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**Report Highlights:**

This report is an annual update of Senegal's food and feed regulations and governmental regulatory bodies and enforcement mechanisms. It provides information and guidance on import requirements, procedures, and documentation. In 2022, the Senegalese Standards Association (ASN) that develops and approves quality and food safety standards issued 18 new standards related to food additives, food safety, and frozen potato fries.

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Disclaimer: This report was prepared by the U.S. Embassy Dakar’s Office of Agricultural Affairs (OAA), for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care has been taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped. **FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCTS IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY’S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.**

## Executive Summary:

Senegal is one of the strongest economies in West Africa, with an annual gross domestic product (GDP) growth rate of 4.7 percent in 2022. However, the country suffered from the COVID–19 pandemic and the GDP decreased to 1.3 percent in 2020. According to the African Development Bank (ADB), this drop is due a slowdown in tourism (–17.0 percent), transport (–8.8 percent), and trade (–0.6 percent), and a decline in investment and external demand. The IMF Annual Review forecasts Senegal’s economic growth up 8.1 percent in 2023, and 10.4 percent in 2024.

For calendar year (CY) 2022, Senegal imported \$9.7 million of food and agricultural products from the United States. The top U.S. exported products to Senegal are food preparations (27 percent), vegetable oils -excl. soybean (14 percent), condiments and sauces (7 percent) and beverages (5 percent). Population growth, urbanization, and evolving diets have led to increased and diversified food imports. Although representing a small segment of the total population, a growing middle and upper-class consumer base is slowly changing its buying habits and food preferences, which may lend opportunity for export market sales of U.S. foods.

In 2022, ASN issued 18 new standards. Most standards are related to conserved and frozen potatoes, chopped meat, food additives in dairy, fat and oils, Salts, spices, soups, sauces, salads, protein-based products, and beverages. For additional information, you may contact the Senegalese Standards Association – (ASN)- See contact in Appendix I.

This report serves as an overview to assist U.S. exporters interested in the Senegalese market. It is an annual update of Senegal’s food and feed regulations and governmental regulatory bodies and enforcement mechanisms. It provides information and guidance on import requirements, procedures, and documentation.

## Section I. Food Laws

Senegal’s food safety law is [Law 66-48](#) of May 1966. The food safety law is supplemented by decrees issued by ministerial authorities. The decrees in effect provide greater detail on how to implement the food safety law, and include the following:

- [Decree 68-507](#) regulates the trade and production of processed food or feed.
- [Decree 68-508](#) determines procedures for inspections, sampling, risk assessments, seizures, and fraud prevention.
- [Decree 60-121](#) regulates the trade of plants and forestry products.
- [Decree 99-259](#) specifies what ministries have the authority to develop and execute quality and safety regulations for fruits and vegetables and other plant products.
- [Decree 69-891](#) regulates the quality of milk and other dairy products.
- [Decree 89-543](#) regulates the food safety of meat products and byproducts.
- [Decree 69-132](#) regulates the trade or transportation of fish and seafood products.
- [Decree 2009-872](#) mandates that wheat flour and vegetable oil must be fortified with micronutrients (iron and folic acid for wheat flour and vitamin A for vegetable oil).

## A. Food Safety Regulatory Bodies

Senegal's National Codex Committee focal point (based in the Ministry of Health and Social Action (MHSA)) is responsible for representing Senegal at Codex meetings. The focal point also advises and informs government and private sector interest groups on Codex food safety guidelines and their applications, as well as initiates and oversees research and surveys on various food safety issues and standards. The National Codex Committee includes representatives from the Ministries of Agriculture and Rural Development, Livestock and Animal Production, Environment and Sustainable Development, Fisheries and Maritime Affairs, and Commerce, the *Association Sénégalaise de Normalisation* (Senegalese Standards Association [ASN]), and several research institutions such as the Food Technology Institute (ITA), university scientists, the private sector, and professional and consumer organizations. The ASN develops and approves quality and food safety standards and is led by a Board of Directors (10 members) which include six private sector representatives from the Association of Consumers, Chamber of Commerce, the Association of Architects, Employer Associations; and four government officials from the General Secretary of the Presidency and the Ministries of Finance, Commerce, and Industry. The Board of Directors normally meets annually to review and approve quality and food safety standards created by ASN technical units. The ASN also raises public awareness and trains the private sector, consumers, and government officials on ASN standards.

To initiate the development of a quality or food safety standard, the Ministries of Commerce, Livestock and Animal Production, Agriculture and Rural Development, Fisheries and Maritime Affairs, or any stakeholder request an ASN technical unit to develop a standard for the respective food or agricultural product under their jurisdiction. This draft standard may reference international guidelines such as Codex. However, the technical units may also develop standards based on Senegal's own risk assessments. After the ASN technical unit drafts the standard, it is sent to an ASN-led committee constituted by government officials, (which could include experts from various ministries such as Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, or Commerce) the private sector, universities, researchers, other institutions, and a National Codex focal point representative for recommended approval and accreditation. Then ASN conducts a public survey on the draft at the national and international level and the results are reviewed by the led committee before the standard is submitted to the Board of Directors for final approval. However, even if approved by the Board of Directors, the standard will remain "recommended" and unenforceable unless a Ministry issues a decree, which would render it obligatory. Since 2020, ASN passed an additional seven standards related to bakery breads, infant flour, practical guide for the production of infant flours, guide to good hygiene practices in markets and three standards on sustainable cocoa (Requirements for Management Systems of Cocoa Producers as Entities / Producer Groups / Producer Cooperatives and Performance, Requirements for Cocoa Quality and Traceability, and Requirements for Cocoa Certification Systems). Currently, nine ASN standards for food and agricultural products are obligatory (please see Section VII for the full list).

Risk assessments referenced for the development of ASN standards are conducted by the Ministry of Health and Social Action. Other government and private entities involved in risk assessments include the Veterinary and Animal Health National Laboratory of the Senegalese Agricultural Research Institute (ISRA), the Food Technology Institute (ITA), and the Pasteur Institute.

