



**Ministry of Industry
Investment & Commerce**

Jamaica's **Business** Ministry

Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce (MIIC)

DRAFT TECHNICAL REGULATION FOR THE LABELLING OF PRE-PACKAGED FOODS

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Preamble

In line with Jamaica's accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO), and the requirements by which Jamaica shall adapt its relevant systems with the principles of the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade Agreement (WTO/TBT); which stipulates that no unnecessary technical requirements shall impede the flow of commodities among the member states. These technical requirements and methods of conformity assessment shall not discriminate between products based on origin, through the issuance of Technical Regulations that include the essential requirements and standardized business. Accordingly, this Technical Regulation has been developed.

This Technical Regulation replaces the following compulsory Jamaican labelling standards:

1. JS CRS 5: 2017 Jamaican Standard Specification for the Labelling of pre-packaged foods
2. JS 1 Part 24: 1999 Jamaican Standard Specification for The labelling of fruit juices
3. JS 1 Part 30: 2001 Jamaican Standard Specification for The labelling of brewery products (beer, stout, shandy, malta)

Note: This preamble and all the annexes of this technical regulation shall form an integral part thereof.

Article 1
Subject-matter

1.1 This Technical Regulation lays down rules governing the labelling of pre-packaged foods, their importation, production and trade within Jamaica.

1.2 This Technical Regulation sets out the following:

- a. Labelling Requirements for Pre-Packaged Foods
- b. Product Labelling Requirements for:
 - Fruit and vegetable juices and drinks, and fruit nectars
 - Brewery products (beer, stout, shandy and malta etc.)

Article 2
Scope

2.1 This Technical Regulation is applicable to the labelling of all pre-packaged foods to be offered to the consumer or pre-packaged foods for catering purposes.

2.2 This Technical Regulation specifies labelling requirements for fruit and vegetable juices and drinks, and fruit juices.

2.3 This Technical Regulation specifies labelling requirements for brewery products.

2.4 This Technical Regulation does not apply to Front of Package Labelling.

2.5 This Technical Regulation does not apply to:

- a) fruit juices sold otherwise than in a container;
- b) fruit juices sold to a manufacturer for the purpose of his manufacturing business;
- c) fruit juices sold other than retail, in containers of more than 4.5L

2.6 This Technical Regulation is not applicable to food:

- a) weighed or measured in or counted into the package in the presence of the purchaser or consumer;
- b) intended for export only, which complies with the requirements of standards or laws on labelling of the country to which they are being exported;
- c) repackaged from bulk at the place where the food is sold by retailer.

2.7 This Technical Regulation is not applicable to beverages that are not derived from cereals and are sold under common names, including the words, "beer" and "ale".

Article 3

Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this Technical Regulation, the following terms and definitions apply:

3.1

address

physical location (to include street address, city/town, state/parish, zip code, postal address as applicable) and may include contact details of any one or all the following:

- a) the manufacturer or packager of the foods; or
- b) the entity for whom the food is manufactured or packaged; or
- c) the importer and distributor of the foods

3.2

alcoholic beverage

liquid food containing 0.5 % or more ethyl alcohol by volume

NOTE to entry: This includes spirits, liqueurs, wines, malt liquors, cider, perry, champagne, beer, stout and spirit compounds, etc. used as food, but does not include flavouring preparations

3.3

alcohol content

percentage, by volume, of ethyl alcohol at 20°C, which is contained in the brewed products, and which is determined by an approved method

3.4

Ale

Stout

Porter

Malt liquor

beverage produced by the alcoholic fermentation of a wort containing sugar or other sweeteners by yeast (*Saccharomyces spp*) which has been brewed in such a manner to have the aroma, flavour, and other characteristics that are commonly recognised in ale, stout, porter, or malt liquor

3.5

Average weight system

system of weights and measures control for packaged products under which the supplier of packaged products is responsible for ensuring that consumers receive on average, the declared quantity as shown on the label

3.6

aseptic packing

product, which has first been rendered commercially sterile, is packaged, under aseptic conditions, in

a sterile container, which is then hermetically sealed

3.7

authenticity

maintenance in the product of the essential physical, chemical, organoleptical and nutritional characteristics of the fruit or vegetable from which the product is made

3.8

Brewed products

beverages derived from cereals that are manufactured and sold under the following common names but are not limited to the following:

- a) ale;
 - b) beer;
- 2

- c) lager or lager beer;
- d) malta;
- e) malt liquor;
- f) radler;
- g) shandy;
- h) stout or porter.

3.9

Bright beer

beer in which yeast is no longer in suspension and is removed by a filtration or a clarification process

3.10

Brix

% of soluble solids of a liquid as determined by a refractometer calibrated at 20°C and read as 'degrees Brix' on the International Sucrose Scale

NOTE: The reading is not corrected for acidity and corrected for temperature to the equivalent at 20 °C.

3.11

canned

product has been packaged in hermetically sealed rigid containers and has undergone a thermal treatment, which is adequate to make the product shelf-stable under ambient storage conditions

3.12

claim

any representation which states, suggests or implies that a food has particular qualities relating to its origin, nutritional properties, nature, processing, composition or any other quality

3.13

comparative claim

claim that compares the nutrient levels and or energy value or any other quality of two or more foods

EXAMPLE "reduced", "less than", "fewer", "more than"

3.14

competent authority

The National Compliance & Regulatory Authority (NCRA) or any other body designated by law to implement and enforce this Technical Regulation.

3.15

concentrated fruit or vegetable juice

product that complies with the definition of fruit or vegetable juice, except that water has been physically removed in an amount sufficient to increase the Brix level to a value at least 50% greater than the Brix value for reconstituted juice from the same fruit or from the same vegetable.

3.16

concentrated fruit purée (for use in the manufacture of fruit juices and nectars)

product obtained by the physical removal of water from the fruit purée in an amount sufficient to increase the Brix level to a value at least 50% greater than the Brix value established for reconstituted juice from the same fruit

3.17

concentrated vegetable purée (for use in the manufacture of vegetable juices)

product obtained by the physical removal of water from the vegetable purée in an amount sufficient to increase the Brix level to a value at least 50% greater than the Brix value established for reconstituted juice from the same vegetable

3.18

consumer

person purchasing and or receiving or consuming food to meet their personal needs

3.19

container

any packaging of food for delivery as a single item, whether by completely or partially enclosing the food, and includes wrappers

Note 1 to entry: A container may enclose several units or types of packages when such is offered to the consumer.

3.20

contaminant

any substance not intentionally added to food or feed that which is present in such food or feed as a result of the production (including operations carried out in crop husbandry, animal husbandry and veterinary medicine), manufacture, processing, preparation, treatment, packing, packaging, transport or holding of such food or feed, or as a result of environmental contamination.

3.21

country of origin

country where the foods were wholly manufactured; or the last country where the composition and or quality of the foods were changed to a significant extent

Note 1 to entry: ____ A significant change in the product refers to where there is a change in the product that has resulted in a change of the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding Systems (HS) number or where there is no change in the HS number but the product has gone through a significant process that alter the product's nature.

3.22

date mark

a statement or code applied to a product or its packaging, used to identify its chronological status, ensuring safety, quality, or traceability.

3.22.1

date of manufacture

date on which the food becomes the product described

3.22.2

date of minimum durability

best before

best quality before

date which signifies the end of the period, under any stated storage conditions, during which the unopened product will remain fully marketable and will retain any specific qualities for which implied or express claims have been made

Note 1 to entry: Beyond the date the food may still be acceptable for consumption.

3.22.3

date of packaging

date on which food is placed in the immediate container in which it will be ultimately sold

NOTE: This is not an indication of the durability of the product.

3.22.4

expiration date

use by date

the date which signifies the end of the period under any stated storage conditions, after which the product should not be

sold or consumed due to safety and quality reasons

Note 1 to entry: After this date, the food should not be regarded as marketable.

