

GOVERNMENT NOTICE NO. 115 published on 25/8/2006

THE TANZANIA FOOD, DRUGS AND COSMETICS (FOOD LABELLING)  
REGULATIONS, 2006

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*(Made under section 122(1)(e))*

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THE TANZANIA FOOD, DRUGS AND COSMETICS ACT, 2003  
(NO 1 OF 2003)

**REGULATIONS**

*(Made under sections 122 (1)(e))*

THE TANZANIA FOOD, DRUGS AND COSMETICS (FOOD LABELLING)  
REGULATIONS, 2006

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|---|------------------------------|
| 1. These Regulations may be cited as the Tanzania Food, Drugs and Cosmetics (Food Labelling) Regulations, 2006 and shall come into operation on the date of publication.          | Short title and commencement |
| 2. These Regulations shall apply to all areas in which the Act applies and shall affect all types of food whether locally manufactured or imported in the Tanzania Mainland.      | Application                  |
| 3. In these Regulations unless the context otherwise requires—  | Interpretation               |
| “Act” means the Tanzania Food, Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 2003;   | Act No. 1 of 2003            |
| “Authority” means the Tanzania Food and Drugs Authority established under section 4(1) of the Act;  |                              |
| “common name” means any name in Kiswahili or English by which any food is generally known;  |                              |
| “manufacturer” means a person or firm that is engaged in production, preparation, processing, filling, refining, transformation, packaging, re-packaging or labelling of food;    |                              |
| “ingredient” means any substance used in the manufacture or preparation of food;  |                              |
| “label” means any tag, brand, mark, pictorial or other descriptive matter, written, printed, stencilled, marked, embossed or impressed on or attached to a container of any food; |                              |
| “Minister” means the Minister for the time being responsible for Health;  |                              |
| “parts per million” means parts per million by weight and may be symbolised as ppm;   |                              |
| “per centum” means per centum by weight unless otherwise stated and may be symbolized as %.   |                              |

*Tanzania Food, Drugs and Cosmetics (Food Labelling)*

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*G. N. No. 115 (contd.)*

Sale of  
unlabelled  
food  
prohibited

4. Any person shall not sell a manufactured, processed and prepacked or packed food unless a label has been affixed or applied to the container of that food.

Declara-  
tions to  
be  
included  
on food  
labels

5.-(1) The label applied to a food shall carry-

(a) on the main panel:

- (i) the brand or trade name of that food;
- (ii) the common name of the food;
- (iii) the net contents in terms of weight, volume or number in accordance with the usual practices, in describing the food;
- (iv) in the case of imitated or substituted food items, explicitly written immediately adjacent and before the common name, words "imitated" or "substituted";
- (v) batch or lot number of that food;
- (vi) date of manufacture and the expiry date or end of shelf life;
- (vii) notwithstanding the provision of subregulation 1 (a) (v) of this regulation, declaration of shelf life may be placed on any other panel of the label provided a statement is made on the main panel to direct users on the placement of the dates.

(b) grouped together on any panel:

- (i) a declaration by name of permitted food colour added to the food;
- (ii) a declaration by name of any preservative used in the food;
- (iii) a declaration by name of any artificial or imitation flavouring preparation added to the food;
- (iv) in the case of a food consisting of more than one ingredient, a complete list of their acceptable names in descending order of their proportions unless the quantity of each ingredient is stated in terms of percentages or proportionate compositions; and
- (v) any other statement required under the provisions of these Regulations to be declared on the label;

- (c) on any panel and of adequate size explicitly written, a declaration for addition or abstraction of any food constituent; and
- (d) on any panel the name and address of the manufacturer or manufacturer and distributor of the food.

6.-(1) Any statement, information, or declaration that is required by any Regulation made under these Regulations to appear on the label of any food shall be in Kiswahili, English or both Kiswahili and English. Information on the label

(2) any language may be used in labelling of food provided that language is used together with Kiswahili, English or both Kiswahili and English.

7. Any information appearing on a label of any food product shall be:
- (a) clearly and prominently displayed on the label;
  - (b) readily discernible to the purchaser or consumer under the customary conditions of purchase and use; and
  - (c) distinctly and legibly printed to state whether or not there has been addition or abstraction of any substance to that food or the food which has been repacked.
- Information to be prominently displayed and readily discernible

8. Grade designation and pictorial information on the label shall be relevant to the food substance, readily understood and not misleading, deceptive or falsely describing a food. Misleading grade and pictorial information prohibited

9. Any food which has been treated with ionising radiation shall be so designated on the label. Label declaration for irradiated foods

10. Where an ingredient of a food has more than one component, the name of all the components shall be included in the list of ingredients. Components of food ingredients

11.-(1) Any imported food shall bear a label on its container declaring the country of origin of such imported food. Country of origin of food

*Tanzania Food, Drugs and Cosmetics (Food Labelling)*

*G. N. No. 115 (contd.)*

(2) Where a food undergoes processing in a second country and such processing changes its nature, the country in which the processing was done shall, for the purpose of sub-regulation (1) of this regulation be considered to be the country of origin.

Restriction of reference to the Act on the label or advertisement

12. No direct or indirect references to the Act or to these Regulations or to the Authority shall be made on any label of, or in any advertisement for a food.

Label declaration of artificial sweeteners

13. A food containing non nutritive sweetener shall carry on the label a statement to the effect that it contains such artificial sweeteners by naming the synthetic sweetener.

Specific food labelling requirements to prevail

14.-(1) These Regulations shall not prevail over labelling requirements prescribed under specific food product standards.

(2) A declaration of expiry date shall not be required for wines sparkling wines, aromatised wines, fruit wines and sparkling fruit wines, beverages containing ten percent or more by volume of alcohol, vinegar, solid sugars, confectionery products consisting of flavoured coloured sugar or chewing gum.

Offence and penalty

15. Any person who—

- (a) contravenes or fails to comply with these Regulations; or
- (b) directly or indirectly aids another person in committing an offence under these Regulations, commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred thousand shillings or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Revocation of GN. No. 237 of 1989

16. The Food (Control of Quality) (Food Labelling Regulations) of 1989 are hereby revoked.

Dar es Salaam,  
27<sup>th</sup> July, 2006

DAVID H. MWAKYU S.A.,  
*Minister for Health and Social Welfare.*