NOTIFICATION

Addendum

The following communication, dated 13 November 2018, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Singapore.

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Singapore would like to notify WTO Members of the following changes to the proposed measures (previously notified via G/TBT/N/SGP/39)[[1]](#footnote-1), taking into consideration feedback and comments received from stakeholders and interested parties:

* 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.

* 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*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Type of Food* | *Enterobacteriaceae count*  *Colony forming unit/ gram*  *(cfu/g)* | *Escherichia coli count*  *Colony forming unit/ gram*  *(cfu/g)* |
| Milk powder (including full-cream, half cream, skimmed milk and infant formula), buttermilk powder, pasteurized milk and ice cream | <104 | *<*102 |
| All other ready-to-eat food | <104 | *<*102 |

Part II: Pathogens

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Pathogens | *Colony forming unit/gram*  *(cfu/g)* |
| Coagulase-positive *Staphylococcus aureus* | <102 |
| *Bacillus cereus* | <2.0 X 102 |
| *Clostridium perfringens* | <102 |
| *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* | *<*102 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.

The comment period on this measure will be 30 days from the date of notification of this Addendum.

The name and address of the authority handling comments is as follows:

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](mailto:WTO_Contact@ava.gov.sg)

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")

*(The above amendment is also notified via SPS notification)*

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1. On 4 September 2018, the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) of Singapore notified the WTO TBT Committee of its intention to amend the regulations for microbiological standard for food via G/TBT/N/SGP/39. 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>](file:///C:\Users\rambla\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\ERKTKU5R\%3ca%20class='document-link'%20target='_blank'%20href='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'%3ehttps:\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%3c\a%3e) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)