

Notice of Intent regarding Conventions and Standards

(This report is based on Article 3-2 of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT).)

Regarding a partial revision of labeling guidelines (for frozen processed foods) based on regulations in the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Consumer Protection Ordinance

A revision of labeling guidelines for frozen processed foods based on regulations contained in the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Consumer Protection Ordinance is planned along the lines described below. Please submit comments regarding these changes and the basis for such comments in writing to the address below.

1. Title

Regarding a partial revision of labeling guidelines (for frozen processed foods) based on regulations contained in the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Consumer Protection Ordinance

2. Products targeted

Frozen processed foods (manufactured in Japan and distributed in the Tokyo metropolitan area)

3. Object and goals

Revise labeling regulations to include the disclosure of origin of ingredients on labels of frozen processed foods manufactured in Japan and distributed in the Tokyo metropolitan area to ensure an appropriate choice of food products for consumers

(1) Labeling requirements:

Origin of ingredients

(2) Types of ingredients that must be indicated on labels:

(a) Perishable foods (as prescribed under Quality Labeling Standard for Perishable Foods in Article 2 of the Law concerning Standardization and Proper Labeling of Agricultural and Forestry Products (hereinafter referred to as “JAS Law”))

(b) Processed foods (as prescribed under Quality Labeling Standard for Processed Foods in Article 3, Paragraph 5, under the JAS Law)

(c) Four items regulated under the JAS Law for specific labeling of quality standards:

Frozen vegetable products, processed eel products, dried bonito flakes, and pickled agricultural products

(3) Range of ingredients requiring disclosure on labels:

(a) The top three ingredients by weight and any ingredient constituting five percent or more of the product by weight

(b) Ingredients used, in whole or in part, in the name of the product

(4) Labeling methods:

(a) Visible labeling in print or stamped, affixed as a label, or of other methods.

(b) These restrictions do not apply in cases where package labeling is extremely difficult.

4. Date of enforcement

To be officially announced in the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Gazette after a fixed period of time following a period for public comment and to be enforced upon announcement

5. Direct public comments to

Business Transaction Advisory Section, Consumer Affairs Division, Bureau of Citizens, Culture and Sports, Tokyo Metropolitan Government

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