

Revision of the Specifications and Standards for Foods, Food Additives, etc.

The government of Japan will revise the Specifications and Standards for Apparatus, and Containers and Packaging (ACP).

Outline

Under Article 18, Paragraph (1) of the Food Sanitation Act (Act No.233 of 1947), the Prime Minister may establish specifications for apparatus, or containers and packaging (hereinafter referred to as the “ACP”) or the raw materials thereof to be served for the purpose of sale or to be used for business, or may establish the standards for the production methods thereof, by hearing the opinions of the Food Safety Standards Council. The specifications and standards are prescribed in the Specifications and Standards for Foods, Food Additives, Etc. (Public Notice of the Ministry of Health and Welfare No. 370 of 1959; hereinafter referred to as the “Public Notice”).

The Consumer Affairs Agency will partially revise “Chapter III: Apparatus, and Containers and Packaging, A. General Specifications for Apparatus, or Containers and Packaging; or Their Raw Materials” in the Public Notice.

Details of revision

- A) Establish a system to allow the use of new substances that are not currently listed on the Positive List of synthetic resin used for ACP by accepting individual applications and publicly announcing each substance that has undergone a safety review procedure established by the Prime Minister (the review is conducted after hearing the opinions of the Food Safety Commission)
- B) Prohibit the use of “class I specified chemical substances” prescribed in Article 2, Paragraph 2 of the Act on the Regulation of Manufacture and Evaluation of Chemical Substances (Act No. 117 of 1973) as raw materials for ACP

This revision will be enforced around spring 2025.