Depending on the food, feed, or agricultural product, different ministries oversee quality and sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures at the border (air, land, and water), including sampling and testing. For example, the Ministry of Commerce ensures that imported processed foods and feed (excludes processed fish and seafood products which is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Fisheries) meet Senegalese food safety standards. The Ministry of Livestock and Animal Production oversees meat and poultry, live animals, feed products, and milk and dairy products, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development controls live plants and seeds, media, and bulk commodities such as wheat. The Ministry of Fisheries and Maritime Affairs has jurisdiction over fish and seafood products.

In November 2017, the Ministry of Health led the development of the National Food Safety Strategy (NFSS) that aims to strengthen Senegal's food safety system by preventing and reducing foodborne diseases by 2035. In 2019, the Government of Senegal approved the NFSS and the national security emergency response plan for food sanitation (PNRUSSA). The NFSS focuses on risk assessment, risk management, and risk communication, and suggests the formation of a centralized food safety authority. It also focuses on various sectors such as rice, fruits and vegetables, foods of animal origin (poultry meat, milk and dairy products, and red meat), and refined vegetable oil. The PNRUSSA is an intervention plan to document and plan the actions to be carried out in a food safety emergency. It provides coordinated and timely responses to limit the risk of the spread of food-borne illnesses and protect the health of consumers.

Established in 2002, the National Committee for International Trade Negotiations (CNNCI) works on trade issues at the bilateral, regional, and multilateral level (such as trade agreements, or other issues or disputes). The CNNCI is chaired by the Minister of Commerce (the Directorate of Foreign Trade is the Executive Secretary) and includes membership from government ministries, the private sector, and consumer associations. The CNNCI has six subcommittees including: a) trade in food and agricultural products; b) trade in goods; c) trade in services; d) trade and the environment; e) trade and investment and development; and f) intellectual property rights that affect trade.

For World Trade Organization issues, the Ministry of Commerce's Director of External Trade is the National Notification Authority, and the Ministry of Agriculture's Directorate of Plant Protection is the SPS Enquiry Point. For Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) issues, ASN is the TBT Enquiry Point.

## **Section II. Labeling Requirements**

### **A. General Requirements**

NS ECOSTAND 050 (obligatory) requires certain labeling requirements based on the Codex General Standard for Labeling of Prepackaged Foods (Codex Stan 1-1985-Rev.1-1991). It applies to all prepackaged foods for wholesale, retail, catering, and sample purposes unless otherwise noted by Codex.

These products must have French labeling with the following information:

- Name and address of manufacturer or its local distributor or importer,
- Food name, list of ingredients, product designation, net contents and drained weight (must use the metric system), batch identification,
- Country of origin,

- Instructions for use,
- Manufacturing date specifying day, month, and year (DD/MM/YY),
- The expiration date should be marked in the same manner as the date of manufacturing. This should be preceded by an ingredient list and a “Best Before” notice: “*A consumer de preference avant le DD/MM/YY.*”
- If a food product is irradiated, this should be mentioned next to the product name, including the percentage and list of ingredients, as well as the weight or volume.

According to NS ECOSTAND 050, food names must conform with names determined by Codex; otherwise, Senegalese legislation that stipulates the use of certain food names must be used. If no guidance exists, a usual or common name or descriptive term can be used. The label must also include a complete list of ingredients in descending order according to weight. Certain foods must be declared in the ingredients list because they may contain potential allergens such as cereals, eggs, fish, shellfish, oilseeds, milk and dairy products, nuts, and sulfite (concentration of 10 mg per kg or more). Labels must be secure on food packaging; moreover, labels must be easily readable. If the original label is not in French, labels in French can be applied on food packaging before export or at the port. For more details, please see NS ECOSTAND 050, which must be obtained in hard copy form from ASN.

Regarding foods destined for animal consumption, the label should include a list of ingredients, guaranteed levels of protein, fat and cellulose matter, vitamins, and minerals, as well as instructions for use.

The U.S. nutritional fact panel is acceptable and should be in French.

Health claims are not allowed on food products. In addition, claims that suggests or imply that a food has a health benefit due to its origin, nutritional properties, nature, composition, or any other quality is not permitted.

References or allusions by words, pictures, or any other way from one food product to another related but different product is not permitted.

For food that contains a large quantity of food additives or sufficient to have a technologic function following the use of raw material in that food should be declared in the list of ingredients. Lower quantity of food additives does not need to be declared in the list of ingredients.

## B. Other Specific Labeling Requirements

ASN has developed recommended labeling standards for other food products. NS 03-001 recommends (not obligatory) milk powder labels specify whether the product is “whole milk powder,” “partially creamed milk powder,” or “creamed milk powder.” If sugar is added to the product, the word “sweet” can be placed right next to the product name. When unpasteurized milk is not cow milk, the animal species can be specified following the product name. This also applies to plant protein milk powder.

Other recommended descriptions include the following: name, status, brand, and address of the manufacturer or importer, net weight (references the International System of Units), date of

manufacture, lot number, quantity of water, fat, and sugar, presence of emulsifiers, and directions for the direct consumption of milk powder.

NS 03-021 recommends (not obligatory) labels for processed dairy products and pasteurized fluid milk indicate the expiration date and storage temperature or the statement “Keep Cold.” For example, the labels for pasteurized milk can note that storage temperature ranges from 0 to +10 degrees Celsius.

NS 03-044 recommends (not obligatory) labels for pasteurized butter indicate the packaging date, and the words “half salted” or “salted” near the brand name. Labels for refrigerated butter can note that the product can be stored for no more than three weeks at temperatures ranging from 0 to +6 degrees Celsius, and frozen pasteurized butter for no more than six months at temperatures equal to or less than 14 degrees Celsius.

