Government of India notified Draft Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations, 2015 and Draft Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition & Restriction on Sale) Amendment Regulation, 2015 to the World Trade Organization (WTO). The deadline for comments for WTO Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) committee members is January 31, 2016; in addition, the deadline for comments for WTO Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) committee members is March 4, 2016.
General Information:

Disclaimer: The information contained in this report was retrieved from the Government of India (GOI) and World Trade Organization (WTO) websites: http://dahd.nic.in/dahd/trade.aspx and www.wto.org. The Office of Agricultural Affairs and/or the U.S. Government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity. The summary below is based on a cursory review of the subject announcement and, therefore, should not under any circumstances be viewed as a definitive interpretation of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural trade interests.

The Government of India notified Draft Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations, 2015 and Draft Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition & Restriction on Sale) Amendment Regulation, 2015 to the World Trade Organization (WTO) for comments for Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) and Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) committee members. The Draft Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations, 2015 modifies text and/or provides new or revised definitions and standards for milk and dairy products in regulation 1.2 and 2.1 of the Food Safety and Standards ((Food Products Standards and Additives) Regulations, 2011. Products that are affected include milk, flavored milk, evaporated or concentrated milk, sweetened condensed milk, khoya, cream and malai, milk fats including anhydrous milk fat, anhydrous butter oil, butter oil and ghee, butter, milk powder and cream powder, dairy whitener, whey powder, fermented milk products, ice-cream, kulfi, chocolate ice cream, softy ice cream, milk ice or milk lolly, dried ice cream mix, frozen dessert or confections, chhana and paneer, cheese and cheese products, and edible casein products. The Draft Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition & Restriction on Sale) Amendment Regulation, 2015 modifies regulation 2.1.1(1) of Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sale) Regulations, 2011, prohibiting the sale of cream not prepared exclusively from milk or contains less than 20 percent milk fat (the existing regulation mentions 25 percent milk fat). The deadline for comments for WTO TBT committee members is January 31, 2016; the deadline for comments for WTO SPS committee members is March 4, 2016.

The draft regulation for WTO TBT committee members can be accessed at Draft Regulations on Milk and Milk Products Standards on the FSSAI website or the WTO website.

The draft regulation for WTO SPS committee members can be accessed at Draft Regulations on Milk and Milk Products Standards on the FSSAI website or the WTO website.

Comments should be sent to:

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Final details on the draft regulation:

Type of Regulation: Draft
Publication date on the FSSAI website: November 2, 2015 for WTO TBT committee members; December 1, 2015 for WTO SPS committee members
Date of Implementation: To be determined
WTO Notification Number: G/TBT/N/IND/52 for WTO TBT committee members; G/SPS/N/IND/125 for WTO SPS committee members
WTO Notification Date: December 3, 2015 for WTO TBT committee members; January 4, 2016 for WTO SPS committee members
Final Date for Comments: January 31, 2016 for WTO TBT committee members; March 4, 2016 for WTO SPS committee members
Products Affected: Milk and Dairy Products
Agency in Charge: Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, GOI