3.23

drained weight

mass of product in a pre-package less the liquid medium or glaze

3.24

economic operator

any actor (such as a manufacturer, authorized representative, importer, or distributor) involved in the supply chain who is responsible for ensuring that products placed on the market meets with the requirements before reaching the end-user.

3.25

food

any substance, whether processed, semi-processed or raw, which is intended for human consumption

Note 1 to entry: This includes drinks, chewing gum and any substance which has been used in the manufacture, preparation or treatment of food but does not include cosmetics, tobacco or substances used only as drugs

3.26.1

foods for catering purposes

foods for use on airlines, in restaurants, canteens, schools, hospitals and similar institutions where food is offered for immediate consumption

3.26.2

foods for special dietary uses

foods which are specially processed or formulated to satisfy particular dietary requirements, which exist because of a particular physical or physiological condition and or specific diseases and disorders

Note 1 to entry: The composition of these foodstuffs should differ significantly from the composition of ordinary foods of comparable nature, if such ordinary foods exist. This includes food for infants and young children (CODEX STAN 146-1985)

3.27

food additive

any substance intentionally added to food for a technological (including organoleptic) purpose and which:

- a) is not normally consumed as a food by itself and not normally used as a typical ingredient of the food, whether or not it has nutritive value;
- b) may be used in either the manufacture, processing, preparation, treatment, packaging, transport or holding of food;
- c) results, or may be reasonably expected to result (directly or indirectly), in it or its by-products becoming a component of or otherwise affecting the characteristics of the foods;
- d) does not include contaminants or substances added to food for maintaining or improving nutritional qualities

3.28

fruit drink

liquid food derived from fruit with no less than 10% of soluble solids

3.29

fruit and vegetable drink

liquid food derived from fruit and vegetables with no less than 10% soluble solids

3.30

fruit nectar

Fruit nectar is an unfermented but fermentable product obtained by adding water with or without the

addition of sugar, honey, syrups, and/or sweeteners to fruit juice, concentrated fruit juice, fruit purees or concentrated fruit purees, or a mixture of those products. Aromatic substances, volatile flavour components, pulp and cells, all of which must have been recovered from the same kind of fruit and obtained by suitable physical means, may be added. Products may be based on a single fruit or on fruit blends

3.31

fruit or vegetable flavoured drink

liquid food having the characteristic flavour of a named fruit or vegetable and contains less than 10% soluble solids

NOTE: Natural and or artificial flavours which provide the characterizing flavour are permitted.

3.32

fruit or vegetable juice

unfermented but fermentable liquid derived from the edible parts of mature fresh fruit or vegetable

3.33

fruit purée (for use in the manufacture of fruit juices and nectars)

unfermented but fermentable product obtained by suitable processes, such as by sieving, grinding or milling the edible part of the whole or peeled fruit without removing the juice.

3.34

health claim

representation which states, suggests or implies that a relationship exists between a food, or a constituent of that food, and consumers' health

Note 1 to entry: See Annex A for types of health claims and examples.

3.35

hops

extract prepared from hops by a process using carbon dioxide or ethyl alcohol, in accordance with good manufacturing practice.

3.35.1

hop extract

extract prepared from hops by a process using carbon dioxide or ethyl alcohol, in accordance with good manufacturing practice.

3.35.2

pre-isomerised hop extract

hop extract made from hops using liquid carbon dioxide or ethyl alcohol from which the alpha-acids have been isolated and isomerised with dilute acid and heat

3.35.3

hop pellets

pellets produced by hammering or milling hops to a fine powder and then running the powder through a high-pressure pelletizing disc followed by cooling and vacuum packaging

3.36

ingredient

substance, including a food additive, used in the manufacture or preparation of a food and present in the final product although possibly in a modified form

3.37

label

tag, brand, mark, pictorial or other descriptive matter, written, printed, stencilled, marked, embossed or impressed on, or attached to, a container which provides pertinent information related to a product

3.38

labelling

written, printed or graphic matter that is present on the label, accompanies the food, or is displayed near the food, including that for the purpose of promoting its sale or disposal
act of affixing a label to a product to provide information about the product

3.39

lager beer

beer produced from wort, fermented by yeast (*Saccharomyces* spp), which has been stored under cold conditions during clarification and maturation and which has been brewed in such a manner as to have the aroma, flavour and other characteristics that are commonly recognised in lager beer.

3.40

lot batch

defined quantity of a product produced and/or processed and/or packaged essentially under the same conditions

3.41

main display panel/principal display panel

part of a label intended to be presented to the consumer or intended to be most conspicuous to the consumer at the time when the food, to which the label relates, is offered or exposed for sale

3.42

malta

beverage produced by combining wort, sugar, hops and carbon dioxide, to which yeast flavour and or other flavours may be added, which has the aroma, flavour and other characteristics that are commonly recognised in malta.

3.43

mash

mixture of milled malted barley, milled malt, milled wheat or other milled cereal and potable water, with or without other ingredients or processing aids, which is fermentable.

3.44

milk Stout

stout, which includes lactose or other sweetener, added after fermentation

3.45

mixed juice

juice obtained by blending two or more juices, or juices and purées from different kinds of fruit or vegetable

3.46

nature-identical

substances chemically isolated from aromatic raw materials or obtained synthetically; they are chemically identical to substances present in natural products intended for human consumption, either processed or not

3.47

net content

quantity of goods contained in a package as measured in terms of a specified unit of measurement, excluding packaging and packing materials.

3.48

nominal or net declared quantity

the amount of the commodity, which is stated on the label and which any package is expected to contain

3.49

non-standard packages

packages with negative errors larger than the tolerable negative error (TNE) specified for the declared quantity

3.50

nutrient substance

normally consumed as a constituent of food, which provides energy, is needed for growth, development and maintenance of life or a deficit of which will cause characteristic bio-chemical or physiological changes to occur

3.51

nutrition labelling

description intended to inform the consumer of the nutritional content of a food and it consists of two components. Namely:

- (a) nutrient declaration; and
- (b) supplementary nutrition information

3.52

nutrient content claim

nutrition claim that describes the level of a nutrient contained in a food

EXAMPLE "source of calcium", "high in fibre" and "low in fat"

3.53

nutrient declaration

standardized statement or listing of the nutrient content of a food

3.54

nutrition claim

any representation which states, suggests or implies that a food has particular nutritional properties including, but not limited to, the energy value, the content of protein, fat and carbohydrates, as well as vitamins and minerals

Note 1 to entry: The following do not constitute nutrition claims:

- (a) the mention of substances in the list of ingredients;
- (b) the mention of nutrients as a mandatory part of nutrition labelling;
- (c) quantitative or qualitative declaration of certain nutrients or ingredients on the label if required by national legislation.

3.55

organic labelling

term that denotes products that have been produced in accordance with organic production standards and certified by a duly constituted certification body or authority.

3.56**package**

inner or outer receptacle, container, wrapper, box or confining band, including any labelling, in which goods are enclosed, protected or held for display, distribution or sale.

3.57**percent juice**

% of the total soluble contents of the juice derived from fruit and or vegetable

3.58**pre-packaged**

packaged in advance in a container, ready for offer to the consumer, or for catering purposes

3.59**processing aid**

substance or material not including apparatus or utensils, and not consumed as a food ingredient by itself, intentionally used in the processing of raw materials, food or its ingredients, to fulfil a certain technological purpose during treatment or processing and which may result in the non-intentional but unavoidable presence of residues or derivatives in the final product

3.60**Radler**

beverage comprised of a mixture of beer or lager beer with natural citrus blends, extracts or flavour, sugar, carbon dioxide, and potable water

3.61**reconstituted (from concentrate)**

product prepared by adding potable water and other permitted ingredients to a concentrated fruit or vegetable juice

3.62**relevant authority**

any Ministry, Department or Agency (MDA) of Government authorized by legislation or regulation to issue determinants, orders or other instructions regarding the labelling of pre-packaged foods.

