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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS SUPPLEMENT

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**THE FOODS AND DRUGS (CONTROL OF QUALITY)  
(IODATED SALT) REGULATIONS, 1997.**

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# STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS.

1997 No. 59.

## **The Foods and Drugs (Control of Quality) (Iodated Salt) Regulations, 1997.**

*(Under section 42 of the Foods and Drugs Act.)*

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred upon the Minister by subsection 1 of section 42 of the Foods and Drugs Act, these Regulations are made this 23rd day of September, 1997.

Cap. 271.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Foods And Drugs (Control of Quality) (Iodated Salt) Regulations, 1997.

Citation.

2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires—

Interpretation.

“authorised Officer” means an officer given the mandate or appointed by the Minister to carry out duties under the provisions of these regulations;

“Council” means the inter-sectoral National Council for the Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (NCCIDD) established in Regulation 4;

“imported” means with respect to iodated salt, salt brought into Uganda from another country for distribution in Uganda;

“iodated salt” means salt intended for human or livestock consumption to which potassium iodate has been added as a means of preventing iodine deficiency disorders;

“Minister” means the Minister responsible for health;

“Ministry” means the Ministry responsible for health;

“package” means anything in which iodated salt is partially or wholly covered, wrapped, attached, enclosed, contained or packed;

“produced” means with respect to iodated salt the making, processing or manufacture of salt;

“salt laboratory” means a room or building equipped to test characteristics of salt including iodine content in accordance with the Uganda Food Grade Salt standard as prescribed by the National Bureau of Standards Act, 1983;

“marketed” means with respect to iodated salt the state of salt trade as shown by prices or the rate at which iodated salt is bought and sold in Uganda;

“sample” means a quantity of a salt product provided for analysis or examination.

Application. 3. These Regulations shall apply to all salt for human and livestock consumption, imported, produced or marketed in Uganda.

Establishment of Council. 4. There is established an inter-sectoral National Council for the Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (NCCIDD) in the Ministry responsible for health.

Functions of Council. 5. The functions of the Council shall be—  
(a) to advise on the policy relating to the control of iodine deficiency disorders;  
(b) to devise strategies for the control of iodine deficiency disorders;  
(c) to oversee the implementation of the control of iodine deficiency disorders;  
(d) to coordinate and monitor iodine deficiency disorder control programmes;  
(e) to advise the relevant authorities on the appropriate approaches for developing effective information.



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education and communication strategies for the control of iodine deficiency programmes;

(f) to advise the Minister and other relevant authorities on designing national strategies for—

(i) the promotion of research on iodine deficiency disorders;

(ii) ensuring continuing medical education for health workers on iodine deficiency disorders;

(iii) the incorporation of iodine deficiency disorders in the education and training of students in health professions;

(iv) the incorporation of iodine deficiency disorders, education and training in the curricula of primary, post primary and tertiary institutions; and

(g) the carrying out of any other duty that the Minister may direct.

6. The Council shall consist of—

Compo-  
sition of  
Council.

(a) the Commissioner for Health Services (Nutrition) or representative;

(b) the Assistant Commissioner for Health Services (Environmental Health) or representative;

(c) one representative from the Ministry responsible for—

(i) Trade and Industry;

(ii) Education;

(iii) Information;

(iv) Justice;

(v) Finance;

(vi) Gender and Community Development;

- (vii) Local Government;
- (viii) Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries;
- (d) one representative from each of the following Organisations—
  - (i) the Uganda National Bureau of Standards;
  - (ii) the salt importers;
  - (iii) the salt wholesalers and retailers;
  - (iv) the salt miners;
  - (v) Non-Governmental Organisations;
  - (vi) the Uganda Manufacturers Association;
- (e) two representatives of the National Universities in Uganda;
- (f) one representative of United Nations (UNICEF) as ex officio member;
- (g) one representative of the World Health Organisation (WHO) as ex officio member.

(2) The members of the Council under paragraphs (c), (d) and (e) shall be appointed by the Minister on the recommendation of the relevant Ministry or Organisation on terms and conditions that the Minister may determine.