NS 03-006 recommends (not obligatory) labels for poultry meat and other meat products indicate freezing or deep-freezing dates. Labels of whole, half, or quarter beef products can indicate whether the product is frozen, de-frosted from a previously frozen state, or sliced and processed. If the product is not intended for direct retail sale, it can be labeled with the processing date. If the product is for direct retail sale, it can be labeled with the net weight and expiration date. Uncooked poultry meat has not been eligible for import since 2005. There is no specific requirement for plant-based meat.

An obligatory ASN standard (NS 03-146) for bouillon was approved in 2015, which also includes labelling requirements.

Although not obligatory, dried legumes labels can indicate the name of the products or commercial variety.

Although not obligatory, corn products can be labeled as follows: “*maïs*” for corn, “*maïs doux*” for sweet corn, and “*farine de maïs*” for corn flour. In addition, sweet corn grain can be homogenous and of the same origin, variety, and quality.

Although not obligatory, fermented milk and dairy products can follow the labelling requirement of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) 1036-2016 standards.

The 2022 Biosafety Law states that any genetically engineered (GE) and/or derived product intended for deliberate release/including placing on the market must be clearly identified and labeled in an indelible and tamper-proof manner. It should be printed in a font large enough to be easily distinguished and read, and the following must appear on the label:

- "Product containing GMOs" if the presence of GE product is proven.
- "Product that may contain GMOs" if the presence of GE product cannot be excluded even if it is not demonstrated.
- “Product that may cause... (specifying the particular reactions, allergies or other side effects) when it is known that a particular reaction, allergy or other side effect may be caused by the product.

In addition, the labeling should mention the specific characteristic of each GE and/or its derived products.

### **Section III. Packaging and Container Regulations**

There is no obligatory packaging and container regulation for food products including sustainability measures. However, ASN recommends (not obligatory) that food products exported to Senegal be packed with materials resistant to tropical weather (heat and high moisture) and strong enough to withstand poor handling. Thin cardboard or plywood materials are not recommended. In general, packages should be sturdy and, depending on the type of product, banded on the outside with steel strapping. In addition, ASN recommends that packaging materials should be safe and suitable for intended use and not diffuse any toxic substances or undesirable odors or flavors. Bags must be clean, sturdy, and strongly sewn or sealed.

NS 03-001 recommends (not obligatory) that foods such as milk powder have certain packaging requirements and preserve hygienic and organoleptic qualities. More specifically, milk powder packaging is suggested to have multiwall paper bags (five layers); one layer can be reinforced by a 0.1 mm of polyethylene, tinned white iron, or aluminum reinforced by polyethylene.

NS 03-021 recommends (not obligatory) that pasteurized fluid milk be packaged in one-liter, half-liter, or quarter-liter containers.

NS 03-044 recommends (not obligatory) that pasteurized butter be mechanically packed in boxes, cardboard boxes covered with paraffin, or wrapped with a polyethylene film and sealed cardboard.

NS ECOSTAND 047 (obligatory) requires that wheat shipped in bulk be packaged to preserve hygienic and organoleptic qualities.

Other specific standards exist for the packaging of various food and agricultural products and are made available to the public through the ASN. It is strongly recommended to contact ASN before shipping food products to Senegal.

Senegalese [law No. 2015-09 of May 4, 2015](#) on the prohibition of the production, importation, possession, distribution, use of low-micron plastic bags and the rational management of plastic waste prohibit the production, importation, holding for sale, offering for sale, sale, making available to the user, use, in any form whatsoever, of single-use plastic products or disposable plastic products. Single-use plastic products or disposable plastic products are the products made or manufactured from the following plastic materials: tumblers, glasses and glass lids; cutlery and plates; drinking straws and stir sticks; bag intended and used to condition water or any other beverage, alcoholic or not, for marketing purposes.

For municipal waste disposal and recycling regulations, please visit Senegalese [law No. 2015-09 of May 4, 2015](#).

## **Section IV. Food Additive Regulations**

The [ASN](#) has issued standards for cooking salt (NS 03-017) and iodine content in cooking salt (NS 03038) that are not obligatory; however, the standard for iodized cooking salt (NS ECOSTAND 048) is obligatory.

Adding iodine to salt has been compulsory in Senegal since December 2000 (Decree 2000-1154 of December 29, 2000). Other obligatory standards require the addition of vitamins or minerals in food products, such as iron and folic acid in wheat flour (Please see NS ECOSTAND 047) and Vitamin A in vegetable oil (Please see NS ECOSTAND 008).

For food additives that do not have an ASN standard, Senegal references standards applied by the exporting country or the Codex General Standards for Food Additives (192-1995).

## **Section V. Pesticide and Other Contaminants**

Senegal applies control measures adopted through the Phytosanitary Convention for Africa and the Sahelian Pesticides Committee, which is a part of the Permanent Intestate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel. For more information on authorized pesticides, please visit the [committee's website](#). Senegal also applies recommended Codex guidelines concerning maximum residue levels for pesticides or veterinary drugs. Products that are quarantined for testing are stored in areas approved by the Inter-African Phytosanitary Council. The sale or distribution of agro-pharmaceutical products that have not been approved by the Government of Senegal (e.g., Agricultural Services or Animal Health Services) is prohibited. Pesticides sold in Senegal must be registered and approved by the Directorate of Plant Protection in the Ministry of Agriculture, which maintains a list of approved, restricted, and banned pesticides. In December 2019, ASN issued a standard on Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) of pesticides. This standard (NS 03-0171) is recommended but not obligatory.

## **Section VI. Other Requirements, Regulations, and Registration Measures**

The Government of Senegal requires import certificates or other certification/accreditation for imported processed food, animal products, live animals, plants and plant products, fish and seafood products, and feed. Food and agricultural products that enter Senegal's market are subject to inspections performed by the relevant ministry (Please see Section I to understand ministry responsibilities). Please see the latest [FAIRS Export Certificate Report](#) for more information.