3.63**single juice**

juice obtained from one kind of fruit or vegetable

3.64**shandy**

beverage made by mixing beer or lager beer with a fruit or vegetable juice, extract or flavour, sugar, carbon dioxide and potable water

3.65**vegetable drink**

liquid food derived from vegetables with no less than 10% of soluble solids

3.66**vegetable purée (for use in the manufacture of vegetable juices)**

unfermented but fermentable product obtained by suitable processes such as by sieving, grinding or milling the edible part of the whole or peeled vegetables without removing the juice

3.67

water-extracted fruit or vegetable juice

product obtained by diffusion with water of:

- a) pulpy whole fruit or comminuted vegetables, whose juice cannot be extracted by any physical means; or
- b) dehydrated whole fruit or vegetable

3.68

wort

unfermented aqueous extract of malted barley and other unmalted carbohydrate sources

NOTE: Wort is usually prepared from potable water, malted barley, wheat, or other cereal, with hops, hop pellets or hop extract with or without other added ingredients.

DRAFT Comment Period (12 May 11 July 2026)

Article 4

General requirements

4.1 Pre-packaged food shall not be described or presented on any label or in any labelling in a manner that is false, misleading or deceptive or is likely to create an erroneous impression regarding its character, properties or health benefits in any respect.

4.2 Pre-packaged food shall not be described or presented on any label or in any labelling by words, pictorial or other devices which refer to or are suggestive, either directly or indirectly, of any other product with which such pre-packaged food might be confused, or in such a manner as to lead the purchaser or consumer to assume that the pre-packaged food is connected with such other product.

4.3 Claims made for a pre-packaged food shall comply with the requirements for the use of claims as set out in Annex A.

Article 5

Labelling requirements

5.1 The name shall indicate the true nature of the pre-packaged food and normally be specific and not generic.

5.1.1 Where a name or names have been established for pre-packaged food in a national product requirement, at least one of these names shall be used.

5.1.1.1 Where a name or names for a pre-packaged food have not been established in a national product requirement, the name prescribed by the national competent authority shall be used.

5.1.1.2 In the absence of any such name, either a common or usual name that has been approved by the national competent authority shall be used.

5.1.1.3 A “coined”, “fanciful”, “brand” name or “trademark” may be used, provided it accompanies one of the names provided in 5.1.1.1 to 5.1.1.3.

5.1.2 The label shall state additional words or phrases as necessary to avoid misleading or confusing the consumer about the true nature and physical condition of the pre-packaged food. This shall be done either in conjunction with, or in close proximity to the name of the pre-packaged food.

NOTE: Additional words or phrases may include the type of packing medium, style, and the condition or type of treatment it has undergone such as dried, concentrated, reconstituted, smoked etc.

5.2 List of ingredients

5.2.1 A list of ingredients shall be declared on the label, except for:

- a) single ingredient pre-packaged foods;
- b) alcoholic beverages for which there exist relevant national labelling requirements;
- c) any other products permitted by the national standards body or national competent authority for exemption.

5.2.1.1 The list of ingredients shall be headed or preceded by an appropriate title.

EXAMPLE Ingredients, Contents, Prepared from

5.2.1.2 All ingredients shall be listed in descending order of weight (grams) at the time of the manufacture of the pre-packaged food.

5.2.1.3 Where an ingredient is itself the product of two or more ingredients, such a compound ingredient may be declared as such in the list of ingredients, provided that it is immediately accompanied by a list, in brackets, of its ingredients in descending order of proportion (grams). Where a compound ingredient, for which a name has been established in a national requirement, constitutes less than 5% of the pre-packaged food, the ingredients need not be declared except in the following instances:

- a) food additives which serve a technological function in the pre-packaged food or are present in such amounts that their declaration is required by the national competent authority;
- b) the ingredients are listed in 5.2.1.4;
- c) the substances are listed in 5.2.2.4.

5.2.1.4 The following foods and ingredients are known to cause hypersensitivity and shall always be declared on the label of the pre-packaged food:

- a) cereals containing gluten such as wheat, rye, barley, oats, spelt or their hybridized strains and their related products;
- b) crustacea and crustacean products;
- c) eggs and egg products;
- d) fish and fish products;
- e) shellfish and molluscs;
- f) peanuts, tree nuts (Brazil nuts, cashews, hazelnuts, macadamias, pecans, pistachios and walnuts) and their related products
- g) soybeans and their related products;
- h) milk and milk products (lactose included);
- i) tree nuts and nut products;
- j) sulfites in concentrations of 10 mg/kg or more.
- k) sesame seed mustard and celery
- l) lupin

NOTE: There is insufficient research at this time to include pineapples as an allergen.

5.2.1.5 Where a food product is produced in a facility where the ingredients in 5.2.1.4 are processed, it shall be stated on the label of the pre-packaged food.

5.2.1.6 Water added to a food shall be declared in the list of ingredients except when the water forms part of an ingredient such as brine, syrup or broth, used in a compound food and declared as such in the list of ingredients. Water or other volatile ingredients evaporated during manufacture need not be declared on the label of the pre-packaged food.

5.2.1.7 As an alternative to the requirements of Clause 5, dehydrated or condensed foods which are intended to be reconstituted by the addition of water only, the ingredients may be listed in descending order of weight (grams) in the reconstituted food provided that a statement such as "ingredients of the product when prepared in accordance with the directions on the label" is included.

5.2.2 A specific name shall be used for ingredients in the list of ingredients in accordance with the requirements stated in 5.1 except for requirements stated in 5.2.2.1.

5.2.2.1 Except for those ingredients listed in 5.2.1.4, and unless a general class name would be more

informative, the class names specified in Table 1 may be used for the ingredients falling within these classes.

A Table 1 — Class names for ingredients

Ingredients	Class names
Refined oils other than olive oil	Oil together with either the term 'vegetable' or 'animal', qualified by the term 'hydrogenated' or 'partially-hydrogenated', as appropriate
Refined fats	Fat together with either, the term 'vegetable' or 'animal', as appropriate
Starches, other than chemically modified starches	Starch
All species of fish where the fish constitutes an ingredient of another food and provided that the labelling and presentation of such food does not refer to a specific species of fish	Fish
All types of poultry meat where such meat constitutes an ingredient of another food and provided that the labelling and presentation of such a food does not refer to a specific type of poultry meat	Poultry meat
All types of cheese where the cheese or mixture of cheeses constitutes an ingredient of another food and provided that the labelling and presentation of such food does not refer to a specific type of cheese	Cheese
All spices and spice extracts not exceeding 2 % (m/m) either singly or in combination in the food	Spice, spices or mixed spices as appropriate
All herbs or parts of herbs not exceeding 2 % (m/m) either singly or in combination in the food	Herbs, or mixed herbs as appropriate
All types of accepted gum preparations used in the manufacture of gum base for chewing gum	Gum base
All types of sucrose	Sugar
dextrose or glucose	Sugar
All types of caseinates	Caseinates
Press, expeller or refined cocoa butter	Cocoa butter
All crystallized fruit not exceeding 10 % of the weight of the food	Crystallized fruit

5.2.2.2 Notwithstanding the requirement in 5.2.2.1, all pork and beef sourced ingredients, inclusive of fat and lard shall be declared on the label of the pre-packaged food. The name of the source shall be placed immediately prior to the name of the ingredient

EXAMPLE Pork gelatin is the name of a pork source ingredient.

5.2.2.3 For food additives falling in the respective classes as indicated in Table 1 and appearing in lists of food additives permitted for use in foods, the following functional classes shall be used together with the specific name or recognized numerical identification such as the CODEX STAN92 for Food Additives.

- a) acid(s);
- b) acidity regulator(s);
- c) anti-caking agent(s);
- d) anti-foaming agent(s);
- e) antioxidant(s);
- f) artificial colour;
- g) bulking agent(s);
- h) colour retention agent(s);
- i) emulsifier(s);
- j) emulsifying salt(s);
- k) firming agent(s);
- l) flavour enhancer(s);
- m) flour treatment agent(s);
- n) foaming agent(s);
- o) gelling agent(s);
- p) glazing agent(s);
- q) humectant(s);
- r) leavening agent(s);
- s) natural colour;
- t) preservative(s);
- u) propellant(s);
- v) stabilizer(s);
- w) sweetener(s);
- x) thickener(s).

