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**STANDARD**

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**List of constituents of polyalkylene terephthalates (PET and PBT) for their use in contact with foodstuffs, pharmaceuticals and drinking water**

ICS 83.080.20

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**Mauritius Standards Bureau**  
**Moka**



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## Foreword

This Mauritian Standard was drawn by the **Circular Economy Standards Committee** through its Subcommittee on **Recycled Plastics**. It is technically identical to the Indian Standard **IS 12229:1987 + Amd 1:2002+ Amd 2:2013**, *List of positive lists of constituents of polyalkylene terephthalates (PET and PBT) for their safe use in contact with foodstuffs, pharmaceuticals and drinking water*. The standard was approved by the **Standards Council** on 27 January 2021 and was notified in the Government Gazette on **27 February 2021\***

**\*General Notice No. 387 of 2021**

## Introduction

Plastics are now being used on a large scale for packaging of foodstuffs, pharmaceuticals and drinking water. Where direct contact occurs between the packed commodity and the plastics, the high-molecular-mass polymer; being inert and essentially insoluble in food, itself, does not pose a toxic hazard. There is, however, a likelihood that some transfer will occur of polymer additives, adventitious impurities such as monomers, catalyst remnants and residual polymerization solvents and of low molecular mass polymer fractions from the plastics into the packaged material with consequent toxic hazard to the consumers. The occurrence of acute toxicity due to plastics material in contact with food is most unlikely since only trace quantities of potentially toxic materials are likely to migrate. However, the accumulation of these toxic materials with time may lead to hazards which may be serious.

# Positive list of constituents of polyalkylene terephthalates (PET and PBT) for their safe use in contact with foodstuffs, pharmaceuticals and drinking water

## 1 Scope

This standard prescribes positive list of constituents of polyalkylene terephthalates, namely the polymers, manufacturing residue, and necessary additives, which will be regarded as safe for use when properly processed, in contact with foodstuffs, pharmaceutical and drinking water and when present in the prescribed limits of concentration.

The list does not purport to establish the suitability of the ingredients singly in a particular foodstuff from other than toxicological considerations.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents are indispensable for the application of this standard. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest document (including any amendments) applies.

**IS 10146:1982** *Specification for polyethylene for its safe use in contact with foodstuffs, pharmaceuticals and drinking water*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this document the following terms and definitions apply:

### 3.1

#### **polyethylene terephthalate (PET)**

basic material produced by the catalytic condensation at high temperature and reduced pressure of dimethyl terephthalate (DMT), terephthalic acid (PTA) and: if