

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/CRI/34
21 July 2004

(04-3142)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: Spanish

NOTIFICATION

1. Member to Agreement notifying: <u>REPUBLIC OF COSTA RICA</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2. Agency responsible: Ministry of the Economy, Industry and Trade (MEIC) Technical Regulation Body Tel.: (506) 297-1439 and 235-2700, ext. 265 E-mail: crotc@meic.go.cr Web site: www.meic.go.cr
3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Canned tuna (HS tariff item No. 1604.14.90.10)
4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: All parties trading this product with Costa Rica.
5. Title, language and number of pages of the notified document: Costa Rican Technical Regulation No. 385:2004 on Canned Tuna (14 pages, in Spanish).
6. Description of content: This Technical Regulation establishes the quality, packaging and labelling requirements for canned tuna and bonito for human consumption. It does not apply to mixed products where the fish content constitutes less than 50 per cent of drained weight.
7. Objective and rationale: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests
8. International standard, guideline or recommendation: <input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission, <input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), <input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention, <input type="checkbox"/> None If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations:
9. Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: Food Health Regulations, Ministry of Health, Legal Advisory Department, Republic of Chile, Decree No. 977/97, updated on 30 July 2000; Costa Rican Technical Regulation (RTCR) No. 135:2002, "Reglamento Técnico para el Etiquetado Nutricional de los Alimentos Preenvasados" (Technical Regulation on the nutritional labelling of pre-packaged food), Costa Rica, 2002, approved by Executive Decree No. 30256-MEIC-S, published in <i>La Gaceta</i> (Official Journal) on 15 April 2002; Costa Rican Technical Regulation (RTCR) No. 100:1997, "Etiquetado de los Alimentos Preenvasados" (Labelling of pre-packaged foods), published in <i>La Gaceta</i> No. 91 of

9.	<p>Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: (cont'd)</p> <p>14 May 1997, Costa Rica, 1997, approved by Executive Decree No. 26012-MEIC;</p> <p>Amendment to Executive Decree No. 26012-MEIC, Costa Rica, 1998, approved by Executive Decree No. 26829-MEIC, published in <i>La Gaceta</i> No. 74 of 17 April 1997;</p> <p>"Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP)", Costa Rica, 1998, approved by Executive Decree No. 26559-MAG-S, published in <i>La Gaceta</i> No. 13 of 20 January 1998;</p> <p>Costa Rican Standard (NCR) No. 148:1993, "Metrología: Contenido Neto de Preempacados" (Metrology: net contents of pre-packaged goods), Costa Rica, 1993, approved by Executive Decree No. 22268-MEIC, published in <i>La Gaceta</i> on 13 July 1993;</p> <p>Amendment to Executive Decree No. 22268-MEIC, Costa Rica, 1997, approved by Executive Decree No. 26480-MEIC, published in <i>La Gaceta</i> No. 232 on 2 December 1997;</p> <p>"Reglamento de Inspección Veterinaria de Productos Pesqueros" (Regulation governing the veterinary inspection of fisheries products), Costa Rica, 1988, approved by Executive Decree No. 18696-MAG-S, published in <i>La Gaceta</i> on 16 December 1988;</p> <p>"Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes", Mil-Std 105E, Department of Defense, United States of America, 1989;</p> <p>Commission Regulation (EC) No 466/2001 of 8 March 2001 setting maximum levels for certain contaminants in foodstuffs, European Union, 2001;</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) No 104/2000 of 17 December 1999 on the common organization of the markets in fishery and aquaculture products, European Union, 2000;</p> <p>"Recommended International Code of Practice: General Principles of Food Hygiene", CAC/RCP 1-1969, Rev. 3, 1997, amended in 1999, Food and Agriculture Organization/World Health Organization (FAO/WHO), Italy, 1969;</p> <p>"Codex Guidelines for the Sensory Evaluation of Fish and Shellfish in Laboratories", CAC/GL 31-1999, FAO/WHO, Italy, 1999;</p> <p>"Recommended International Code of Hygienic Practice for Low-Acid and Acidified Low-Acid Canned Foods", CAC/RCP 23-197, Rev. 2, 1993, FAO/WHO, Italy, 1979;</p> <p>"Recommended International Code of Practice for Canned Fish", CAC/RCP 10-1976, FAO/WHO, Italy, 1976;</p> <p>"Codex Alimentarius Sampling Plans for Prepackaged Foods" (AQL 6.5), CODEX STAN 233-1969, FAO/WHO, Italy, 1969.</p>
10.	<p>Proposed date of adoption: To be determined</p>
11.	<p>Proposed date of entry into force: Upon publication in the Official Journal, <i>La Gaceta</i>. A nine-month period is provided for product labelling to be brought into compliance with the provisions of point 6 of this Regulation.</p>
12.	<p>Final date for comments: 60 days as of the date of notification.</p> <p>Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:</p>

13. Texts available from: [X] National notification authority, [X] National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:

Centro de Información de Obstáculos Técnicos al Comercio
Ministerio de Economía, Industria y Comercio - MEIC
Apartado Postal 10216-1000
Tel.: (506) 297-1439
Fax: (506) 297-1439
E-mail: crotc@meic.go.cr
Web site: www.meic.go.cr