



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Health  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

AUG 01 2019

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR  
No. 2019-0319

TO : ALL FOOD MANUFACTURERS (INCLUDING REPACKERS AND TOLL-MANUFACTURERS), DISTRIBUTORS (IMPORTERS, WHOLESALERS), AND TRADERS OF RAW MATERIALS, INGREDIENTS AND/OR FINISHED FOOD PRODUCTS

SUBJECT : Adoption of Food Category System and Descriptor of the General Standard for Food Additives (Codex Stan 192-1995, Rev. 2018 or Latest)

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I. BACKGROUND

Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution declares it a policy of the State to "protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them", while Article XIII, Section 12 of the 1987 Constitution, states that the "State establish and maintain an effective food and drug regulatory system, responsive to the country's health needs and problems".

Pursuant to the implementation of the foregoing policies, Section 15 (2), Chapter (4) Title IX, Book IV of the Administrative Code of 1987, authorizes the Food and Drug Administration to act as the policy formulation and sector monitoring arm of the Secretary of Health on matters pertaining to food, drugs, traditional medicines, cosmetics and household products containing hazardous substances, and to formulate rules and regulations and standards in accordance with Republic Act No. 3720 as amended by Executive Order No. 175, Republic Act 9711 known as Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Act of 2009, and other pertinent laws for their proper and effective enforcement.

Notwithstanding, it was expressly affirmed in the Joint Department of Agriculture and Department of Health Administrative Order (DA-AO No. 2005-

001 and DOH AO No. 2005-0028) that "Philippine accession to GATT-WTO and various bilateral and multilateral trade agreements requires compliance with international trade regulations, including the harmonization of national food standards with international food standard-setting body as the Codex Alimentarius Commission." The harmonization of standards, food in particular, is generally viewed as contributory factor to the protection of consumer health. Thus, the adoption of certain Codex standards is deemed imperative.

Accordingly, the Food Category System and Descriptors, which are parts of the General Standard for Food Additives (Codex Stan 192-1995, Rev. 2018 or latest) Annex B Part I and II is being adopted. This shall serve as a guide for identification and classification of food products by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

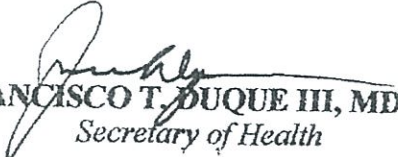
## II. DIRECTIVE

The FDA hereby adopts the *Food Category System and Descriptors* of the General Standard for Food Additives (CODEX STAN 192-1995, Rev. 2018) Annex B Part I and II, to serve as basis for the identification and classification of food products in its processing of applications for authorization.

Manufacturers (including repackers and toll-manufacturers), distributors (importers, wholesalers), and traders, of raw materials, ingredients and/or finished food products must conform to these standards for purposes of identification and classification, and compliance with the necessary regulatory registration requirements of the FDA.

All initial CPR applications filed three (3) months after effectivity of this Order shall comply with this Order.

Dissemination of the information to all concerned is requested.

  
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Secretary of Health