5.2.2.4 In addition to the requirements in 5.2.2.3, the following substances shall be declared by

name on the label of the pre-packaged food:

- a) all non-caloric sweeteners, including Aspartame;
- b) monosodium glutamate;
- c) potassium sorbate;
- d) sodium benzoate;
- e) sodium nitrite;
- f) azodicarbonamide;
- g) potassium bromate;
- h) nitrates;
- i) phosphates.

5.2.2.5 The following class names shall be used for food additives falling in the respective classes and permitted for use in foods by the national competent authority:

- a) flavour(s) and flavouring(s);
- b) modified starch(es)

5.2.2.6 The expression “flavours” shall be qualified by the words “natural”, “nature-identical”, “artificial” or a combination of these words as appropriate.

5.2.3 Processing aids and carry-over of food additives

5.2.3.1 A food additive carried over into a food in a significant quantity or in an amount sufficient to perform a technological function in that food as a result of the use of the raw materials or other ingredients in which the additive was used shall be included in the list of ingredients.

5.2.3.2 Processing aids, and food additives carried over into foods in an insufficient amount to achieve a technological function, are exempted from declaration in the list of ingredients. The exemption does not apply to food additives and processing aids that contain any of the ingredients listed in 5.2.2.4.

5.2.3.3 In addition to the provisions of 5.2.3.1 and 5.2.3.2, the ingredients or substances listed in 5.2.1.4 shall always be declared on the label of the pre-packaged food when present in a food.

5.3 Net content and drained weight

5.3.1 The net content shall be declared in International System of Unit (SI Units) in accordance with the requirements of OIML R87. The use of Imperial Units is permitted provided that the net content is also declared in SI Units. The net content shall be declared in the following manner:

- a) by volume, for liquid foods;
- b) by weight, for solid food;
- c) either by weight or volume, for semi-solid or viscous foods;
- d) by count, if count is used it shall be clearly identifiable as the quantity declaration and shall be expressed in whole numbers.

NOTE Net weight should be preceded by the words “net count”, “net volume” and “net weight”

5.3.2 In addition to the declaration of net contents, food packed in a liquid medium shall carry a declaration of the drained weight of the food in SI Units. If Imperial Units are used to declare the drained weight, it shall be stated in conjunction with the SI Units.

EXAMPLE Examples of liquid mediums include water, oil, aqueous solutions of sugar and salt, fruit and vegetable juices in canned fruits and vegetables only, or vinegar, either singly or in combination.

5.3.3 Where the content(s) of a package of food is/are expressed in terms of weight or volume, any variation below the quantity declared shall be in accordance with the requirements of the national competent authority.

5.4 Name and address

The name and physical address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor, importer, exporter, or vendor of the food shall be declared. Email address, web address and contact number may also be included.

5.5 Country of origin

The country of origin of the food shall be declared in accordance with national labelling requirements.

5.6 Lot identification

Each container of pre-packaged food shall be embossed or otherwise permanently marked with a code to identify the producing factory and the lot.

5.7 Date marking and storage instructions

5.7.1 The following date marking shall apply, unless clause 5.7.1 (g) applies:

- a) When a pre-packaged food must be consumed before a certain date to ensure its safety and quality, the "Use-by Date" or "Expiration Date" shall be declared.
- b) Where a "Use-by Date" or "Expiration Date" is not required, the "Best-Before Date" or "Best Quality Before Date" shall be declared.
- c) The date marking shall be as follows:
 - 1) On pre-packaged foods with a durability of not more than three months, the day and month shall be declared. The year shall also be declared when national competent authorities consider consumers could be misled;
 - 2) On pre-packaged foods with a durability of more than three months, at least the month and year shall be declared.
- d) The date shall be introduced by the words:
 - 1) "Use-by" or "Expiration date" or "Best before" or "Best Quality Before" as applicable where the day is indicated; or
 - 2) "Use-by end" or "Expiration date end" or "Best before end" or "Best Quality Before end" as applicable in other cases.
- e) The words referred to in 5.7.1 (d) shall be accompanied by either:
 - 1) the date itself; or
 - 2) a reference to where the date is given.
- f) The day and year shall be declared by uncoded numbers with the year to be denoted by 2 or 4 digits, and the month shall be declared by letters or characters or numbers. Where only numbers are used to declare the date or where the year is expressed as only two digits, the national competent authority should determine whether to require the sequence of the day, month, year, be given by appropriate abbreviations accompanying the date mark.

EXAMPLE DD/MM/YYYY or YYYY/DD/MM.

g) Provided that food safety is not compromised, the requirements in 5.7.1 (a) or 5.7.1 (b) are

not required for a pre-packaged food if one or more of the following criteria apply:

1) Where safety is not compromised and quality does not deteriorate because the nature of the pre-packaged food is such that it cannot support microbial growth

EXAMPLE

- Wines, liqueur wines, sparkling wines, aromatized, fruit and sparkling fruit wines;
- non-iodized food grade salt; non-fortified solid sugars;
- confectionery products consisting of flavoured and / coloured sugars;
- chewing gum.

2) Where deterioration is clearly evident by physical examination at the point of purchase, such as raw fresh produce that has not been subject to processing and presented in a manner that is visible to the consumer;

EXAMPLE

fresh fruit and vegetables, including tubers, which have not been peeled, cut or similarly treated.

3) Where the key/organoleptic quality aspects of the pre-packaged food are not lost;

4) Where the pre-packaged food by its nature is normally consumed within 24 hours of its manufacture, such as some bakers' or pastry-cooks' wares.

In such cases, the "Date of Manufacture" or the "Date of Packaging" shall be provided.

- h) A "Date of Manufacture" or a "Date of Packaging" may be used in combination with 5.7.1 (a) or (b). It shall be introduced with the words "Date of Manufacture" or "Date of Packaging", as appropriate, and use the format provided in clause 5.7.1(f).

5.7.2 In addition to the date set out in 5.7.1, any special conditions for the storage of the pre-packaged food shall be declared on the label where they are required to support the integrity of the food and, where a date mark is used, the validity of the date depends thereon.

5.8 Instructions for use

Instructions for use, including reconstitution, where applicable, shall be included on the label, to ensure correct utilization of the pre-packaged food.

5.9 Nutrition Facts

Nutrition Facts in accordance with national requirements for nutritional labelling.

Article 6
Additional requirements

6.1 Quantitative Ingredients Declaration (QUID)

6.1.1 The ingoing percentage of an ingredient, including compound ingredients or categories of ingredients, by weight or volume as appropriate, at the time of manufacture, shall be disclosed for pre-packaged foods sold as a mixture or combination where the ingredient:

- a) is emphasized as present on the label through words or pictures or graphics; or
- b) is not within the name of the food, is essential to characterise the pre-packaged food; or
- c) is expected to be present in the pre-packaged food by consumers in the country where the pre-packaged food is sold; or if the omission of the quantitative ingredient declaration would mislead or deceive the consumer.

NOTE For the purpose of Quantitative Ingredient Declaration, "category of ingredients" means the generic term which refers to the class name of an ingredient and/or any similar common term(s) which are used in reference to the name of a pre-packaged food.

6.1.2 The disclosure as at 6.1.1 shall not be required:

- a) where the ingredient is used in small quantities for the purpose of flavouring; or
- b) where relevant national requirements conflict with the specifications described at 6.1.1.

6.1.3 With respect to 6.1.1 (a) where there is a reference, in the name of the pre-packaged food, to an ingredient or category of ingredients, this shall not of itself require quantitative ingredient declaration if:

- a) that reference would not mislead or deceive the consumer; or
- b) would not be likely to create an erroneous impression on the consumer, regarding the character of the pre-packaged food in the country of marketing because the variation in quantity of the ingredient(s) between products is not necessary to characterise the pre-packaged food or distinguish it from similar pre-packaged foods.

