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## SPECIFIC ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

**Canada Opens Consultation on Requiring Large Grocers to Reduce Plastic Food Packaging**

- On August 1, Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) announced a public consultation regarding Development of a Pollution Prevention (P2) Planning Notice for Primary Food Plastic Packaging: Targets for Reduction, Reuse, Redesign, and Recycled Content. The enforceable P2 Notice would require retail grocery chains with annual Canadian sales of over C\$4 billion to prepare, implement, and report on a P2 Plan.
- The P2 Notice is in support of the Canada-wide Strategy on Zero Plastic Waste and follows other measures including a 2022 ban on several single-use plastics as well as the 2023 draft Recycled Content and Labelling Rules for Plastics: Regulatory Framework Paper (BCI Monitors 6-28-22, 1-4-22, 5-2-23).
- Due to food safety requirements under the Food and Drugs Act and its Regulations, the supply of food-grade recycled resins is limited and recycled content targets in the proposed Recycled Content and Labelling Rules for Plastics do not apply to plastic packaging that comes into direct contact with food. The P2 Notice is therefore proposed as an alternative instrument to reduce plastic primary food packaging, with an aim to reach zero plastic waste from primary food plastic packaging.
- P2 Plans would cover primary food plastic packaging, defined as packaging designed to come into direct contact with the food product (Article 1, 4.3), including:
  - Clamshell containers
  - Produce bags
  - Food bags, pouches, and multi-layer wrap
- P2 Plans would be required to address the distribution and sale of foods in the above-listed food packaging, as well as its use in-store to package products for sale or delivery. Both business-to-business and direct-to-consumers sales would be targeted.
- Objectives and targets of particular interest to CCB include:
  - Objective 2 is the distribution and sales of fresh fruit and vegetables in bulk and/or in plastic-free packaging. P2 plans should increase bulk and/or plastic-free sales from 75% by 2026 to 95% by 2028.
  - Objective 3 requires that by 2028 all primary food plastic packaging be reusable, recyclable, or compostable (subject to the proposed labelling requirements in Recycled Content and Labelling Rules for Plastics). While Objective 3 does not specify design requirements, it sets goal for packaging collection rates, sorting yield rates, and re-processing rates that may affect which packaging material can be used for products destined for the Canadian market (Article 4.5).
  - Objective 5 requires that non-reusable plastic food packaging must contain post-consumer recycled content, 10% by 2028, 20% by 2030, and 30% by 2035. Packaging used for foods must still comply with the safety provisions of the Food and Drugs Act and its Regulations.

**A REPORT FOR  
THE CALIFORNIA  
CHERRY BOARD**

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### *Canada Opens Consultation on Requiring Large Grocers to Reduce Plastic Food Packaging (continued)*

- Comments are due by August 30, 2023, and can be submitted via email to [plastiques-plastics@ec.gc.ca](mailto:plastiques-plastics@ec.gc.ca). After the consultation, the draft P2 Notice will be developed and published for public comment before finalization. All entities subject to the Notice would be required to prepare and begin implementing their plan within 12 months of publication of the Final Notice. They must be done implementing all the actions within their plan by December 31, 2035.

### **APHIS Publishes Dates for Upcoming U.S.-Japan Plant Bilateral**

- The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) updated its Plant Health Technical Bilateral Meetings [webpage](#).
- The dates for the U.S.-Japan Plant Health Bilateral Meeting have been scheduled for September 25-29 in Japan. Contact Lisa Kohl for details, [lisa.m.kohl@usda.gov](mailto:lisa.m.kohl@usda.gov)

## **General Issues of Interest to the CCB:**

### **Singapore Adopts Standards on Ecolabeling**

- Singapore adopted [Singapore Standard \(SS\) ISO 14020:2023 Environmental statements and programmes for products – Principles and general requirements](#) which is to be used in conjunction with other standards of the ISO 14020 family for environmental statements and environmental statement programs.
- Specific changes include:
  - Adding definitions of the terms “environmental statement” and “environmental statement program”
  - Adding generic terms and definitions applicable to all types of environmental programs and environmental statements
  - Updating and consolidating principles for environmental statements
  - Adding generally applicable requirements for environmental statement programs and statements
- Also adopted is [SS ISO 14021-Amd 1:2017 Environmental labels and declarations – Self-declared environmental claims \(Type II environmental labelling\)](#), an identical adoption of ISO 14021:2016/Amd.1:2021(E). The amendment pertains to claims regarding a product’s carbon footprint (BCI Monitor 8-9-22).
- Standards are available for purchase from the [Singapore Standards Store](#).

### **UK Publishes Draft EPR Statutory Instrument**

- On July 28, the United Kingdom’s (UK) Department for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) [published](#) its draft Statutory Instrument (SI), [The Producer Responsibility Obligations \(Packaging and Packaging Waste\) Regulations 2024](#), that would implement a revised extended producer responsibility (EPR) system for packaging ([Consultation Document](#)). The SI would revise [2007 Regulations](#) (as amended) and follows consultations in 2019 and 2021 and publication of the [Consultation Summary](#) (BCI Monitors 10-25-22, 11-29-22).
- Proposed changes include mandatory labelling of packaging for recyclability with a single labeling format detailed in Part 2 Chapter 2:
  - The ‘Recycle Now’ recycle mark and relevant wording (recycle/do not recycle) must be used (Article 23, Sections 1 & 2).
  - Article 26 Sections 1-3 detail the size specifications for labeling.
  - All packaging types except plastic films and flexible packaging require a label by March 31 of an unspecified year. Plastic films and flexible packaging require a label by March 31 of a later unspecified year (Article 22, Section 3).
- Further, producers (as defined in Part 1 Article 9) shall assess recyclability of their products based on a methodology developed and maintained by their scheme administrator (detailed in Part 1).
- Comments are due by October 9, 2023, and can be submitted via the [online webpage](#). Following the consultation, the draft will be updated and refined based on responses and then notified to the WTO for a further consultation in Spring 2024.

### Brazil Opens Consultation on 2024-25 Regulatory Agenda

- On July 31, Brazil's National Health Surveillance Agency (Anvisa) [published](#) its preliminary [2024-25 regulatory agenda](#) (in Portuguese) for feedback.
- The preliminary agenda includes the following food related topics:
  - Regulation of sanitary requirements for food of plant origin
  - Update of the regulatory framework for food irradiation
  - Review of legislation on the use of functional and health claims on foods
  - Sanitary requirements for silicone food contact materials
  - Update of the regulatory framework for metallic food contact materials
- Comments regarding prioritization of topics or potential inclusion of additional topics may be submitted through an [electronic form](#) until September 14, 2023