

22 November 2021

Original: English

(21-8787) Page: 1/3

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

Notifying Member: <u>THE SEPARATE CUSTOMS TERRITORY OF TAIWAN, PENGHU, KINMEN AND MATSU</u>

If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):

2. Agency responsible:

Environmental Protection Administration No. 83, Sec. 1, Zhonghua Rd.

Zhongzheng Dist., Taipei City 100, Taiwan

Tel: +886-2-2370-5888 ext.3313

Fax: +886-2-2370-3846

Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:

- 3. Notified under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [], 5.6.2 [X], 5.7.1 [], other:
- 4. Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): MEAT AND EDIBLE MEAT OFFAL (HS 02); FISH AND CRUSTACEANS, MOLLUSCS AND OTHER AQUATIC INVERTEBRATES (HS 03); DAIRY PRODUCE; BIRDS' EGGS; NATURAL HONEY; EDIBLE PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN, NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED OR INCLUDED (HS 04); EDIBLE VEGETABLES AND CERTAIN ROOTS AND TUBERS (HS 07); EDIBLE FRUIT AND NUTS; PEEL OF CITRUS FRUIT OR MELONS (HS 08); COFFEE, TEA, MATÉ AND SPICES (HS 09); CEREALS (HS 10); PRODUCTS OF THE MILLING INDUSTRY; MALT; STARCHES; INULIN; WHEAT GLUTEN (HS 11); OIL SEEDS AND OLEAGINOUS FRUITS; MISCELLANEOUS GRAINS, SEEDS AND FRUIT; INDUSTRIAL OR MEDICINAL PLANTS; STRAW AND FODDER (HS 12); VEGETABLE PLAITING MATERIALS; VEGETABLE PRODUCTS NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED OR INCLUDED (HS 14); ANIMAL OR VEGETABLE FATS AND OILS AND THEIR CLEAVAGE PRODUCTS; PREPARED EDIBLE FATS; ANIMAL OR VEGETABLE WAXES (HS 15); PREPARATIONS OF MEAT, OF FISH OR OF CRUSTACEANS, MOLLUSCS OR OTHER AQUATIC INVERTEBRATES (HS 16); SUGARS AND SUGAR CONFECTIONERY (HS 17); COCOA AND COCOA PREPARATIONS (HS 18); PREPARATIONS OF CEREALS, FLOUR, STARCH OR MILK; PASTRYCOOKS' PRODUCTS (HS 19); PREPARATIONS OF VEGETABLES, FRUIT, NUTS OR OTHER PARTS OF PLANTS (HS 20); MISCELLANEOUS EDIBLE PREPARATIONS (HS 21); BEVERAGES, SPIRITS AND VINEGAR (HS 22); Salts, incl. table salt and denatured salt, and pure sodium chloride, whether or not in aqueous solution or containing added anti-caking or free-flowing agents; sea water (HS 2501); Medicaments consisting of two or more constituents mixed together for therapeutic or prophylactic uses, not in measured doses or put up for retail sale (excl. goods of heading 3002, 3005 or 3006) (HS 3003); Medicaments consisting of mixed or unmixed products for therapeutic or prophylactic uses, put up in measured doses "incl. those for transdermal administration" or in forms or packings for retail sale (excl. goods of heading 3002, 3005 or 3006) (HS 3004); Pharmaceutical preparations and products of subheadings 3006.10.10 to 3006.60.90 (HS 3006); PLASTICS AND ARTICLES THEREOF (HS 39); Manufacturing processes in the rubber and plastics industries (ICS 83.020), Raw

materials for rubber and plastics in general (ICS 83.040.01), Auxiliary materials and additives for plastics (ICS 83.040.30), Plastics (ICS 83.080), Rubber and plastics products in general (ICS 83.140.01), Other rubber and plastics products (ICS 83.140.99)

- **Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:** Draft for the restriction on the production, importation, and sales of plate packaging materials containing Polyvinylchloride (PVC), designated recyclable containers, and non-plate disposable tableware containers (6 page(s), in English; 3 page(s), in Chinese)
- 6. **Description of content:** Polyvinylchlioride (hereinafter referred to as "PVC") has been widely used and deeply involved in our daily lives for years. PVC products are often added with stabilizers due to the need for heat resistance substances which contain heavy metals that are harmful to human health. PVC materials are not resistant to oil-soluble corrosion; therefore, it is possible to have plasticizer contamination in our foods, resulting in environmental hormone effects and carcinogenic risk due to the exposure to PVC. Furthermore, the combustion of PVC generates not only dioxin but also lead, cadmium, and other heavy metals originated from the stabilizers in PVC. The generated dioxin and heavy metals are discharged from the incinerator chimney into the atmosphere. Furthermore, large amounts of which remains in the ash and slag inside the incinerator. Further risks to the environment are followed by the burial and reusing process of the ash and slag, which causes the pollution to be distributed in the environment.

Considering the fact that Dioxin is very difficult to decompose in natural environment, negative impacts of dioxin on human health and the environment will become significant once it has entered the food chain. In order to protect the health of the citizens and environment, the Environmental Protection Administration (EPA) guides the industry to switch to other alternative materials to reduce the use of products containing PVC by the consumers. "The restriction on the production, importation, and sales of plate packaging materials containing Polyvinylchloride (PVC), designated recyclable containers, and non-plate disposable tableware containers" was drafted in accordance with Article 21 of the Waste Disposal Act and it is outlined as follows:

- 1. Terminology in this announcement.
- 2. The restricted subjects of this announcement are limited to those who use plate packaging materials containing Polyvinylchloride (PVC), announced recyclable containers, and non-plate disposable tableware containers.
- 3. The restriction approaches and exclusions of this announcement.
- 4. The recognition methods of the timing of production and importation.
- **7. Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable:** ; Protection of human health or safety; Protection of the environment
- 8. Relevant documents:

Waste Disposal Act

9. Proposed date of adoption: To be determined

Proposed date of entry into force: To be determined

10. Final date for comments: 60 days from notification

11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:

WTO/TBT Enquiry Point Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection Ministry of Economic Affairs No. 4, Sec. 1, Jinan Rd., Zhongzheng Dist.

Taipei City 100, Taiwan Tel: +(886 2) 3343-5140 Fax: +(886 2) 2343-1804 E-mail: tbtenq@bsmi.gov.tw

https://gazette.nat.gov.tw/egFront/detail.do?metaid=128154&log=detailLog https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2021/TBT/TPKM/21 7253 00 e.pdf https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2021/TBT/TPKM/21 7253 00 x.pdf