6.1.4 The information required in Section 6.1.1 and 6.1.3 shall be declared on the product label as a numerical percentage. The ingoing percentage, by weight or volume of each such ingredient, as appropriate, shall be given on the label:

- a) in close proximity to the words or pictures or graphics emphasising the particular ingredient; or
- b) beside the name of the pre-packaged food; or
- c) adjacent to each appropriate ingredient listed in the ingredient list: as a minimum percentage where emphasis is on the presence of the ingredient; or
- d) a maximum percentage where emphasis is on the low level of the ingredient.

6.1.5 For pre-packaged foods which have lost moisture following heat or other treatment, the percentage, by weight or by volume, shall correspond to the quantity of the ingredients used, related to the pre-packaged foods.

6.1.6 When the quantity of an ingredient or the total quantity of all ingredients expressed on the labelling exceeds 100%, the percentage may be replaced by the declaration of the weight of the

ingredients used to prepare 100 g of the pre-packaged food.

6.2 Irradiated foods

6.2.1 Pre-packaged food which has been treated with ionizing radiation shall:

- a) carry a written statement on its label indicating that treatment in close proximity to the name of the pre-packaged food; or
- b) use the international food irradiation symbol, as shown in Figure 1, in close proximity to the name of the pre-packaged food.



B Figure 1- International irradiation symbol

6.2.2 When an irradiated product is used as an ingredient in another food, this shall be declared in the list of ingredients.

6.2.3 When a single ingredient product is prepared from a raw material which has been irradiated the label of the pre-packaged food shall contain a statement indicating the treatment.

6.3 Organically produced foods

6.3.1 Organically produced pre-packaged foods shall be verified by the relevant authority.

NOTE: The exporting country should provide the relevant documentation to prove authenticity and compliance which includes but not limited to quality certificates, test results etc.

6.4 Foods for special dietary uses

Labelling requirements for pre-packaged foods which have special dietary uses shall be in accordance with the CODEX Stan 146 if national requirements do not exist.

6.5 Food additives

Labelling requirements for pre-packaged foods containing food additives shall be in accordance with Annex B.

Article 7

Exemptions from labelling requirements

With the exception of spices and herbs, small units of pre-packaged foods, where the largest surface area is less than 10 cm², may be exempted from the requirements of clauses 5.2 and 5.6 to 5.8.

Article 8

Presentation of labelling information

General

8.1.1 Labels on pre-packaged foods shall be applied in such a manner that they shall not become separated from the container.

8.1.2 Statements required to appear on the label by virtue of this Technical Regulation shall be clear, prominent, indelible and readily legible by the consumer under normal conditions of purchase and use.

8.1.3 Where the container is covered by a wrapper, the wrapper shall carry the necessary information or the label on the container shall be readily legible through the outer wrapper and not be obscured by the wrapper.

8.1.4 The name and net contents of the pre-packaged food shall appear in a prominent position and in the same field of vision on the main panel.

Article 9

Language

9.1 The wording on label for use in Jamaica shall be in the official Language (English).

9.2 Where a prepackaged food label has multiple languages, English Language must also be present.

9.3 All numeric values must be expressed in Arabic numerals or in words.

Article 10

Product Labelling Requirements

The provisions of Article 10 shall have effect as to the types of products which shall constitute the following categories of products:

- I. Fruit and vegetable juices and drinks, and fruit nectars
- II. Brewery products

10.1 Labelling of fruit and vegetable juices and drinks, and fruit nectars

Fruit and vegetable juices and drinks, and fruit nectars shall be labelled in accordance with the requirements of Articles 4 - 9 and the following:

10.1.1 Labels destined for the final consumer shall contain the name of the product as specified in the provisions below. The fruit or vegetable name shall be placed in the product name as indicated below, according to the definitions in Article 3. These names shall only be used if the product conforms to the requirements specified in this Technical Regulation.

a) for fruit and vegetable juice, the name of the product shall be “____ juice” or “juice of ____”;

b) for concentrated fruit or vegetable juice, the name of the product shall be “concentrated ____ juice” or “____ juice concentrate”;

c) for water-extracted juice, the name of the product shall be “water extracted ____ juice” or “water extracted juice of ____”;

- d) for purée, the name of the product shall be “ ____ purée” or “purée of ____”;
- e) for concentrated purée, the name of the product shall be “concentrated ____ purée” or “ ____ purée concentrated”;
- f) for fruit nectar, the name of the product shall be “ ____ nectar” or “nectar of ____”;
- g) in the case of juice products manufactured from two or more fruits or vegetables, the product name shall include the names of the fruit or vegetable juices comprising the mixture in descending order of proportion by weight (m/m) or the words “ ____ juice blend”, “a ____ juice mixture”, “mixed ____ juice” or other similar wording;
- h) for fruit or vegetable drink, the name of the product shall be “ ____ drink” or “ ____ and ____ drink”, where a mixture of fruits and vegetables is used;
- i) for fruit and vegetable juice and fruit nectar, and mixtures thereof, if the product contains or is prepared from concentrated juice and water or the product is prepared from juice from concentrate and directly expressed juice or nectar, the words “from concentrate” or “reconstituted” shall be entered in conjunction with or close to the product name, standing out well from any background, in clearly visible characters, not less than ½ the height of the letters in the name of the juice; and
- j) for fruit or vegetable flavoured drink, the name of the product shall be “ ____ flavoured drink.”

10.1.1.1 When food additive sweeteners are employed as substitutes for sugars in fruit or vegetable flavoured drinks, the statement “with sweetener(s),” shall be included in conjunction with or in close proximity to the product name.

10.1.2 The following additional specific provisions shall also apply.

10.1.2.1 The product name shall include the statement, “sugar (s) added” after the fruit or vegetable juice or mixed juice’s name for fruit or vegetable juice, concentrated fruit or vegetable juice, water-extracted fruit or vegetable juice, fruit purée for use in the manufacture of fruit juices and nectars, vegetable purée for use in manufacture of vegetable juices, concentrated purée, concentrated vegetable purée for use in the manufacture of vegetable juices and fruit nectar , where one or more of optional sugar or syrup ingredients as specified below are added:

a. Sugars with less than 2 % moisture as defined in the CODEX STAN 212-1999 Amendment 1-2001, CODEX Standard for Sugars is allowed in fruit and vegetable juice.

EXAMPLE sucrose (white sugar or mill sugar), dextrose anhydrous, glucose, fructose

b. Syrups as defined in the CODEX Standard for Sugars, liquid sucrose, invert sugar solution, invert sugar syrup, fructose syrup, liquid cane sugar, isoglucose and high fructose syrup are allowed only in fruit or vegetable juice from concentrate, concentrated fruit or vegetable juices, concentrated fruit or vegetable purée and fruit nectars;

NOTE: a and b are applicable only to products intended for sale to the consumer or for catering purposes.

10.1.2.2 When food additive sweeteners are employed as substitutes for sugars in fruit nectars and mixed fruit nectars, the statement, “with sweetener(s),” shall be included in conjunction with or in close proximity to the product name.

10.1.2.3 Where concentrated fruit juice, concentrated fruit purée, concentrated fruit nectar or mixed concentrated fruit juice or nectar or purée is to be reconstituted before consumption as fruit juice, fruit purée, fruit nectar or mixed fruit juices or nectars or purées, the label shall bear appropriate directions for reconstitution on a v/v basis with water to the applicable Brix value.

10.1.2.4 Distinct varietal denominations may be used in conjunction with the common fruit or vegetable names on the label where such use is not misleading.

10.1.2.5 Fruit nectars and mixed fruit nectars shall be prominently labelled with a declaration of “juice content ____%” with the blank being filled with the percentage of purée and or fruit juice computed on a v/v basis. The words “juice content ____%” shall appear in close proximity to the name of the product in clearly visible characters, not less than ½ the height of the letters in the name of the juice.