All imports of plants, plant parts, seeds, soils, manures, composts, and all packaging used to transport such products must be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate issued by the competent authorities of the country of origin. This certificate should attest that the products are free of any and all parasites. Phytosanitary border inspectors ensure the phytosanitary control of imported products and materials. The phytosanitary certificate accompanying the imported products and materials are subject to the approval of these inspectors, who may perform as many checks as they deem necessary. These provisions do not apply to fresh vegetables and fruits intended for consumption, except for those listed in Decree 60-121. Phytosanitary control measures adopted by Senegal should conform to measures promulgated through the Phytosanitary Convention for Africa. For more information on Decree 60-121, please see the GAIN report [here](#).

Senegal does not require a Certificate of Free Sale but accepts U.S. state-issued export certificates. All relevant certificates must be from a competent authority. Senegal does not waive export certificates.

Regarding the approval process, which currently follows the 2022 Biosafety Law, all activity linked to GE or derived products is subject to a prior approval of the competent authority. For more information, please see the latest [Agricultural Biotechnology Annual Report](#).

Since 2005, Senegal banned the importation of live poultry including chick flesh, and eggs (tariff position 01-05), uncooked poultry meat and poultry cuts (tariff position 02-07) including fresh egg and egg products intended for consumption (tariff 04-07 and 04-08). Until Senegal lifts the ban, no uncooked poultry meat can be exported to Senegal, though processed poultry products are eligible for export. Only old day chicks for breeding and eggs for hatching along with health certificate and certificate of origin can be imported.

Senegal does not require facility or product registration prior to export. It is important to note that all products should be legally in sale in their country of origin.

## **Section VII. Other Specific Standards**

Other ASN standards that are applicable to various agricultural foods and feed products are listed below, but not all are obligatory. The list includes standards covering a plethora of issues such as packaging, vitamin-enrichment, and other issues. For known ASN standards that are obligatory, these are specifically indicated below in red. However, because ASN standards can change (including those that are obligatory), it is strongly recommended to inquire with ASN, the Ministry of Health, or other relevant ministries before shipping any agricultural products or foods to Senegal. Detailed information and guidance on ASN standards and their applications can be provided by ASN upon request.

### **A- Vitamin- and mineral-enrichment requirements**

- NS ECOSTAND 008 on enriched vitamin A vegetable oil with a specific name (cottonseed oil, palm oil, peanut oil, sesame seed oil, sunflower oil, colza oil, corn oil, and soybean oil) – **Obligatory**
- NS ECOSTAND 047 on wheat flour enriched in iron and vitamin B9 (revised in November 2013) – **Obligatory**
- NS ECOSTAND 048:2015 on specifications for iodized food salt – **Obligatory**

According to obligatory standard NS ECOSTAND 008, the content of vitamin A should range from 11 to 24 mg per kg of soybean oil for retail.

### **B- Other Standards**

- NS 03-005 on meat transportation - **Obligatory**
- NS03-00026 (rev1) specifications for condensed milks (revised in February 2019)
- NS 03-001 on milk powder (revised in November 2013)
- NS03-00152 specifications on sweetened condensed milks
- NS03-00153 specifications on blends of condensed skimmed milk and vegetable fat

- NS03-00154 specifications on blends of sweetened condensed skimmed milk and vegetable fat
- NS 03-0038 on method of determining levels of iodine in salt using potassium iodate
- NS 03-0039 on method of determining levels of iodine in salt using iodide potassium
- NS 03-006 on meat conservation through freezing
- NS 03-010 on animal feed nutritional requirements
- NS 03-014 on poultry and rabbit meat preparations and trading requirements
- NS 03-0146 on bouillon - **Obligatory**
- NS ECOSTAND 001:2013 on parboiled or milled rice - **Obligatory**
- NS 03-030 specifications for meat and sausage products
- NS ECOSTAND 011 on concentrated tomato paste - **Obligatory**
- NS 03-040 on vinegar - **Obligatory**
- NS 03-060 on refined vegetable oil
- NS ECOSTAND 050 on labelling of prepackaged foods - **Obligatory**
- NS 03-092 specifications for fruit juice and nectar
- NS 03-094 specifications for corn
- NS 03-096 specifications for nectar of Guava, baobab fruit, ‘Ditax’, mango
- NS 03-105 on corn flour
- NS 03-108 specifications for garlic
- NS 03-109 specifications for sweet corn
- NS 03-148 for halal food guidelines
- NS N UEMOA 0001:2016 guidelines on fresh meat products
- NS N UEMOA 1036:2016 guidelines on fermented milk and milk products
- NS N UEMOA 1016:2016 (03-00081) on principles for adding additives to food
- NS ECOSTAND 052 on the general principles of food hygiene.
- NS 03-135 on milk and dairy products – research of salmonella spp.
- NS 03-137-1 on milk and dairy products – enumeration of suspected Escherichia coli part 1
- NS 03-137-2 on milk and dairy products – enumeration of suspected Escherichia coli part 2
- NS 03-018 on fish products – microbiological criteria for frozen or flash frozen fish
- NS N UEMOA 0003:2016 guidelines for enriched vegetable oil production in the WAEMU zone
- NS 03-00159 model certificate for fish and fishery products
- NS 03-0160 on Canned Fish - Specifications
- NS 03-0161 on frozen eviscerated and non-eviscerated fish
- NS 03-0162 on Canned Tuna and Bonito
- NS 03-0163 on frozen blocks of fish fillets, minced fish meat and mixtures of fillets and minced fish meat
- NS 03-0164 on Frozen Shrimp
- NS 03-0174 specifications for bakery breads
- NS 03-0171 Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) of pesticides on horticultural products
- NS03-00174: Bakery breads, Specifications
- NS 03 - 00172: Infant flour: Specifications
- NS 03 - 00173: Practical guide to the production of infant flours
- NS 03 -00178: Guide to good hygiene practices in markets
- NS ARS 1000-1:2021, on sustainable cocoa, Part 1: Requirements relating to the Management Systems of Cocoa Producers as Entities / Producer Groups / Producer Cooperatives and to Performance

