

Council Directive of 20 January 1976 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the making-up by weight or by volume of certain prepackaged products (76/211/EEC)

Article 1

This Directive relates to prepackages containing products^{F1} with the exception of those referred to in the Council Directive 75/106/EEC of 19 December 1974 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the making-up by volume of certain prepackaged liquids, and] intended for sale in constant unit nominal quantities which are:

- equal to values predetermined by the packer,
- expressed in units of weight or volume,
- not less than 5 g or 5 ml and not more than 10 kg or 10 l.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Deleted by [Directive 2007/45/EC Of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 September 2007 laying down rules on nominal quantities for prepacked products, repealing Council Directives 75/106/EEC and 80/232/EEC, and amending Council Directive 76/211/EEC.](#)

Article 2

- 1 A prepackage within the meaning of this Directive is the combination of a product and the individual package in which it is prepacked.
- 2 A product is prepacked when it is placed in a package of whatever nature without the purchaser being present and the quantity of product contained in the package has a predetermined value and cannot be altered without the package either being opened or undergoing a perceptible modification.

Article 3

- 1 The prepackages which may bear the EEC sign specified in section 3.3 of Annex I are those which comply with this Directive and with Annex I thereto.
- 2 They shall be subject to metrological control under the conditions defined in Annex I, section 5 and in Annex II.

Article 4

- 1 All prepackages referred to in Article 3 must, in accordance with Annex I, bear an indication of the weight or volume of the product, known as ‘nominal weight’ or ‘nominal volume’, which they are required to contain.
- 2 Prepackages containing liquid products shall be marked with their nominal volume and prepackages containing other products shall be marked with their nominal weight, except in the case of trade practice or national regulations which provide otherwise and which are identical in all Member States, or in the case of contrary Community rules.
- 3 If trade practice or national regulations are not the same in all Member States for a category of products or for a type of prepackage, those prepackages must at least show the metrological information corresponding to the trade practice or national regulations prevailing in the country of destination.

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4 Until the expiry of the transitional period during which the use of the imperial units of measurement appearing in Annex II to Council Directive 71/354/EEC of 18 October 1971 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to units of measurement⁽¹⁾, as amended by the Act of Accession, is authorized in the Community, the indication of the nominal weight and/or nominal volume of the contents expressed in SI units of measurement in accordance with section 3.1 of Annex I to this Directive shall, if the United Kingdom or Ireland so desires, be accompanied on their national territories by an indication of the equivalent value in imperial units of measurement (UK), calculated on the basis of the following conversion factors:

1 g	= 0.0353 ounces (avoirdupois),
1 kg	= 2.205 pounds
1 ml	= 0.0352 fluid ounces,
1 l	= 1.760 pints or 0.220 gallons.

Article 5

Member States may not refuse, prohibit or restrict the placing on the market of prepackages which satisfy the requirements and tests laid down in this Directive for reasons concerning the markings required to be borne by such prepackages pursuant to this Directive, the determination of their volume or weight, or the methods by which they have been measured or checked.

Article 6

The amendments necessary to adapt the requirements of Annexes I and II to this Directive to technical progress shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure laid down in Articles 18 and 19 of Directive 71/316/EEC.

Article 7

1 Member States shall bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions needed in order to comply with this Directive within 18 months of its notification and shall forthwith inform the Commission thereof.

2 By way of derogation from paragraph 1, Belgium, Ireland, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom may defer implementation of this Directive and the Annexes thereto until 31 December 1979 at the latest.

3 During the period in which the Directive is not operative in a Member State, that Member State shall not introduce stricter control measures regarding the quantity contained in prepackages covered by this Directive and coming from other Member States than those in force when the Directive was adopted.

4 During the same period, the Member States which have implemented the Directive shall accept those prepackages coming from Member States benefiting from the derogation provided for in paragraph 2 of this Article which comply with section 1 of Annex I, even if they do not bear the EEC sign referred to in section 3.3 of Annex I, on the same basis and under the same conditions as those prepackages which comply with all the requirements of the Directive.

5 The checks provided for by Annex I, section 5 shall be carried out by the competent authorities of the Member State of destination when prepackages manufactured outside the Community are imported into the territory of the Community in a Member State which has not yet implemented the Directive in accordance with this Article.

6 Member States shall ensure that the text of the main provisions of national law which they adopt in the field covered by this Directive is communicated to the Commission.

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Article 8

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

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- (1) [OJ No L 243, 29.10.1971, p. 29.](#)