

MAURITIAN  
STANDARD

**MS 30: 2019**

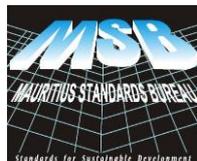
Fourth edition  
2019-09-28

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**Labelling of prepackaged  
foods**

ICS 67.230



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**Mauritius Standards Bureau  
Moka**



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*Mauritius Standards Bureau  
Villa Road  
Moka  
Mauritius*

*Telephone           + (230) 433 3648  
Fax                   + (230) 433 5051/ 433 5150  
E-mail               msb@intnet.mu*

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## Foreword

This Mauritian Standard was drawn by the **Food Products Standards Committee (FPSC)**. It was approved by the **Standards Council** on **29 August 2019** and notified in the **Government Gazette** on **28 September 2019\***.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition (**MS 30: 2016**) which has been technically revised with the following major changes:

### **Subclause 2.4.3, 'date of minimum durability ("best before")**

The term has been replaced by the term 'Best before date or Best quality before date'

### **Subclause 2.4.4, use-by date/expiry date**

The following: 'probably will not have the quality attributes normally expected by the consumers and may not be safe. After this date, the food should not be regarded as marketable' has been replaced by 'should not be sold or consumed due to safety and quality reasons'

### **Subclause 4.2.1.2**

To be more precise, 'at the time of the manufacture of food' has been included at the end of the subclause.

### **Subclause 4.7.1**

As a consequence of the change effected in subclause 2.4.3, the clause 4.7 on labeling requirements has been changed i.e to declare "Use-by Date" or "Expiration Date" when a food must be consumed before a certain date to ensure its safety and quality and 'Best-Before Date" or "Best Quality-Before Date' where a "Use-by Date" or "Expiration Date" is not required. The relevant dates would have to be mentioned. Where the above is not applicable, for e.g fresh fruits, sugar, salt, etc, the "Date of Manufacture" or the "Date of Packaging" may be provided.

### **Subclause 5.3.1**

This clause on Exemption for small units of food packages has been taken from the National Food regulations

### **Subclause 7.3.1**

Table 1 has been taken from the Legal Metrology (Pre-packed Commodities) Regulations 2006 on minimum height of letters and numbers

In preparing this standard, assistance has been drawn from the following documents:

**Codex Stan 1:1985** including **Revision 2018**, *General Standards for the labelling of prepackaged foods*.

**Regulations made under the Food Act 1998**

**Regulations made under the Fair Trading Act 1979**

Acknowledgement is made for the use of information from the above publications.

\*General Notice No **1623** of **2019**

## Labelling of prepackaged foods

### 1 Scope

This standard applies to the labelling of all prepackaged foods to be offered as such to the consumer or for catering purposes and to certain aspects relating to the presentation thereof.

### 2 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this standard the following definitions apply:

#### 2.1 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

#### 2.2 consumer

persons and families purchasing and receiving food in order to meet their personal needs

#### 2.3 container

any form of packaging of food for sale as a single item, whether by completely or partially enclosing the food in such a way that the contents cannot be altered without opening or changing the packaging and includes wrappers. A container may enclose several units or types of packages when such is offered to the consumer

#### 2.4 date marking

##### 2.4.1 date of manufacture

the date on which the food becomes the product as described

##### 2.4.2 date of packaging

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