

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Number: CO2023-0030

Report Name: Colombia Amends Sodium Regulation to Allow for Self-Declarations of Conformity

Country: Colombia

Post: Bogota

Report Category: FAIRS Subject Report, Export Accomplishments - Other

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Report Highlights:

On December 6, 2023, the Ministry of Health of Colombia issued Resolution 2056, by which it amended Colombian Resolution 2013 of 2020 (known as the “sodium rule”). This amendment allows for U.S. exporters to utilize self-declarations to certify compliance with maximum sodium levels in processed products. The amendment came after a short period where third-party certifications issued by accredited bodies became mandatory to certify compliance of processed products with the sodium regulation. Resolution 2056 also excludes food service and inputs used as raw materials for food industry from Resolution 2013 of 2020.

Colombia Releases Amendment to Sodium Regulation (Resolution 2013 of 2020)

On December 6, 2023, Colombia's Ministry of Health amended [Resolution 2013 of 2020](#) to allow suppliers to utilize self-declaration to certify compliance with maximum sodium levels in processed products listed in Resolution 2013, such as sausages, ham, cheese, and sauces, among others. Before this amendment, supplier self-declarations were permitted until July 13, 2023, when third-party certifications issued by the bodies accredited by Colombia became mandatory (GAIN report [CO2023-0017](#)). The amendment to allow first-party declarations, which came after lengthy engagement between the U.S. government and Colombia, will help facilitate the trade of processed products to Colombia, a market valued at more than \$500 million annually for U.S. exports.

The amendment to Resolution 2013 was made through [Resolution 2056 of 2023](#) (see English translation below under "Attachments"), which changes third-party certifications to voluntary. First-party declarations may be issued by the supplier (supplier self-declaration), marketer or importer, and they presume that the declarant has carried out all the lab testing and product inspections to certify its compliance with the maximum sodium levels according to Resolution 2013, and in conformity with technical rule [NTC-ISO/IEC 17050](#). For more information, refer to GAIN report [CO2020-0045](#) and [CO 2022-0007](#). U.S. companies that want to certify their products through a third-party mechanism, instead of first-party declaration, may still do so through hiring third-party certifiers. See GAIN report [CO2023-0017](#) for more information on this process.

Finally, processed products destined exclusively as raw materials for the food industry and food service are also excluded from the mandatory maximum sodium levels by the resolution. Resolution 2056 of 2023 officially entered into force through publication in Colombia's official Gazette, which happened on December 12, 2023 ([Gazette 52.607](#)).

Disclaimer: The Foreign Agricultural Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture contracted a third-party to translate Resolution 2056 of 2023 to English.

Attachments:

[RESOLUCION 2056 OF 2023.pdf](#)