



NOTIFICATION

Addendum

The following communication, received on 13 November 2018, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Singapore.

Food Regulations - Ready-to-eat food

Singapore would like to notify WTO Members of the following changes to the proposed measures (previously notified via G/SPS/N/SGP/59)¹, taking into consideration feedback and comments received from stakeholders and interested parties:

1. to delete the existing regulation 35 of the Food Regulations and substitute with the following new regulation 35:
 35 -(1) Ready-to-eat food shall comply with the microbiological standard specified in Parts I and II of the Eleventh Schedule.
 (2) In these Regulations, "ready-to-eat food" means food that is made available for sale for direct human consumption without the need for cooking or any other form of processing to eliminate, or reduce to the standards specified in the Eleventh Schedule, any pathogenic or other micro-organisms of concern in food; and includes concentrated food (e.g. beverages, cup noodles and fruit juice cordials, squashes and syrups) which have to be reconstituted or diluted with fluids before consumption, chilled or frozen cooked products (e.g. chicken wings, pizza and instant meal) which may be re-heated before consumption.
2. to delete the existing Eleventh Schedule and substitute with a new Eleventh Schedule:

ELEVENTH SCHEDULE
MICROBIOLOGICAL STANDARD FOR FOOD

Part I: *Enterobacteriaceae and Escherichia coli*

<i>Type of Food</i>	<i>Enterobacteriaceae count Colony forming unit/ gram (cfu/g)</i>	<i>Escherichia coli count Colony forming unit/ gram (cfu/g)</i>
Milk powder (including full-cream, half cream, skimmed milk and infant formula), buttermilk powder, pasteurized milk and ice cream	<10 ⁴	<10 ²
All other ready-to-eat food	<10 ⁴	<10 ²

¹ On 4 September 2018, the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) of Singapore notified the WTO SPS Committee of its intention to amend the regulations for microbiological standard for food via G/SPS/N/SGP/59. At the close of the notification period, Singapore received a number of comments. The summary of comments received, together with Singapore's response, can be downloaded from the following portal:

<https://www.reach.gov.sg/participate/public-consultation/agrifood-veterinary-authority-of-singapore/regulatory-programmes/proposed-amendments-to-the-food-regulations-regarding-microbiological-standards-for-rte-food>.

Part II: Pathogens

Pathogens	Colony forming unit /gram (cfu/g)
Coagulase-positive <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	<10 ²
<i>Bacillus cereus</i>	<2.0 X 10 ²
<i>Clostridium perfringens</i>	<10 ²
<i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i>	<10 ² in raw ready-to-eat seafood only

Pathogens other than the ones listed in the table above, whether or not commonly associated with the ready-to-eat food, should not be detected in 25 grams of the ready-to-eat food.

This addendum concerns a:

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

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

- Sixty days from the date of circulation of the addendum to the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): 30 days from the date of notification of this addendum.

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

Regulatory Administration Group Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority
52 Jurong Gateway Road #14-01 Singapore 608550
Fax: +(65) 6334 1831
E-mail: WTO_Contact@ava.gov.sg

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

The public consultation document and proposed regulations are being drafted, and will be posted at the following website as soon as they are available: <http://www.ava.gov.sg/legislation> (select "Sale of Food Act").