

- (A) characteristics or their related processes and production methods for a good,
- (B) characteristics for a service or its related operating methods, or
- (C) provisions specifying terminology, symbols, packaging, marking, or labelling for—
 - (i) a good or its related process or production method, or
 - (ii) a service or its related operating method,

set out in a document, including applicable administrative, explanatory, and other related provisions, with which compliance is mandatory.

(8) Telecommunications service

The term “telecommunications service” means a service provided by means of the transmission and reception of signals by any electromagnetic means, but does not mean the cable, broadcast, or other electromagnetic distribution of radio or television programming to the public generally.

(Pub. L. 96-39, title IV, §473, as added Pub. L. 103-182, title III, §351(a), Dec. 8, 1993, 107 Stat. 2120.)

SUBPART 3—PART DEFINITIONS

§ 2577. Definitions

Notwithstanding section 2571 of this title, for purposes of this part—

(1) NAFTA

The term “NAFTA” means the North American Free Trade Agreement.

(2) State

The term “State” means any of the several States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

(Pub. L. 96-39, title IV, §481, as added Pub. L. 103-182, title III, §351(a), Dec. 8, 1993, 107 Stat. 2122.)

PART F—INTERNATIONAL STANDARD-SETTING ACTIVITIES

§ 2578. Notice of United States participation in international standard-setting activities

(a) In general

The President shall designate an agency to be responsible for informing the public of the sanitary and phytosanitary standard-setting activities of each international standard-setting organization.

(b) Notification

Not later than June 1 of each year, the agency designated under subsection (a) with respect to each international standard-setting organization shall publish notice in the Federal Register of the information specified in subsection (c) with respect to that organization. The notice shall cover the period ending on June 1 of the year in which the notice is published, and beginning on the date of the preceding notice under this subsection, except that the first such notice shall cover the 1-year period ending on the date of the notice.

(c) Required information

The information to be provided in the notice under subsection (b) is—

- (1) the sanitary or phytosanitary standards under consideration or planned for consideration by that organization;
- (2) for each sanitary or phytosanitary standard specified in paragraph (1)—
 - (A) a description of the consideration or planned consideration of the standard;
 - (B) whether the United States is participating or plans to participate in the consideration of the standard;
 - (C) the agenda for the United States participation, if any; and
 - (D) the agency responsible for representing the United States with respect to the standard.

(d) Public comment

The agency specified in subsection (c)(2)(D) shall provide an opportunity for public comment with respect to the standards for which the agency is responsible and shall take the comments into account in participating in the consideration of the standards and in proposing matters to be considered by the organization.

(Pub. L. 96-39, title IV, §491, as added Pub. L. 103-465, title IV, §432, Dec. 8, 1994, 108 Stat. 4970.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective on the date of entry into force of the WTO Agreement with respect to the United States (Jan. 1, 1995), except as otherwise provided, see section 451 of Pub. L. 103-465, set out as a note under section 3601 of this title.

Executive Documents

DESIGNATION OF AGENCY

Secretary of Agriculture designated under this section as official responsible for informing public of sanitary and phytosanitary standard-setting activities of each international standard-setting organization, see par. (4) of Proc. No. 6780, Mar. 23, 1995, 60 F.R. 15847, set out as a note under section 3511 of this title.

§ 2578a. Equivalence determinations

(a) In general

An agency may not determine that a sanitary or phytosanitary measure of a foreign country is equivalent to a sanitary or phytosanitary measure established under the authority of Federal law unless the agency determines that the sanitary or phytosanitary measure of the foreign country provides at least the same level of sanitary or phytosanitary protection as the comparable sanitary or phytosanitary measure established under the authority of Federal law.

(b) FDA determination

If the Commissioner proposes to issue a determination of the equivalency of a sanitary or phytosanitary measure of a foreign country to a measure that is required to be promulgated as a rule under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.) or other statute administered by the Food and Drug Administration, the Commissioner shall issue a proposed