

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: May 19, 2022

Report Number: CO2022-0008

Report Name: Update on Colombia Nutrition and Front-of Pack Labeling Requirements Resolution 810 of 2021 for Packaged Foods

Country: Colombia

Post: Bogota

Report Category: FAIRS Subject Report

Prepared By: FAS Bogota Staff

Approved By: Abigail Mackey

Report Highlights:

Resolution 810 of 2021, issued by Colombia's Ministry of Health and Social Protection (MINHEALTH), is set to go into effect on December 16, 2022. Resolution 810 establishes the technical regulations of the nutrition and front-of-pack labeling requirements for packaged food for human consumption in Colombia. This report provides updates to technical parameters of the resolution, which were delivered during a MINHEALTH-organized webinar on April 22, 2022.

Executive Summary:

Colombia is actively re-assessing its nutritional regulatory framework and associated policies. Colombia is evaluating a variety of measures intended to promote healthy eating patterns, including mandatory nutritional and front-of-pack labeling (FOPL). These efforts, supported by local public health advocacy groups, are viewed as a response to the World Health Organization's global initiative to reduce noncommunicable diseases. Colombia's MINHEALTH issued Resolution No. 810 of 2021 on June 16, 2021, establishing the technical regulation on the nutrition and FOPL requirements for packaged food for human consumption to support Colombia's public health objective of reducing diet-related noncommunicable diseases. The measure revises existing labeling requirements including warning elements such as symbols, as well as nutritional facts panel information and format. On April 22, 2022, MINHEALTH provided a webinar to answer questions on Resolution 810 and share further guidance on implementation. For the full text of Resolution 810, please see [GAIN Report CO 2022-0009](#).

On July 30, 2021, Colombian Congress enacted [Law 2120 of 2021](#), widely known in the country as the "Junk Food" bill, which includes provisions related to public education on healthy living, non-communicable disease prevention, and advertising of food and beverage products to children. This new legislation is expected to lead to further changes to Colombia's labeling requirements for food products in Colombia and Resolution 810. MINHEALTH and other relevant government bodies are currently working on the implementation of Law 2120.

Goal of Resolution 810:

The goal of Resolution 810 is to require FOPL circular warning signs for products that exceed Colombia's specified thresholds for salt/sodium, added sugar, and saturated fats to allow for consumers to make informed decisions. The measure also includes provisions related to fortification, nutrient content claims, nutrient comparative claims, and nutrition labeling requirements.

Implementation Period:

Resolution 810 is set to go into effect on December 16, 2022, 18 months after the issuance of the regulation. By this date, local producers and importers will be required to remove non-compliant products from the market.

Key Takeaways from the April 22 MINHEALTH Webinar:

- FOPL highlights:
 - ✓ Circular FOPL warning labels are required for products that exceed Colombia's specified thresholds for sodium, added sugar, and saturated fat. The three warning signs must be included on the front of the package to state that the product is "**High in Sugars**," "**High in Salt/Sodium**," or "**High in Saturated Fat**." See images below.



- ✓ A voluntary new symbol of approval (POSITIVE CHECK) may be added to the product's label if the packaged food does not exceed the maximum thresholds for sodium, added sugar, and saturated fat specified under Article 33 (see attachment).



- ✓ Adhesives (stickers) are allowed to be used for the FOPL if they meet the characteristics, size, and location requirements defined. The adhesive must be securely fixed to guarantee that it does not come off the product until the moment of its commercialization.
- Nutritional labeling requirement highlights:
 - ✓ Imported products may use the complementary label in Spanish to meet the requirements. Labels may be fixed before or after nationalization but must be added before commercialization.
 - ✓ Nutrient values should be listed on the nutritional facts panel per 100 g or 100 ml, if solid or liquid, and per portion.
 - ✓ The size of the nutritional fact panel should be at least 25 percent of the package.
 - ✓ The serving size per container should be placed on the front panel.
- Exemptions from nutritional and FOPL include some of the products below as per Chapter 1, Article 2 (see attachment):
 - ✓ Infant formula for children between 0 and 6 months
 - ✓ Infant formula for children between 6 and 12 months
 - ✓ Special infant formula
 - ✓ Bulk foods
 - ✓ Food used as raw material for industry and secondary ingredients that are not sold directly to the consumer

Attachments:

[Resolution-810-of-2021 \(English\) FINAL.pdf](#)