ferylframicde or chemically named 2-(2-Furyl)-3(5-nitro-2-furyl) acryl amide are also prohibited.

The following food items have been classified as controlled foodstuffs by the Ministry of Public Health, which also prescribes standards, qualities and methods of manufacture. These include cows' milk including powdered and concentrated cow's milk, cultured milk, cream, milk fat, butter, cheese, ghee, ice cream, baby foods and modified milk for infants, flavoured milk, margarine, ice, drinking water and beverages, food colourings, peanut oil, vinegar, fish sauce and foods packed in airtight containers.

- **Medicine** - all imported medicines must have a license for each product. A pharmacist must supervise Importation. Medicines must be manufactured according to the Code of Good Manufacturing Practices. Applications for registration must be accompanied by all supporting documents requested by the Ministry of Public Health, which has full authority to accept or reject any application, if the efficacy or the safety of the medicine is in question. Licenses are valid for five years.

Strict regulations are in effect governing the sale, use, and labelling of dangerous drugs. Regulations are in effect for certain drugs detailing warnings and precautions to be included on accompanying literature and leaflets. Exporters should check with their customers for information on specific products.

- **Food Containers** - all kinds of ceramics or plated metal ware used for food storage must not contain more than two milligrams of soluble lead per litre of capacity. Food containers containing pictures, marks, or statements likely to be misleading about the food contained are prohibited. Food containers must be clean, must not have been previously used for packing any food or other material, except for certain glass containers and must not give off any material to come into contact with food in a quantity likely to be dangerous to health. Certain regulations are in effect for food containers made of polyvinyl chloride plastic. Vinyl chloride monomer must not exceed 1mg per kg when detected.

Plastic bags or plastic sheets for use as food containers must be clean and free from unwanted articles and germs. They must not have been made from used plastic nor contain or give out any substances that could contaminate the food in quantities that may be dangerous to health.

- **Beverages** - special requirements relative to the manufacturing process and labelling are in effect for beverages packed in sealed containers and not containing natural fruit juice, beverages consisting entirely or partially of fruit juice and concentrated beverages used for consumption after admixture or dilution.
- **Other Items** - many other items are subject to specific standards or other regulations, including motor vehicles, gunnysacks and bags of jute, tea and coffee, matches, fibres and yarn and poisonous substances.

Import Policy

Thailand has been shifting its trade policy in the direction of greater rationalisation, in order to promote more efficient industrial development, to reduce protectionism and improve the overall tariff structure. Part of Thailand's structural adjustments, includes elimination of the general import duty surcharge. Imports are freely allowed with no

import approval requirement. However, an import licence is required as approval for a small number of items. Generally any importer may be able to import goods if he or she is able to obtain a letter of credit.

Import licences, where required, must be requested from and approved by the Foreign Trade Department, Ministry of Commerce prior to the arrival of the shipment. An issued import licence is usually valid for three months from the date of issuance, unless otherwise specified in the licence.

Quality Standards

Strict regulations are in force concerning food items and medicines. The Ministry of Public Health prescribes standards, qualities, methods of manufacture and labelling requirements for controlled foodstuff and medicine.

The National Standards Organisation of Thailand is the Thai Industrial Standards Institute (TISI), which is under the Ministry of Industry. TISI prepares and publishes industrial standards, grants licences to use the standards marks and promotes the use of standards. When the standard for a product has been made compulsory, both the manufacturer and the importer are required to obtain a licence to manufacture or import such products for sale in Thailand.

The regulations of the Ministry of Industry specifying the required documents and supporting materials must be observed when applying for the licence. After TISI issues a license, the licensee must mark the products with the Standards Mark before the Customs Officer can release the products. The Ministry of Industry may permit marking after release from Customs only under specified conditions.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Tunisia



The following basic regulations are provided to give a general idea of the Tunisian requirements:-

- Some imported goods are subjected to a technical control whose modalities vary according to the lists below:-
 - List A - products are submitted to a systematic control service.
 - List B - products are submitted to a certification regime, in other words for their import, a conformity certificate must be produced to customs services.
 - List C - products are submitted to a conformity control with the conditions defined by the corresponding specifications.

Imports Regulations

With respect to products which benefit from liberalised import regime, importers must produce a domiciled import certificate coupled with a trade invoice. The duration of validity for this certificate is fixed for six months starting from the domiciliation date.