10.1.2.6 When L-ascorbic acid is added, it may be described in the list of ingredients as:

a) “L-ascorbic acid” if the total concentration of natural and added L-ascorbic acid is less than 250 mg/l; or

b) “Added Vitamin C” where the total concentration of natural and added L-ascorbic acid is equal to or more than 250 mg/l.

NOTE An ingredient declaration of “ascorbic acid” when used as an antioxidant does not by itself constitute a “Vitamin C” claim.

10.1.2.7 Any added essential nutrients declaration shall be labelled in accordance with the CODEX General Guidelines on Claims (CAC/GL 1-1979, Rev. 1-1991), CODEX Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling (CAC/GL 2- 1985, Rev. 1-1993) and the CODEX Guidelines for Use of Nutrition Claims (CAC/GL 23-1997).

10.1.2.8 For fruit nectars in which a food additive sweetener has been added in order to replace wholly or in part the added sugars or other sugars or syrups, including honey and or sugars derived from fruits as listed in 10.1.2.1 a and b, any nutrient content claims related to the reduction in sugars should conform to the CODEX General Guidelines on Claims (CAC/GL 1-1979, Rev. 1-1991), CODEX Guidelines for Use of Nutrition Claims (CAC/GL 23-1997) and CODEX Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling (CAC/GL 2-1985, Rev 1-1993).

10.1.2.9 Pictorial representations of fruits or vegetables on the label shall be allowed provided the product contains ingredients derived from those fruits or vegetables.

10.1.2.10 Where the product contains added carbon dioxide the term “carbonated” or “sparkling” shall appear on the label near the name of the product.

10.1.2.11 Where tomato or vegetable juice contains spices and or aromatic herbs, the term “spiced” and or the common name of the aromatic herb shall appear on the label near the name of the juice.

10.1.2.12 Pulp and cells added to juice, at a level higher than that normally contained in the juice, shall be declared in the list of ingredients. Aromatic substances, volatile flavour components, pulp and cells added to nectar over that normally contained in the juice shall be declared in the list of ingredients.

10.1.3 Non-retail containers

10.13.1 Information for non-retail containers, not intended for sale to final consumers, shall be given either on the container or in accompanying documents, except that the name of the product, lot identification, net contents and the name and address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor or importer, as well as storage instructions, shall appear on the container. For tankers the information may appear exclusively in the accompanying documents.

NOTE: Lot identification, and the name and address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor or importer may be replaced by an identification mark, provided that such a mark is clearly identifiable with the accompanying documents.

10.2 Labelling of brewery products

10.2.1 Brewery products shall be labelled in accordance with the common names as provided in the national product requirements.

10.2.2 Brewery products shall be labelled in accordance with the requirements of Articles 4 -9 and the following:

- a) the common name of the brewery product in accordance with national product requirements;
- b) any brand name or trade name;
- c) the name of the person controlling the trade name or brand name, if different from the manufacturer, together with an indication of the address;
- d) the name and address of importers or distributors where applicable;
- e) the alcoholic content of the packaged product as a percentage by volume;
- f) an indication as to whether the container material may be recycled shall be indicated for metal and / or plastic containers.

10.2.3 The labels on retail containers of shandy shall also include:

- a) a list of the ingredients in descending order of proportion by weight; and
- b) an indication of the fruit or vegetable flavour used in the product and expressed as either natural, natural identical, artificial or a combination of these words as appropriate.

10.2.4 The labels on retail containers of malta shall also include:

- a) a list of the ingredients in descending order of proportion by weight, in which “wort” may be named; and

b) the statement “non-alcoholic”

10.2.5 Bulk containers including barrels, casks or pressurized containers for sale from draughts shall be labelled in accordance with the provisions of Articles 4 – 9 as well as the following:

- a) the common name of the brewed product;
- b) the brand name or trade name;
- c) the name of the brewer, manufacturer or person controlling the brand name and an adequate postal address;
- d) date of minimum durability or “Best by date;”
- e) the average net contents of the bulk containers; and
- f) when exported, the name of the country of origin.

10.2.6 For brewed alcoholic beverages, the following are required:

10.2.6.1 Nutritional labelling is not required for alcoholic brewed beverages.

10.2.7 No health claim shall be made regarding brewed products.

10.2.8 The label shall include written warnings about potential health and safety risks, including drinking and driving, risks of excessive consumption (e.g., liver disease, addiction) and interaction with medications.

Additionally, graphic warnings shall accompany the text.



10.2.9 The application of the mandatory pregnancy warnings shall be stated on beverages containing 0.5% ABV or more. The label shall state the effects on pregnancy (e.g., foetal alcohol syndrome).



10.2.10 The label shall include warnings for underage consumers.



Table 2 - Minimum Diameter of warning logos or pictogram

Packaging volume	Minimum requirement (mm)
Over 1 litre	10
500ml –1 litre	8
Under 500ml	5
Not required under 50 ml	-

Article 11 Conformity Assessment Procedures

11.1 The competent authority shall implement the conformity assessment procedures according to the specified model to ensure fulfilment of this Technical Regulation.

11.2 The manufacturer shall cooperate with the Regulatory Authorities by providing the technical files and other documents proving conformity of the pre-packaged foods with the requirements of this Technical Regulation.

11.3 Labels shall be submitted to the relevant authority, Bureau of Standards Jamaica for approval.

11.4 It is the responsibility of any manufacturer/distributor/importer to ensure that pre-packaged foods are labelled in accordance with the requirements of this Technical Regulation.

Article 12 Responsibilities of Regulators

12.1 The competent authority (as defined in clause 3.14) is responsible for the implementation, market surveillance and enforcement of this Technical Regulation. For label approvals referred to in Article 11.3, the Bureau of Standards Jamaica (BSJ) is the receiving and reviewing body.

12.2 The competent authority shall plan and conduct risk-based market surveillance of pre-packaged foods made available on the market, including documentary checks, sampling, testing and inspections, to verify compliance with Articles 4-10 and Annexes. Surveillance shall be transparent, proportionate and non-discriminatory.

12.3 Where conformity assessment activities are required, the competent authority shall recognize and use competent and impartial laboratories and certification bodies that operate in accordance with the relevant ISO/IEC standards and accreditation rules, applying non-discriminatory acceptance of results from foreign bodies where equivalence or mutual recognition arrangements exist, consistent with WTO TBT Article 6.

12.4 The competent authority shall publish and keep current: (a) administrative forms and guidance for Articles 11 and 13 -15; (b) lists of applicable national, regional or international standards conferring presumption of conformity (where applicable); and (c) contact details and procedures for comments and appeals under Articles 18 and 19.

12.5 Draft measures and conformity assessment procedures under this Technical Regulation shall be notified to the WTO in accordance with TBT Articles 2.9-2.10 and 5.6-5.7, allowing typically 60 days for comments unless urgent problems of health or safety arise. Final adopted texts shall be published and notified as required.

12.6 The relevant authority, the Bureau of Standards Jamaica, shall maintain an Enquiry Point capable of responding to reasonable enquiries and providing relevant non-confidential documents, consistent with TBT Article 10.

Article 13 Obligations of Manufacturers

13.1 Before placing a pre-packaged food on the market, the manufacturer shall ensure that the product and its labelling comply with Articles 4-10 and Annexes and shall submit the label to the BSJ for approval per Article 11.3.

13.2 Labels and any accompanying information shall be accurate, clear and not misleading, and any claims shall comply with Annex A. The manufacturer shall ensure that allergens, ingredients, QUID and date-marking declarations are made as required in Article 5.

13.3 Manufacturers shall compile and retain technical documentation sufficient to demonstrate compliance (including label artworks, formulations, specifications, test reports, and approvals), and make it available without undue delay to the competent authority upon request.

13.4 Where a manufacturer has reason to believe that a pre-packaged food placed on the market is non-compliant or presents a risk, the manufacturer shall immediately; (a) take corrective measures to bring it into compliance, withdraw or recall it as appropriate; and (b) inform the competent authority, distributors and importers, detailing the non-compliance, the risks, and the measures taken.