- NS ARS 1000-2:2021, on sustainable cocoa - Part 2: Cocoa Quality and Traceability Requirements
- NS ARS 1000-3:2021, on sustainable cocoa — Part 3: Requirements for Cocoa Certification Systems
- NS ARS 1000-1, NS ARS 1000-2, and NS ARS 1000-3 covers standards on Sustainable Cocoa: Management System Requirements for the Cocoa Producer Entity/Producer Group/Cooperative and Performance; Cocoa Quality and Traceability Requirements, and Cocoa Certification System Requirements

ASN standards ranging from NS 03-117 to NS 03-137 and NS 03-0145 (which includes 28 standards) cover levels of acidity, levels of humidity, water content, fat and non-fat content, nitrogen content, immuno-enzyme testing, and levels of microorganisms for butter and fresh, sweet, fermented, and powdered milk. ASN standards ranging from NS 03-138 to NS 03-144 and NS 03-0147 (which includes ten standards) cover the methodology in detecting microorganisms in food

In 2022, ASN issued 18 new standards:

- NS03-041: Onions - Specifications
- NS03-042: Conserved potatoes
- NS03-00176: Carrots - Specifications
- NS03-177: Frozen Potato Fries
- NS 03- 178: Chopped Meat- Specifications (the number may change since it has been used previously)
- NS 03-179-1: Food additives - Part 1: Dairy and similar products
- NS 03-179-2: Food additives - Part 2: Fats and oils, and fat emulsions
- NS 03-179-3: Food additives - Part 3: Salts, spices, soups, sauces, salads, and protein-based products
- NS 03-179-4: Food additives - Part 4: Beverages
- NS ISO 22000 - Food safety management systems — Requirements for any organization belonging to the food chain
- NS ISO/TS 22002-1: Prerequisite programs for food safety — Part 1: Food manufacturing
- NS ISO/TS 22002-2: Prerequisite programs for food safety — Part 2: Catering
- NS ISO/TS 22002-3: Prerequisite programs for food safety — Part 3: Agriculture
- NS ISO/TS 22002-4: Prerequisite programs for food safety — Part 4: Manufacture of food packaging
- NS ISO/TS 22002-5: Prerequisite programs for food safety — Part 5: Transport and storage
- NS ISO/TS 22002-6: Prerequisite programs for food safety — Part 6: Animal feed production
- NS ISO/TS 22003: Food safety management systems — Requirements for organisms providing audit and certification of food safety management systems
- NS ISO 22005: Traceability of the food chain — General principles and basic requirements for system design and implementation

According to official contacts, even though NS 03-030 is not obligatory, inspectors at the border are implementing aspects of this standard to test imported meat and sausage products for:

- Total flora at 30 ° C
- Thermotolerant coliforms
- Coagulase-positive staphylococci
- Sulphite-reducing anaerobes (Clostridium)

Regarding other obligatory standards, standard NS 03-005 specifies that chilled or frozen meat should be transported in its original packaging (packing must be of a durable/resistant material). The temperature for chilled or frozen meat should be: a) +7°C for chilled meat; b) -12°C to -15°C for frozen meat; and c) -18°C for flash frozen meat.

For feed and feed products, ASN has issued the following standards:

- NS 03-009 on packaging, labelling, sampling, and chemical composition of imported animal feed, produced or marketed in Senegal and imported products likely to enter into the composition of feed.
- NS 03-010 on nutritional characteristics of feed which determine the minimum and maximum nutrient intake specific to each animal species, age and physiological condition for which the feed is intended.

There is a standard on Halal food guidelines (NS 03-148), but it is not obligatory and is not a condition of import for food or beverage products.

### **Section VIII. Trademarks, Brand Names, and Intellectual Property Rights**

Senegal is a member of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and signed the WIPO Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks in March 2006. Senegal also acceded to the Paris Industrial Property Convention in 1963, the Hague Deposit of Industrial Designs Convention in 1984, and the WIPO Copyright Treaty in 2002. Senegal is also a member of the African Intellectual Property Rights Organization.

Registration is not obligatory, but Senegal guarantees the protection of industrial property rights through legal texts in accordance with international standards. The Senegalese government body responsible for managing intellectual property rights is the Senegalese Agency for Industrial Property and Technological Innovation (ASPIT) which is in the Ministry of Industrial Development and Small and Medium Industries. Trademarks, industrial designs, and patents are regulated by national legislation based on the Bangui Agreement on Trademarks, Patents, and Industrial Designs of 1977 (revised in 1999).

### **Section IX. Import Procedures**

It is strongly recommended to locate a reliable importer/distributor to help in the import clearance process. Please check with your importer/agent if a particular export certificate or other documentation is required for importation. To practice trade in Senegal, it is mandatory to register in the commercial register. The trade card is issued after this registration. It is useful for carrying out certain commercial

activities (wholesale trade, etc.). A second card called import-export card is a document issued to traders engaged in the import and export of goods in Senegal to facilitate their operations, particularly at the level of customs control. The import-export card facilitates the import and export of goods for people who have a trade card.

Merchandises whose customs value does not exceed 200,000 West African Francs CFA (XOF) (~\$330) can be declared by their owner. On the other hand, when the value exceeds this amount, you will need use the services of an approved customs broker or, failing this, benefit from an authorization to declare for yourself or for others. However, it is advisable to always use a transit professional to make the custom declaration. The Disciplinary Council of Customs Agents of Senegal ([CDCDS](#)) has a table of these professionals who practice legally.