Products excluded from liberalised import regime benefit from a total or partial exemption from imports customs duties, within the framework of tariff agreements and conventions, imports are subjected to a domiciled imports license. Its duration of validity is of 12 months starting from the date of the decision taken on this matter.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Turkey



The product sectors mainly affected by markings and labelling requirements are (a) foodstuffs, (b) ceramics, and (c) pharmaceuticals. The Turkish regulations reflecting the General Labelling requirements are the following:-

- **Law on the Protection of the Consumer** - deals with the need to inform consumers on general labelling, packaging, and pricing requirements.
- **Turkish Standard TS 4331 of April, 1995** - deals with the general principals of labelling and marking for various industrial products and foodstuff.
- **Regulations of Turkish Foodstuffs Codex** - deals with the regulations relating to foodstuffs.

The existence of various regulations, decrees and other documentation makes it difficult to establish a comprehensive list containing the precise labelling and packaging requirements for the various products sectors but, depending on the products, all three labelling regulations need to be met. The following attempts to rationalise the labelling requirements for the above three Turkish regulations:-

Law on the Protection of the Consumer (No. 4077 of 1995)

Provides information on how the requirements of the law should be applied to labels. Article 12 states that labels shall be attached on the packaging or on the lids of the goods. Where this is not possible, lists indicating origin, the quantity and the price of the products shall be made available. The Ministry of Industry & Trade, together with the Turkish Standard Institution identify in Article 14, which goods should be sold with a User's Guide. Imported products should be sold with an approved translation of the original guide.

The Law also states that the TS 4331 regulations are compulsory and should be applied to goods that have been packaged by the manufacturer, wholesaler, importer or salespersons - this means that the requirements of the Law are independent of the TS 4331 requirements, which must be applied in shops in addition to the other requirements for the information of the customer.

Turkish Standard TS 4331 of April, 1995

The regulations requires the following information to appear on the internal and external packaging of all products:-

- ❑ The trading name and address or the registered trademark of the firm (producer, filler or retailer).
- ❑ The name of the material, product and the class, type, variety or form - as indicated in relevant standards.

- ❑ The quantity of the material in number, mass, length, volume or other units.
- ❑ The net quantity of the product should be placed on the package where it can be seen easily.
- ❑ The internal package should have direction for use, cleaning and maintenance, etc.

NOTE: The external package should show the quantity of internal packages contained in it (if more than one).

For foodstuff, the regulations require the following additional information to appear on the internal packaging:-

- ❑ The names of the materials used to make the product.
- ❑ The names of the additives (anti-oxidant, bleaching, colouring, flavouring, ripening, preservative, stabilising, thickening materials, etc.) and their quantities.
- ❑ Product expiry date or date for duration of use (may be given as day, month, year, or only year - depending upon the foodstuff).

The regulation also require the following general requirements to be adhered to for all products:-

- ❑ The nominal packing quantity for products is identified in Annex 1 of the Standards. As an example, sugar and confectionary can be packaged only in the following quantities - 125, 250, 500, 750, 1000, 2500, 3000, 4000, 5000 grams.
- ❑ The capacity of package coverings for some products should be in conformity with the information provided in Annex 2 of the Standards.

Regulations of Turkish Foodstuffs Codex

This regulation is applicable to all foodstuffs sold in Turkey and has the following general labelling requirements:-

- ❑ It is obligatory that the packaging of foodstuffs put on sale must show labels.
- ❑ Label information regard the food content must be full and correct.
- ❑ Information on the label must be in the Turkish language - additional languages can also be used on the label.
- ❑ The colour of the lettering on the label must be in contrast with the background.
- ❑ The label describing the food content must not give false information or be misleading.
- ❑ Including those of specially produced foodstuffs, food packaging must not say that the food prevents illness or has health properties.
- ❑ Specially processed nutrient energy providing foods must include obligatory information about their properties, but providing information on the nutritional value of food is, in general, optional.
- ❑ Energy and fat content reductions must be specified on the label.

The regulations require the following specific information to be included on all foodstuff labels:-

- ❑ Name of the product.
- ❑ Contents and additives.
- ❑ Net volume of product.
- ❑ Name of the manufacturer.
- ❑ Production and processing date, expiry date and shelf life.
- ❑ Batch/party number and/or serial number.
- ❑ Food production/processing licence date and registration number.
- ❑ Country of origin.
- ❑ Instructions and direction for use and/or storage.
- ❑ For imports, the name of the importer and the number and date of import authorisation must be indicated on the label.