13.5 Manufacturers shall cooperate with the competent authority on market surveillance activities, including by providing samples, access to premises, and timely responses.

13.6 Manufacturers shall ensure that lot identification (Article 5) and name and address details are present and that traceability information is retained to facilitate withdrawal/recall.

Article 14 Obligations of Importers

14.1 Importers shall place on the market only pre-packaged foods compliant with this Technical Regulation and shall verify that: (a) the manufacturer has carried out the appropriate labelling approval (Article 11.3); (b) labels meet Articles 4-10; (c) the product bears the name and address required by Article 5; and (d) technical documentation is available and can be produced to the competent authority on request (Article 20).

14.2 Importers shall ensure that mandatory labelling information appears in the official language(s) required by Article 9.

14.3 Importers shall ensure that storage and transport conditions do not compromise compliance with date marking and storage instructions.

14.4 Where an importer considers or has reason to believe that a product is not in conformity, the importer shall not place it on the market, shall notify the manufacturer and the competent authority, and shall cooperate on corrective actions, including withdrawal/recall.

14.5 Importers shall keep records identifying manufacturers and distributors to whom the product is supplied.

Article 15 Obligations of Distributors

15.1 Distributors shall act with due care to ensure that, while under their responsibility, pre-packaged foods are in conformity. Before making a product available on the market, distributors shall verify that: (a) mandatory information under Article 4-10 is present, legible and indelible; and (b) date marking, lot identification and name and address details are visible and not obscured by price labels, stickers, other additions.

15.2 Distributors shall ensure storage/handling consistently with the storage instructions and date marking so that the product remains compliant when supplied.

15.3 If a distributor has reason to believe that a product is non-compliant, the distributor shall not make it available; shall inform the manufacturer or importer and the competent authority; and shall co-operate in any corrective action including withdrawal/recall.

15.4 Distributors shall be liable to identify, for a reasonable period, the economic operators from whom they have received a product and to whom they have supplied it.

Article 16 Non -Compliance and Enforcement

16.1 Enforcement measures shall be effective, proportionate and dissuasive, non-discriminatory, and not more trade-restrictive than necessary to achieve legitimate objectives such as protection of health, safety and prevention of deceptive practices, consistent with WTO TBT Article 2.2

16.2 Where non-compliance is identified, the competent authority may, as appropriate and with reasons:

- (a) require corrective actions within a specified timeframe;
- (b) restrict or prohibit making the product available on the market;
- (c) order withdrawal or recall;
- (d) require re-labelling or re-packaging;
- (e) impose administrative penalties according to applicable law; and
- (f) recover reasonable costs of testing, inspections or other measures where non-compliance is confirmed.

16.3 Decisions shall be reasoned and provided in writing, indicating available review and appeal routes (Article 18). Non-confidential summaries of enforcement actions of general interest may be published.

16.4 In determining corrective measures, the competent authority shall consider relevant test reports and certificates from competent domestic or foreign bodies in line with TBT Article 6 and international accreditation arrangements.

16.5 Before adopting an adverse decision, the competent authority shall give the economic operator the opportunity to be heard within a reasonable period, except where urgent action is necessary under Article 17.

Article 17 Emergency Measures

17.1 Where pre-packaged foods present a serious risk to human health or safety, the competent authority may adopt immediate and temporary measures including prohibition of placing on the market, withdrawal, recall, or suspension of approvals, and shall inform economic operators without delay.

17.2 Emergency measures shall be reasonable and reviewed within a defined timeframe to confirm, amend or repeal them considering new evidence.

17.3 Where urgent measures are adopted that may significantly affect trade and for which relevant international standards do not exist or would be ineffective or inappropriate, the competent authority shall notify them to the WTO in accordance with TBT Articles 2.10 and 5.7.

Article 18 Appeals

18.1 Any economic operator subject to an adverse decision under this Technical Regulation may request administrative review within 30 calendar days of notification. A reviewing officer/body independent of the initial decision-maker shall decide within 30 working days.

18.2 The economic operator may appeal the review decision to an independent appeal body/tribunal in accordance with applicable law, which may confirm, vary or set aside the decision.

18.3 Filing an appeal does not automatically suspend the decision; however, interim relief may be granted by the reviewing of appeal body where appropriate.

18.4 Nothing in this Article limits the right to seek judicial review under applicable law.

Article 19 Administrative Provisions

19.1 The competent authority shall maintain and publish the contact details for the TBT Enquiry Point and notification authority for the purposes of WTO TBT Article 10, and ensure timely handling of enquiries and comments.

19.2 Non-confidential information of general interest (including adopted measures, fee schedules, guidance, and lists of recognized conformity assessment bodies) shall be publicly accessible, preferably online.

19.3 In preparing, adopting and applying administrative procedures under this Technical Regulation, the competent authority shall, where appropriate, use relevant international standards or explain reasons when such standards are ineffective or inappropriate, in accordance with TBT Article 2.4.

19.4 Positive consideration shall be given to: (a) accepting as equivalent the technical regulations of other Members where they meet this Technical Regulation's objectives; and (b) mutual recognition of conformity assessment results, consistent with TBT Articles 2.7 and 6.

19.5 Any administrative fees or charges for services (e.g. label approvals, inspections, testing) shall be transparent, non-discriminatory and cost-based; the schedule of fees, basis for calculation and payment terms shall be published and periodically reviewed.

19.6 The competent authority and any contracted bodies shall safeguard confidential information (including trade secrets and proprietary data) except where disclosure is required by law, for the protection of public health or safety, or to other public authorities subject to equivalent confidentiality safeguards. Personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and only as necessary for the purposes of this Technical Regulation.

19.7 Applications, communications and document submissions may be made by electronic means as specified by the competent authority; original or certified copies may be requested where necessary.

19.8 Economic operators shall keep records necessary to demonstrate compliance.

Article 20 Technical Documentation

The technical documentation so far as relevant for assessment shall include:

(a) Copies of documents that the economic operator has submitted to the competent authority;

(b) Compliance/Quality Certificates/Statement of Conformity to include product certificates, label approvals, test results from an accredited laboratory

Article 21 Transitional periods

The following requirements will not be in force, until 6 months before entry into force.

Article 22 Repeal

JS CRS 5: 2017 Jamaican Standard Specification for the Labelling of pre-packaged foods, JS 1 Part 24: 1999 Jamaican Standard Specification for The labelling of fruit juices and JS 1 Part 30: 2001 Jamaican Standard Specification for The labelling of brewery products (beer, stout, shandy, malta) are repealed with effect from the date of entry into force of this Technical Regulation.

Article 23
Entry into force

This Technical Regulation shall enter into force on the XXth day of XXxx, 2026, following its publication in the Jamaica Gazette.

DRAFT Comment Period (12 May 11 July 2026)

Annex A

Requirements for the use of claims on labels

A.1 Non-permissible claims

The following nutrition claims or health claims shall not be made:

- a) claims stating that any given pre-packaged food will provide an adequate source of all essential nutrients, except in the case of well-defined foods for which the national and, where applicable, the competent authority permits this claim, or where appropriate international scientific consensus exists that the product is an adequate source of all essential nutrients;
- b) claims implying that a balanced diet cannot supply adequate amounts of all nutrients;
- c) claims which cannot be substantiated;
- d) claims as to the suitability of a pre-packaged food for use in the prevention, alleviation, treatment or cure of a disease, disorder or particular physiological condition, unless specifically permitted by the national, and, where applicable, the competent authority;
- e) claims which could give rise to doubt about the safety of similar pre-packaged foods or which could arouse or exploit fear in the consumer;
- f) claims which are potentially misleading.

EXAMPLE 1 Meaningless claims, including incomplete comparatives and superlatives.

EXAMPLE 2 Claims as to good hygiene practice, such as wholesome, healthful and sound.