The following chart describes the general documentation flow for all imported food and agricultural products such as processed foods for animal and human consumption, meat and dairy products, fish and seafood, and bulk commodities such as wheat:

Regarding documentation for all imported food and agricultural products, required documents include the following:

1. Applicable export certificate issued by the competent authority of the country of origin (e.g., certificate of wholesomeness, phytosanitary certificate, certificate of non-radioactivity, certificate of non-contamination with dioxin)
2. Applicable import certificate (issued by the border inspector)
3. Two copies of a commercial invoice (final invoice or pro forma invoice) indicating the contact information of the exporter and importer, a complete description of the merchandise, including its weight, quantity, and cost, insurance, and freight (CIF) value.
4. A Certificate of Origin
5. A prior import declaration (DPI)
6. Verification Attestation established by the inspection company to provide its opinion on the value of the products checked and shipped. It is required for all imports of goods with a free on board (FOB) value equal to or greater than 3 million XOF (\$5,000).
7. A bill of lading
8. Import Declaration for Food Products (DIPA) is issued by the Division of Consumption and Consumers Safety in the Ministry of Commerce. A DIPA is required to legally import any food or agricultural product and initiate the customs clearance process. The DIPA is valid for two months from the date of signature and costs about \$1.7. Four samples of the imported food products may be requested for analyses prior to receive the DIPA.

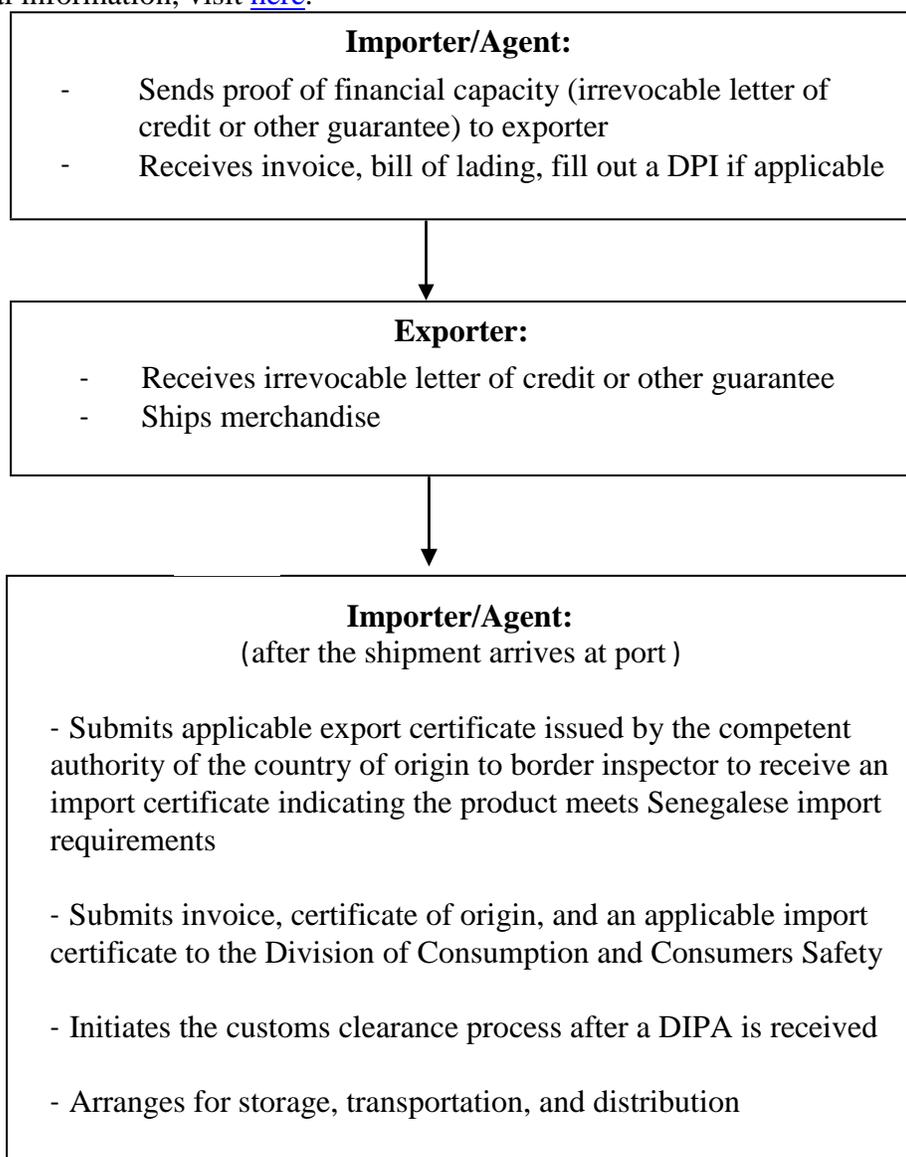
Since December 2020, COTECNA no longer provides the pre shipment inspection (PSI), or import verification program. However, the government of Senegal made obligatory the DPI for any import of goods with an FOB value greater than or equal to 1 million XOF (~\$1,660), or for any customized container, regardless of the FOB value. For the implementation of this measure, the importers are invited to approach the GIE GAINDE 2000 for the opening of their dossier. The program import verification (PVI) or inspection, before shipment of goods, obliges importers to establish a DPI before boarding. The DPI is used to initiate the goods inspection procedure. Controls are made before boarding

based on the conformity of the goods with the information provided in the DPI, i.e., nature of the products, weight, tariff type, and value. The DPI is valid for six months and should be done at least 15 days before expedition of the goods. For more information you can email [helpdesk@douanes.sn](mailto:helpdesk@douanes.sn) or call ORBUS at +221 33 859 39 89.

When the inspection has not been carried out before boarding, a control is carried out at destination with the authorization of the General Director of Customs. However, the importer will have to file a request for an inspection at destination and pay a fine.

Since 2005, a new collection system has been in place, the ORBUS system, which is a computer network that collects all the documents required for any import-export operation.

For additional information, visit [here](#).



**Import procedure for meat and meat products and plant and plant products:** After the shipment arrives at port, an applicable export certificate (e.g., certificate of wholesomeness or phytosanitary certificate) issued by the competent authority of the country of origin must be submitted to Ministry of Livestock or Ministry of Agriculture border inspectors. The border inspector will take random samples for testing before issuing an import certificate (Please see the latest [FAIRS Export Certificate Report](#) for more information). The importer/agent submits the import certificate along with other documentation (please reference documents #3 to #6 – see above) to the Ministry of Commerce to receive a DIPA.