General Notes

Currently, only infant formula and food for special medical use should be originally labelled in Turkish at the manufacturer's facilities (including imports). However, according to the Turkish Ministry of Agriculture, stickers can be used for the other food products.

According to the Turkish Undersecretariat for Foreign Trade, labels (stickers or original labels in Turkish) should be affixed before shipment. This obligation appears to be set up in the Law of Production, Consumption & Inspection of Foodstuffs - Law No. 4113 of June 28, 1995, states that:-

"if labelling procedures are not completed within two months after the importing, its sale within the Country is not allowed"

Additional Information for Other Products

Some specific non-food products have additional information requirements which are outlined in the following:-

- ❑ **Ceramics** - Apart from meeting the normal labelling requirements, 'hard porcelain' products must be marked "hard porcelain" on the back of the product. Without such marking, access to the Turkish market can be refused. In addition, a large number of ceramic products are subject to compulsory testing (in Turkey) and certification by the Turkish Standard Institute (TSE) whose 'TSE marque' must also be indicated on the product itself or on its label.
- ❑ **Pharmaceutical Products** - imports of these products is subject to authorisation from the Turkish Ministry of Health. Only those products that cannot be produced in Turkey will be approved. Original labelling is not compulsory and stickers can be utilised. According to Turkish legislation, the product price in Turkey cannot be higher than the price applicable in the country of origin.
- ❑ **Medical Test Equipments** - imports subject to authorisation from the Turkish Ministry of Health. Producer needs to register in Turkey and must re-register

every year. The company's registration number and import authorisation should be printed on the label.

- ❑ **Industrial Products** - according to Turkish Standards, they must bear a label or be TSE marked (depending upon the relevant applicable standards).
- ❑ **Household Products** - all household products entering Turkey must have a warranty certificate. According to Turkish law, after-sales warranty must be at least one year. Additionally, during the registration of the customs declaration, the importer should also present a maintenance certificate issued by the Ministry of Industry, which certifies that the importer has a sufficient maintenance network - according to the law it is compulsory to create 30-50 after-sales maintenance service centres in seven different Turkish regions.
- ❑ **Cosmetics** - imports are subject to authorisation from the Turkish Ministry of Health. The number and date of authorisation as well as the name of the importer should be on the label. For imported products the following information should also be included on the internal and external packaging in accordance with Law No. 3977 of February 23, 1994, and the regulations adopted for its implementation:-
 - The name, trademark or the type of the product, the nature or quality of the products used in the country of origin.
 - The chemical names of all ingredients used in its manufacture - in order of importance, their names CTFA (Cosmetics, Toiletry & Fragrance Association) and INCI (International Nomenclature Cosmetics Ingredients) details. Identifying the colouring materials used in the cosmetics, which can be indicated as "may contain".
 - The name and address of the importer.
 - The net quantity of the product.
 - Date of production and lot or serial number (month, year).
 - Expiry date for the products which cannot be used 30 months after the production date (month, year).
 - Conditions for storage of the products.
 - Instructions for use.
 - Number and date of import permission.
 - The degree of alcohol, if necessary.

NOTE: When the information cannot be included on the packaging due to the small size of the goods, it should be included in the instructions for use in the packaging.

Brief Notes on Labelling, Marking & Packaging Regulations

Country: Yemen



The following are the basic labelling requirements, which are provided to give a general idea of the Yemeni regulations:-

- ❑ The production and expiry dates, in both Arabic and English must be printed clearly on the packaging of all foodstuff or pharmaceutical products imported into Yemen.
- ❑ For all other products, GCC or International Standards apply.
- ❑ Imported beef and poultry products require a health certificate from the UE and a 'halal certificate' issued by an approved Islamic centre in the manufacturer country.

Markings

A mark of origin must appear on any merchandise labelled with English wording that could possibly be considered misleading as to the true origin of the goods.

Packing

Goods should be packed securely to withstand rough handling and pilferage.

Import Restrictions

Import licenses are not required, but the import of pork and pork products, coffee, alcohol, narcotics, fresh fruit and vegetables, weapons and explosives and rhinoceros horn is prohibited.

Health Certificate

A health certificate is required for shipments to Yemen of animal stocks, food and agricultural products.

Free Sale Certificate

Imports of pharmaceuticals require a Free Sale Certificate stating that the commodities in question are in free circulation in the country of export.

Shipping Restrictions

All freight insurance on imports must be placed in Yemen.