

14 December 2020

(20-9013)

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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Original: Spanish

NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6.

1.	Notifying Member: <u>COSTA RICA</u> If applicable, name of local government involved (Articles 3.2 and 7.2):
2.	Agency responsible: <i>Ministerio de Economía, Industria y Comercio</i> (Ministry of the Economy, Industry and Trade) <i>Dirección de Calidad</i> (Quality Directorate) <i>Departamento Reglamentación Técnica</i> (Technical Regulation Department) Tel.: (+506) 2549-1479 Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above: <i>Información de Obstáculos Técnicos al Comercio</i> (TBT Enquiry Point) <i>Ministerio de Economía, Industria y Comercio, MEIC</i> (Ministry of the Economy, Industry and Trade) Tel.: (+506) 2549-1479 Email: crotc@meic.go.cr ; msolera@meic.go.cr Website: http://www.reglatec.go.cr
3.	Notified under Article 2.9.2 [], 2.10.1 [X], 5.6.2 [], 5.7.1 [], other:
4.	Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): 71.100.70 (ICS)
5.	Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document: <i>RTCR 501:2020 Productos cosméticos, alcohol en gel para manos. Especificaciones y requisitos para el registro sanitario</i> (Costa Rican Technical Regulation (RTCR) No. 501:2020: "Cosmetics, hand sanitizer. Specifications and requirements for sanitary registration") (3 pages, in Spanish)
6.	Description of content: The purpose of the notified Technical Regulation is to establish the product, packaging and labelling technical specifications for hand-sanitizing solutions. This Technical Regulation applies to hand sanitizer that is produced, imported or marketed within the national territory. It does not apply to gel products that are not intended for use on hands, regardless of whether they contain alcohol.

7.	<p>Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable: During the COVID-19 pandemic, the World Health Organization (WHO) has reiterated the importance of handwashing as a public health measure to prevent and reduce infections associated with the virus that causes COVID-19 and with other pathogenic microorganisms. Therefore, handwashing with soap and water should become a natural habit and incorporated as a good practice that is needed on a permanent basis to protect individual and community health. However, the use of hand sanitizer, with an alcohol content of 60% or more, is considered to be an alternative health measure to handwashing, in places where proper washing is not possible. Protection of human health or safety</p>
8.	<p>Relevant documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Decree No. 35031-COMEX-S-MEIC of 25 July 2008, published in <i>La Gaceta</i> No. 30 of 12 February 2009, publishing <i>Resolución N° 231-2008 (COMIECO-L)</i>: • <i>Aprobación de Reglamentos Técnicos Centroamericanos N° RTCA 71.03.49:08, RTCA 71.01.35:06, RTCA 71.03.36:07, RTCA 71.03.45:07 sobre Productos Cosméticos</i> • <i>Reglamento Técnico Centroamericano, RTCA 71.03.49:08 Productos Cosméticos. Buenas Prácticas de Manufactura para los Laboratorios Fabricantes de Productos Cosméticos.</i> • <i>Reglamento Técnico Centroamericano, RTCA 71.01.35:06 Productos Cosméticos. Registro e Inscripción Sanitaria de Productos Cosméticos.</i> • <i>Reglamento Técnico Centroamericano, RTCA 71.03.36:07 Productos Cosméticos. Etiquetado de Productos Cosméticos.</i> • <i>Reglamento Técnico Centroamericano, RTCA 71.03.45:07 Productos Cosméticos. Verificación de la Calidad.</i> • <i>Anexo 5. Reconocimiento Mutuo de Registro o Inscripción Sanitaria de Productos Cosméticos.</i>
9.	<p>Proposed date of adoption: Upon publication in the Official Journal, <i>La Gaceta</i></p> <p>Proposed date of entry into force: 30 days after publication in the Official Journal, <i>La Gaceta</i></p>
10.	<p>Final date for comments: 60 days from notification</p>
11.	<p>Texts available from: National enquiry point [] or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:</p> <p>Centro de Obstáculos Técnicos al Comercio (TBT Centre) Website: http://www.reglatec.go.cr WTO Contact Point: crotc@meic.go.cr; msolera@meic.go.cr San José, Costa Rica Tel.: (+506) 2549-1479 Full text available online at: http://www.reglatec.go.cr/reglatec/principal.jsp https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2020/TBT/CRI/20_7632_00_s.pdf</p>