**Import procedure for fish and seafood products (includes processed fish and seafood products):** After the shipment arrives at port, an applicable export certificate of health issued by the competent authority of the country of origin and a Preliminary Import Declaration of Halieutic Products (PIDHP) form (completed by the importer/agent) must be submitted to Ministry of Fisheries and Maritime Affairs border inspectors. These inspectors will take random samples for testing before issuing an import certificate (Health Certificate) and approving the PIDHP. The importer/agent submits the import certificate and PIDHP along with other documentation (please reference documents #3 to #6 – see above) to the Ministry of Commerce to receive a DIPA.

**Import procedure for processed foods (excludes processed fish and seafood products):** Ministry of Commerce border inspectors may take four random samples for testing before a DIPA will be issued. These samples are tested at the laboratory of the Directorate of Interior Trade. The importer/agent must submit other documentation (please reference documents #3 to #6 – see above) to the Ministry of Commerce to receive a DIPA.

**Import procedure for feed, feed ingredients or additives:** A list of products should be sent to the Direction of Veterinary Services to get an import authorization prior to shipment along with a proforma invoice. The importer/agent must bring this authorization with other documentation (please reference documents #3 to #6 – see above) to the Ministry of Commerce to receive a DIPA. For food or agricultural product imports that are unknown to the Ministry of Commerce, samples are required for laboratory analysis to determine if the product meets Senegalese import requirements. Samples for processed products can be sent prior to shipment. Samples will be required for the first four shipments. If the food or agricultural product successfully meets Senegalese import requirements after the fourth shipment, samples will no longer be required.

A manufacturer in Senegal seeking to import alcohol, essences, and colorants to produce mint cream, vinegar, syrups, pastries, and carbonated drinks will need to request a preauthorization certificate issued by the Anti-Fraud Services located in the Ministry of Commerce.

Goods imported for re-export are not assessed customs duties.

West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) regulations note that transactions for imported products worth over 10 million XOF (\$18,000) (there are some exceptions – please review regulation No. 09/2010/CM/UEMOA) must be domiciled in a licensed intermediary bank, which is a bank licensed by a WAEMU country's Minister of Finance. This means that importers/buyers who import food and agricultural products worth over approximately \$18,000 into WAEMU member states (such as Senegal) are required to use licensed banks in WAEMU to facilitate payment to exporters. A Foreign Exchange

Transaction Form must be approved by a licensed intermediary bank in WAEMU before a payment can be made. Please see WAEMU Regulation No. 09/2010/CM/UEMOA for more information.

Product samples for trade shows or not for commercial distribution are subject to the same import regulations as all other products, such as registration and certification regulations. The same regulation applies also for sample, mail order and cross-border e-commerce shipments if the size is considered commercial. The importer can request a waiver prior to shipment to get samples.

The entire duration of the customs clearance procedure normally takes few hours to few days unless there is an issue, including to but not limited to food safety issues, counterfeiting, smuggling, and or not meeting specific standards.

The official language is French but import documents do not need to be translated if in English. However, translation in French, even not officially, can help expedite customs clearance.

There is a notification and an appeals system for detained and/or rejected product, each case is dealt with according to the specific regulations guiding the authority in charge.

## **Section X. Trade Facilitation**

The government of Senegal has issued information on trade processes to export products to Senegal that is available online. [http://www.tpsnet.org/portal?cmd=the\\_import\\_export\\_guide](http://www.tpsnet.org/portal?cmd=the_import_export_guide)

### **- Advance rulings**

Senegal does not currently issue advance rulings, although the country is working on developing a national advance rulings system. In January 2023, as part of the EU-WCO Program for the Harmonized System in Africa (HS-Africa Program), financed by the European Union, the World Customs Organization carried out a diagnostic mission on developing an advance rulings system, for the benefit of the Senegal Customs Administration. For more information see [here](#).

### **- Preclearance programs**

Senegal uses the single window [ORBUS 2000 System](#) to facilitate import clearance procedures through electronic exchanges between the various actors. ORBUS allows pre-clearance formalities thereby reducing the time and costs related to formalities, improving service quality, and eliminating the use of paper documents. ORBUS is compliant with most of the United Nations and World Customs Organization standards and guidelines. Goods whose customs value does not exceed about \$330 can be declared by their owner. Otherwise, when the value exceeds this amount, you will need to use the service of an approved customs broker or benefit from an authorization to declare for yourself.

### **- Use of electronic certificates or filing**

Senegal is now implementing the plant health certification (ePhyto) which is the international standard for electronic transmission protocols and procedures for plant health certification.

### **- Fees at ports**

Imported goods are distinguished by their origin for taxation purposes: either within the WAEMU or Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) region, or outside of the WAEMU or ECOWAS region. Merchandise originating from the WAEMU region and included in the Community Preferential Tax (TPC) are free of all other taxes and duties (Common External Tariff (TEC)) except the Value Added Tax and other internal taxes. This includes products originating from the ECOWAS area and listed under the ECOWAS Trade Liberalization Scheme.

Products originating from third countries are subject to the TEC which has been in effect since January 1, 2000.

Some entry tax and duties to be aware of include:

- Customs duties
- The statistical import charge
- The Community Solidarity Tax
- Cyclical import tax on particular products such as sugar, wheat flour, concentrated tomato, fruit juices, or sweet concentrated milk
- The ECOWAS Community Tax
- Value Added Taxes (VAT)
- Senegalese Shippers Council (OSEC) royalties (for seaway imports)
- Internal taxes on certain products such as alcohol and carbonated drinks
- Surcharges on certain products such as cigarettes, onions, and potatoes.

For a complete list of entry taxes and duties please visit [here](#)

- Electronic payment

Senegal allows electronic payment for customs duties and similar taxes through an electronic payment system called CORUS. The economic operator should have an account opened with a local commercial bank. This option saves time and increases the transparency and security of customs revenue.