(3) The Minister shall appoint one of the members of the Council to be Chairperson.

Meetings of Council.

7. (1) The Council shall meet for the discharge of its business at least four times in a year at such times and places as the Chairperson shall, in consultation with Council members, determine.

(2) One third of the members of the Council shall form a quorum at any meeting of the Council.

- (3) The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Council and in his or her absence, a member elected by the members present from among their number shall preside.
- (4) A question proposed at any meeting of the Council shall be determined by a simple majority of votes of members present and voting.
- (5) Where there is an equality of votes, the person presiding at the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.
- (6) The Council may invite any person who is not a member to attend any of its meetings as an adviser and that person may speak on any matter in relation to which his or her advice is sought but shall not have the right to vote on any matter before the meeting.
- (7) Subject to the foregoing provisions the Council shall regulate its own procedure.

8. (1) A person shall not import, produce or market in Uganda for human or livestock consumption, any salt unless it is iodated with potassium iodate.

Iodation  
of Salt.

(2) The salt referred to under sub regulation (1) shall be iodated to conform, at each specific stage, to the levels specified in the Schedule to these Regulations and to ensure that the minimum effective level of potassium iodate is retained in the salt at the time of consumption.

(3) The iodine compound allowed in the salt for human or livestock consumption is potassium iodate.

9. (1) Iodated salt shall be packaged or packed in properly labelled, moisture proof and air-tight containers or jute bags lined with —

Packaging  
of iodated  
salt.

(a) high Density Polyethelene (HDPE);



- (b) laminated or non-laminated polypropylene ( PP ); or
- (c) low Density Polyethylene (LDPE).

(2) In order to avoid the use of hooks for lifting iodated salt bags, bulk packing units shall not exceed fifty kilogrammes.

(3) Iodated salt for retail sale shall be packed in moisture proof Low Density Polyethylene packages or packets of one kilogramme or five hundred grammes.

(4) Types of bags which are normally used for packaging commodities such as fertilizers or chemicals shall not be used for packaging of iodated salt.

Labelling  
of iodated  
salt.

**10** (1) Iodated packages or packets of salt shall be clearly labelled on the outside to show the following—

- (a) the name and address of the manufacturer;
- (b) the statement that the salt is iodated;
- (c) the date and country of manufacture;
- (d) the lot or batch number;
- (e) the weight of the salt;
- (f) the date by which the salt must be sold on retail;
- (g) the level of potassium iodate in ppm or mg/kg; and
- (h) the caution label indicating that the salt must be stored in a cool and dry place.

Period of  
sale of salt.

**11.** A retailer shall sell the iodated salt within nine months from the date of manufacture of the salt stamped on the package.

Storage and  
transport-  
tion of salt.

**12.** A person dealing in or with salt shall ensure that iodated salt is—

- (a) stored in a cool, well ventilated and dry place which does not, at any stage, expose it to direct light, excessive humidity or inclement weather;



- (b) not exposed to any form of contamination by dust or any chemicals or mixed with non-iodated salt;
- (c) stored in a covered room or go-down with adequate aeration and stacked on pallets raised to at least ten point two centimetres (10.2 cm or 2 inches) above the floor;
- (d) not in contact with any wall of the storage room or go-down;
- (e) not handled by hooks or pointed sharp instruments;
- (f) properly stocked and a stock register with batch numbers and date of receipt maintained;
- (g) transported, stored or kept for sale in the package in which it was originally packed.

13. There shall be established at specifically designated points quality control laboratories for the examination and analysis of samples of all imported and locally produced salt.

Establishment of laboratories.

14. A quality control laboratory shall check on the quality of any salt imported or produced in Uganda to ensure that the iodine content in the salt is of the level specified under these Regulations and all the salt characteristics conform with the relevant standards established by law.

Functions of laboratories.

15. In addition to the checks at the designated points under regulation 13, random on the spot checks of salt shall be carried out at the following places—

On the spot checks.

