NOTIFICATION

Revision

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| **1.** | **Notifying Member:** TÜRKIYE  **If applicable, name of local government involved:** |
| **2.** | **Agency responsible:** Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry / General Directorate of Food and Control |
| **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):** Cheese |
| **4.** | **Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:**  **[X] All trading partners**  **[ ] Specific regions or countries:** |
| **5.** | **Title of the notified document:** Turkish Food Codex Communiqué on Cheese. **Language(s):** Turkish. **Number of pages:** 10  <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/GKGM/Duyuru/581/Mevzuat-Taslagi-Tgk-Peynir-Tebligi>  <https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2024/SPS/TUR/24_05241_00_x.pdf> |
| **6.** | **Description of content:** The purpose of this Communiqué is to determine the characteristics of cheeses supplied for direct consumption or further processing in order to ensure that they are produced, processed, preserved, transported and placed on the market in a technical and hygienic manner.  This Communiqué covers all cheeses that are supplied directly for human consumption and/or used as raw materials or semi-products for processing into other products following the production.  The Turkish Food Codex Communiqué on Cheese (Communiqué No: 2015/6) published in the Official Gazette dated 08/05/2015 and numbered 29261 will be repealed by this Communiqué.  This communiqué contains changes to product specifications and labelling provisions. |
| **7.** | **Objective and rationale: [X] food safety, [ ] animal health, [ ] plant protection, [ ] protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, [ ] protect territory from other damage from pests.** |
| **8.** | **Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:**  **[X] Codex Alimentarius Commission *(e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text)*:**  General Standard for Cheese CXS 283-1978  Group Standard for Cheeses in Brine CXS 208-1999  Standard for Whey Cheeses CXS 284-1971  Group Standard for Unripened Cheese including Fresh Cheese CXS 221-2001  **[ ] World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) *(e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number)*:**  **[ ] International Plant Protection Convention *(e.g. ISPM number)*:**  **[ ] None**  **Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?**  **[ ] Yes [X] No**  **If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:** The following amendments have been made to the existing text.  In order to protect consumer interests, the provision "processed cheeses cannot be produced and placed on the market in such a way as to evoke traditional and local cheeses and cheeses registered as geographical indications and to mislead the consumer" has been added to subparagraph (r) of Article 14 of the Communiqué. This provision is not specified in Codex standards.  Again for the protection of consumer interests; if used as a condiment, for example like nuts, pistachios, almonds, walnuts, sunflower seeds, oil seeds and grains such as corn, and spices such as sesame seeds and black cumin are required to be used as grains in the final product, and their use in the form of paste or puree is prohibited. |
| **9.** | **Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:**  - Veterinary, Phytosanitary, Food and Feed Law No: 5996 ([G/SPS/N/TUR/9](https://docs.wto.org/dol2fe/Pages/FE_Search/FE_S_S006.aspx?DataSource=Cat&query=@Symbol=%22G/SPS/N/TUR/9%22%20OR%20@Symbol=%22G/SPS/N/TUR/9/*%22&Language=English&Context=ScriptedSearches&languageUIChanged=true)),  - Regulation on Specific Hygiene Rules for Food of Animal Origin ([G/SPS/N/TUR/12](https://docs.wto.org/dol2fe/Pages/FE_Search/FE_S_S006.aspx?DataSource=Cat&query=@Symbol=%22G/SPS/N/TUR/12%22%20OR%20@Symbol=%22G/SPS/N/TUR/12/*%22&Language=English&Context=ScriptedSearches&languageUIChanged=true)) |
| **10.** | **Proposed date of adoption *(dd/mm/yy)*:** 31 December 2024  **Proposed date of publication *(dd/mm/yy)*:** 31 January 2025 |
| **11.** | **Proposed date of entry into force: [ ] Six months from date of publication**, **and/or** ***(dd/mm/yy)*:** 31 January 2025  This Communiqué enters into force on the date of its publication.  Food operators operating before the publication date of this Communiqué must comply with the provisions of this Communiqué until 31/12/2025.  Products produced before 01/01/2026 may be available on the market until the end of their shelf life.  **[ ] Trade facilitating measure** |
| **12.** | **Final date for comments: [X] Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or *(dd/mm/yy)*:** 12 October 2024  **Agency or authority designated to handle comments: [X] National Notification Authority, [X] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:**  Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry  General Directorate of Food and Control  Eskisehir Yolu 9. Km. Lodumlu Ankara - Türkiye  Tel: +(90) 312 258 7753  Fax:+(90) 312 258 7760  E-mail : [kodeks@tarimorman.gov.tr](mailto:kodeks@tarimorman.gov.tr), [sps@tarimorman.gov.tr](mailto:sps@tarimorman.gov.tr)  Website: <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/GKGM> |
| **13.** | **Text(s) available from: [X] National Notification Authority, [X] National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:**  Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry  General Directorate of Food and Control  Eskisehir Yolu 9. Km. Lodumlu Ankara - Türkiye  Tel: +(90) 312 258 7753  Fax:+(90) 312 258 7760  E-mail : [kodeks@tarimorman.gov.tr](mailto:kodeks@tarimorman.gov.tr), [sps@tarimorman.gov.tr](mailto:sps@tarimorman.gov.tr)  Website: <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/GKGM> |