

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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POLICY

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Peru

Post: Lima

Peru Approves Technical Parameters for Food Labeling

Report Categories:

Trade Policy Monitoring

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Report Highlights:

On April 18, 2015, Peru approved Supreme Decree 007-2015-SA, establishing technical parameters for labeling sugar, salt and saturated fats of food and non-alcoholic beverages. This Decree will not be enforced by Peru's authorities until the country approves the Implementing Regulation of Law 30021 (Law that Promotes Healthy Eating of Children and Adolescents).

General Information:

On April 18, Peru approved Supreme Decree 007-2015-SA, establishing technical parameters for labeling sugar, salt and saturated fats of food and non-alcoholic beverages. The following are the parameters established for 100 grams of solid food or 100 milliliter of liquid.

	Beverages	Solid Food
Sugar	Equal or lower than 2.5 grams	Equal or lower than 5 grams
Salt	Equal or lower than 300 milligrams (equivalent to 120 milligrams of sodium)	Equal or lower than 300 milligrams (equivalent to 120 milligrams of sodium)
Saturated Fats	Equal or lower than 0.75 grams	Equal or lower than 1.5 grams

The Decree tasks the Ministry of Health for updating, if necessary, the technical parameters based on studies, scientific information, and international practices approved by national or international organizations.

The following food categories are exempted from these parameters:

- Non-industrialized food and non-alcoholic beverages.
- Foods with minimal processing (cut, sliced, deboned, peeled, cleaned, milled, pasteurized, refrigerated, frost, defrost).
- Prepared foods for immediate consumption.

The Peruvian industry considers these parameters extremely restrictive and posing an unnecessary burden on them. In fact, the new levels are between 80 and 600 percent higher than the ones published for comments through Ministerial Resolution 321-2014-MINSA. Industry sources report that these parameters should have been published for comments, particularly since they are significantly different than the previous proposal.

This Decree will not be enforced until the Implementing Regulation of Law 30021 (Law that Promotes Healthy Eating of Children and Adolescents) is approved.