(a) at the point of entry or border post;

(b) at the factory or warehouse of the salt producing or importing company;

(c) at the wholesale point; or

(d) at any point of distribution or sale of salt.

Samples for testing salt.

16. An authorised officer may, at any time, take samples of salt at the production site, entry point into the country or point of distribution or sale for testing the iodine content of the salt by rapid salt test kit or for detailed laboratory testing under regulation 13

Inspection of salt factories, etc.

17. Subject to these Regulations and any other law in force, an authorised officer may, during normal office hours or other reasonable time—

(a) inspect any factory, commercial concern, shop or store; and

(b) in connection with the inspection —

(i) enter any premises or vessel where salt is manufactured, packed, stored or sold; and

(ii) examine and make copies of any book or records; and

(iii) interview employees or agents to determine whether these Regulations are being complied with.

Salt below standard not to enter market.

18. For the avoidance of doubt any salt which does not meet the required iodine content or other standard required by law shall not be allowed to enter into Uganda or the Uganda market.

Other salt standards.

Act No. 1 of 1983.

19. Iodated salt offered for sale or distribution in Uganda shall conform to other minimum standards specified under the Uganda National Bureau of Standards Act, No. 1 of 1983, and by any other law in force.

Sensitization of the public.

20. The Ministry shall be responsible for the sensitization of the public, including salt traders, about the necessity and benefits of consuming iodated salt.

Offence and penalties.

21. (1) A person contravening a provision of these Regulations commits an offence and is liable on conviction to the relevant

penalty under the Act or the National Bureau of Standards Act.

ACT. NO.  
of 1983.

(2) In addition to the penalty prescribed under Sub-regulation 1, the following shall be imposed—

(a) where the consignment of salt does not conform to the requirements of these Regulations, the salt shall be down-graded as salt unfit for human or livestock consumption and shall not be allowed in the Uganda Market;

(b) in case of imported salt, the consignment shall be refused entry into Uganda and shipped back to the supplier at the importer's expense;

(c) in case of locally manufactured salt the consignment shall be kept in bond until iodated to the required levels by the supplier;

(d) where non-iodated salt is found stocked or being sold by a retail trader, the salt shall be impounded for disposal and destruction on the orders of an authorised officer; and

(e) in case of damage of the original package, a suitable alternative shall be used on condition that all the labelling on the original package is clearly and correctly indicated on the alternative package.

22 (1) A person importing, producing or selling iodated salt shall carry out quality assurance activities which shall, as may be applicable, include but not limited to—

Quality  
assurance  
activities.

(a) routine instrument and equipment calibration and maintenance checks;

(b) routine quality checks of raw materials;

(c) routine chemical tests on samples of salt;

(d) routine inspection of packages and labels; and

(e) routine inspection of storage areas.

(2) A person carrying out quality assurance activities shall keep records of the activities for two years and the records shall, as may be applicable, specify—

(a) the batch or lot number and the quantity from which samples were taken for analysis;

(b) the sample size that was analysed;

(c) the analysis results and the person who performed the inspection;

(d) the dates and times of inspections, examination; and

(e) any other activity that may have been carried out, including the nature of the activity and its findings.



SCHEDULE

[Regulation 8

Recommended levels of iodine by ICCIDD/UNICEF/WHO. Parts of iodine per million parts of salt i.e micrograms per gram, milligrams per kilogram or grams per ton.

Climate and daily salt consumption (g/person)	Requirement at Production		Requirement for imported salt at point of entry		Requirement at retail sale (Shop/market)	
	Bulk (sack)	Retail pack (2kg.)	Bulk (sack)	Retail pack (2kg.)	Bulk (sack)	Retail pack (2kg.)
Warm moist 5g. 10 g.	100 50	80 40	90 45	70 35	80 40	60 30
Warm dry or cool moist 5g. 10 g.	90 45	70 35	80 40	60 30	70 35	50 25
Cool dry 5g. 10g.	80 40	60 30	70 35	50 25	60 30	45 22.5

Dr. C. W. B. C. Kiyonga  
Minister of Health.