- Average release times

Shipment release times depend on how long it takes for the importer to pay all duties and taxes. Once all duties and taxes are paid, the auditor issues a voucher for collection which allows the owner to dispose of the cargo. No removal can be made without payment of duties and taxes, a deposit or, in some cases, the deposit of sufficient guarantee.

Delays could occur due to multiple inspections from ministries, excessive paperwork and red tape, and delayed tax payments which can slow down the import process. According to contacts, average release times range from two to seven days. Processed products are generally released more quickly than plant and meat products which require additional certificates.

Please note that Senegal does not require any consularization requirements (signature from consular, stamp requirements etc.)

## **Appendix I. Key Government Regulatory or Agency Contacts**

**Senegalese Standards Association – *Association Sénégalaise de Normalisation (ASN)***  
(Designated as the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade Enquiry Point)  
Immeuble El Hadji Omar Dia, Av. Jean Jaurés  
Tel: +221 33 829 58 25  
Email: [asn@orange.sn](mailto:asn@orange.sn)  
Website: <http://www.asn.sn>

**Codex Focal Point – *Point Focal Codex***  
Ministry of Health and Social Action  
Fann Hospital, Avenue Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar, Senegal  
Tel : + 221 824 64 63  
Email : [codexsenegal@gmail.com](mailto:codexsenegal@gmail.com)  
Website : <http://www.sante.gouv.sn>

**Ministry of Trade, Consumption, and Small and Medium Enterprises**  
Diamniadio Sphères ministérielles Abib Thiam  
Tel : 221 33 869 29 25  
Cell : 221 77 640 99 04

**Directorate of External Trade – *Direction du Commerce Extérieur***  
(Designated as the World Trade Organization National Notification Authority)  
Ministry of Trade, Consumption, and Small and Medium Enterprises, Diamniadio  
Diamniadio Sphères ministérielles Abib Thiam  
Tel : +221 33 869 29 25

**Directorate of Internal Trade – *Direction du Commerce Intérieur***  
Ministry of Trade, Consumption, and Small and Medium Enterprises  
Tel : +221 33 869 29

**National Laboratory for Analysis and Control (LANAC) – *Laboratoire National d'Analyses et de Contrôle***

**Directorate of Internal Trade – *Direction du Commerce Intérieur***  
Ministry of Trade, Consumption, and Small and Medium Enterprises  
Rue Parchappe X Beranger Ferraud, Dakar, Senegal  
Tel: +221 33 822 45 59

**Division of Consumption and Consumer Safety – *Division de la Consommation et de la Sécurité des Consommateurs***

Directorate of Internal Trade – *Direction du Commerce Intérieur*  
Ministry of Trade, Consumption, and Small and Medium Enterprises  
Tel : +221 33 869 29 25  
Website: <http://dci-sn.sn/index.php>

**Directorate of Veterinary Services – *Direction des Services Vétérinaires***

Ministry of Livestock and Animal Production

Diamniadio, Bâtiment C

Tel: +221 33 859 06 33

Email: [contacts@elevage.gouv.sn](mailto:contacts@elevage.gouv.sn)

Website: <http://www.elevage.gouv.sn/>

**Division of Inspection and Control in the Bureau of Industries – *Division des Inspections et du Contrôle de la Direction des Industries de Transformation***

Ministry of Fisheries and Maritime Economy

Diamniadio

Tel: +221 33 849 84 40

Email : [samnabou@hotmail.com](mailto:samnabou@hotmail.com)

**Directorate of Plant Protection – *Direction de la Protection des Végétaux***

(Designated as the World Trade Organization Sanitary and Phytosanitary Enquiry Point)

Ministry of Agricultural and Rural Development

Km 15, Route de Rufisque

BP 20054, Thiaroye- Dakar, Senegal

Tel: +221 33 834 03 97

Fax: +221 33 834 28 54, +221 33 853 22 52

Email: [dpv1@orange.sn](mailto:dpv1@orange.sn)

**National Biosafety Authority - *Autorité Nationale de Biosécurité***

**(ANB) Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development**

Immeuble Mariama Sacré-Cœur 3 VDN - BP 64 593

Dakar, Senegal

Tel: +221 33 867 98 99

Website: [www.biosecurite.sn](http://www.biosecurite.sn)

**ORBUS helpdesk**

Focal point Safietou Mbengue

Tel: +221 33 859 39 89

**Senegalese Agency for Industrial Property and Technological Innovation – *Agence Sénégalaise pour la Propriété Industrielle et l'Innovation Technologique (ASPIT)***

Ministry of Industrial Development and Small and Medium Industries

Liberté 6 extension Nord Villa 21, en face du cimetière St. Lazar

Tel: +221 33 827 36 14

Fax: +221 33 827 36 14

Email: [aspit@orange.sn](mailto:aspit@orange.sn)

## **Appendix II. Other Import Specialist Technical Contacts**

### **Trade Point Sénégal (Import information and requirements)**

Km 2,5 Boulevard du Centenaire de la Commune de Dakar

Tel: (221) 33 839 73 73

Fax: (221) 33 839 73 90

Email: [tpdakar@tpsnet.org](mailto:tpdakar@tpsnet.org)

### **Food Technology Institute – *Institut de Technologie Alimentaire***

Route des Pères Maristes - Dakar Hann, Senegal

Tel: +221 33 859 07 07

Fax: +221 33 832 82 95

Email: [ita@ita.sn](mailto:ita@ita.sn)

Website: [www.ita.sn](http://www.ita.sn)

### **Animal Production and Veterinary Research Laboratory - *ISRA, Laboratoire National d'Elevage et de Recherche Vétérinaire***

Tel: +221 33 832 36 78

Fax: +221 33 832 36 79

Website: [www.isra.sn](http://www.isra.sn)

### **Institut Pasteur of Dakar (Food safety and quality testing)**

36, Avenue Pasteur

Tel: + 221 33 839 92 00

Fax: + 221 33 839 92 10

Email: [pasteurdakar@pasteur.sn](mailto:pasteurdakar@pasteur.sn)

Website: <http://www.pasteur.sn>

### **Attachments:**

No Attachments