A.2 Conditional claims

The following nutrition claims and health claims shall be permissible subject to the particular condition attached to each:

- a) an indication that a pre-packaged food has obtained an increased or special nutritive value by means of the addition of nutrients, such as vitamins, minerals and amino acids, shall be given if such an addition has been made based on nutritional considerations elaborated by the competent authority and are consistent with the relevant legislation;
- b) an indication that the pre-packaged food has special nutritional qualities as a result of the reduction or omission of a nutrient shall be based on nutritional considerations elaborated by the competent authority and are consistent with the relevant legislation;
- c) terms such as natural, pure, fresh, homemade shall only be used when the product satisfies the definitions for these terms, as defined by the competent authority;
- d) religious or ritual preparation of a pre-packaged food, provided that the food conforms to the requirements of the appropriate religious or ritual authorities;

EXAMPLE Halal, kosher

- e) an indication that a pre-packaged food has special characteristics when all such foods have the same characteristics;
- f) an indication of the absence or non-addition of particular substances to pre-packaged food, provided that it is not misleading and provided that the substance meets all the following criteria:
 - 1) is not subject to any specific national requirements;

- 2) is one which consumers would normally expect to find in the pre-packaged food;
 - 3) has not been substituted by another, giving the food equivalent characteristics, unless the nature of the substitution is clearly stated with equal prominence;
 - 4) is one whose presence or addition is allowed in the pre-packaged food.
- g) an indication of the absence or non-addition of one or more nutrients are regarded as a nutrition claim and requires that the pre-packaged food provides nutrition labelling in accordance with the requirements stated in 5.9.

A.3 Table A.3.1 gives examples for the inclusion of nutrition and health claims on labels.

Table A.3.1— Examples of health and nutrition claims

Type of claim	Claim	Component	Specific Claim
Nutrition claim	Nutrient content claim	Calcium	Food A is a source of calcium.
	Comparative claim	Calcium	Food A contains x % more calcium than...
	Nutrient function claim	Calcium	Calcium aids in the development of strong bones and teeth.
			Food A is a source of (or rich in) calcium.
	Enhanced function claim	Calcium	Calcium may help to improve bone density.
			Food A is a source of/rich in calcium.
	Nutrient content claim	Iron	Food B is a source of iron.
	Comparative claim	Iron	Food B contains an increased content of iron.
Nutrient function claim	Iron	Iron is a factor in red blood cell formation. Food B is a source of (or rich in) iron.	
		A good iron status may promote physical endurance. Food B is a rich source of (or rich in) iron.	

	Nutrient content claim	Folic Acid	Food C is a source of folic acid.
	Comparative claim	Folic Acid	Food C contains x % more folic acid than...
	Nutrient function claim	Folic Acid	Folic acid contributes to the normal growth of the fetus. Food C contains folic acid.
	Nutrient content claim	General Examples	Food D is high in fibre. Food D is low in fat.
	Comparative claim	General Examples	Component X has been reduced in Food E. Food E contains less component X than...
	Nutrient function claim	General Examples	Protein helps build and repair body tissues. Vitamin E protects the fat in body tissues from oxidation.
Health Claim	Reduction of disease risk claim	Iron	Iron deficiency is common among women. Good dietary habits can reduce the risk of developing iron deficiency.
	Reduction of disease risk claim	Calcium	Sufficient calcium intake may reduce the risk of osteoporosis in later life. Food A is high in calcium.
	Reduction of disease risk claim	Folic Acid	Folate may help to normalize plasma homocysteine levels.
	Reduction of disease risk claim	General Examples	A diet low in saturated fat may reduce the risk of heart disease. Food G is low in saturated fat.

NOTE The use of these examples does not represent an endorsement of the specific claims listed in the Table A.3.1.

Annex B

Labelling of food additives

B.1 General

The term “x flavour” is permitted to be used to describe a flavour which is not derived from but reproduces the flavour of “x”.

NOTE Sodium chloride is not included as an additive to which these specifications apply.

B.2 Labelling of pre-packaged food additives sold by retail

B.2.1 Food additive labelling requirements

The labels of all food additives sold for retail shall carry the information required by B.2.2 to B.2.5, as applicable to the food additive being labelled

B.2.2 Details of the food additive

B.2.2.1 The name of each food additive present shall be given. The name shall be specific and not generic and shall indicate the true nature of the food additive. Where a name has been established for a food additive in a CODEX Alimentarius list of additives, that name shall be used. In other cases, the common or usual name shall be listed or, where none exists, an appropriate descriptive name shall be used.

B.2.2.2 If two or more food additives are present, their names shall be given in the form of a list in the order of proportion by weight, which each food additive bears to the total contents of the container.

The food additive present in the greatest proportion by weight shall be listed first.

Where one or more of the food additives is subject to a quantitative limitation in a food covered by a national requirement, the quantity or proportion of that additive shall be stated.

If food ingredients are part of the preparation, they shall be declared in the list of ingredients in descending order of proportion.

B.2.2.3 In the case of mixtures of flavourings in herbs and spices, but not to flavour modifiers, the name of each flavouring present in the mixture is not required. The generic expression “flavour” or “flavouring” is permitted together with a true indication of the nature of the flavour. The expression “flavour” or “flavouring” may be qualified by the words “natural”, “natural–identical”, “artificial”, or a combination of these words as appropriate.

B.2.2.4 Food additives with a shelf-life not exceeding 18 months shall carry the date of minimum durability.

B.2.2.5 The words “For Food Use” or a similar statement shall appear in a prominent position on the label.

B.2.3 Instructions on storage and use

Adequate information shall be given about the way the food additive is to be stored and used in food.

B.2.4 Net content

The net content shall be declared International System of Unit (SI Units). The use of Imperial Units is permitted provided that the net content is also declared in SI Units. The net content shall be declared in the following manner:

- a) by volume or weight, for liquid food additives;
- b) by weight for solid food additives, other than those sold in tablet form;
- c) either by weight or volume for semi-solid or viscous food additives;
- d) by weight together with the number of tablets in the package for food additives sold in tablet form.

B.2.5 Lot identification

Each container shall be coded or un-coded to identify the producing factory and the lot.

B.3 Labelling of pre-packaged food additives sold other than by retail

The labels of all food additives sold other than by retail shall carry the information stated in B.2 except that:

- a) where the food additives in non-retail containers are intended for further industrial processing, the required information, other than that described in B.2.2.2 and B.2.2.5, is allowed on the documents relating to the sale; or
- b) where one or more food additives are subject to a quantitative limitation in a food to be sold, the quantity or proportion of that additive and or adequate instruction to enable compliance with limitation, shall be given.

B.4 Presentation of information

Statements required to appear on the label are not permitted to be obscured by designs or by other written, printed or graphic matter and shall be on contrasting background. The letters in the name of the food additive shall be of a size equivalent to the most prominent printed matter on the label. The name and net content shall appear on the main panel of the label. Any QR Codes used, must be clear and not replace contact or date information of produce. QR codes are not to replace the entire label.



ANNEX C

List of Related Standards

No.	Standard No.	Standard Title.
1	(CODEX STAN 146-1985)	Codex General Standard for the Labelling of and Claims for Prepackaged Foods for Special. Dietary Uses
2	CODEX STAN92 for Food Additives	Codex General Standard for Food Additives
3	CODEX Stan 146	Codex Standard for the Labelling of Claims for Pre-Packaged Foods for Special Dietary Uses
4	CODEX STAN 212-1999 Amendment 1-20012019, 2022	CODEX Standard for Sugar
5	CODEX General Guidelines on Claims (CAC/GL 1-1979, Rev. 1-1991),	CODEX General Guidelines on Claims
6	CODEX Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling (CAC/GL 2- 1985, Rev. 1-1993)	CODEX General Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling
7	CODEX Guidelines for Use of Nutrition Claims (CAC/GL 23-1997).	CODEX Guidelines for Use of Nutrition Claims



Annex D

HS Codes –

No.	Products	HS Codes
1.	Pre-Packaged Foods	2106
2.	Fruit and vegetables juices and drinks, and fruit nectars	2009.90
3.	Brewery product	2203