

Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 of the European Parliament and
of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs

CHAPTER I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 2

Definitions

- 1 For the purposes of this Regulation:
- a ‘food hygiene’, hereinafter called ‘hygiene’, means the measures and conditions necessary to control hazards and to ensure fitness for human consumption of a foodstuff taking into account its intended use;
 - b ‘primary products’ means products of primary production including products of the soil, of stock farming, of hunting and fishing;
 - c ‘establishment’ means any unit of a food business;
 - d ‘competent authority’ means the central authority ^{F1}... competent to ensure compliance with the requirements of this Regulation or any other authority to which that central authority has delegated that competence; it shall also include, where appropriate, the corresponding authority of a third country;
 - e ‘equivalent’ means, in respect of different systems, capable of meeting the same objectives;
 - f ‘contamination’ means the presence or introduction of a hazard;
 - [^{F2}g “potable water” means—
 - i as regards England, water meeting the requirements laid down in the Private Water Supplies (England) Regulations 2016;
 - ii as regards Wales, water meeting the requirements laid down in the Private Water Supplies (Wales) Regulations 2017;
 - iii as regards Scotland, water meeting the requirements laid down in the Water Intended for Human Consumption (Private Supplies) (Scotland) Regulations 2017;]
 - h ‘clean seawater’ means natural, artificial or purified seawater or brackish water that does not contain micro-organisms, harmful substances or toxic marine plankton in quantities capable of directly or indirectly affecting the health quality of food;
 - i ‘clean water’ means clean seawater and fresh water of a similar quality;
 - j ‘wrapping’ means the placing of a foodstuff in a wrapper or container in direct contact with the foodstuff concerned, and the wrapper or container itself;
 - k ‘packaging’ means the placing of one or more wrapped foodstuffs in a second container, and the latter container itself;
 - l ‘hermetically sealed container’ means a container that is designed and intended to be secure against the entry of hazards;
 - m ‘processing’ means any action that substantially alters the initial product, including heating, smoking, curing, maturing, drying, marinating, extraction, extrusion or a combination of those processes;

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Article 2. (See end of Document for details)

- n ‘unprocessed products’ means foodstuffs that have not undergone processing, and includes products that have been divided, parted, severed, sliced, boned, minced, skinned, ground, cut, cleaned, trimmed, husked, milled, chilled, frozen, deep-frozen or thawed;
 - o ‘processed products’ means foodstuffs resulting from the processing of unprocessed products. These products may contain ingredients that are necessary for their manufacture or to give them specific characteristics.
 - [^{F3}p “Food Safety Authority” means—
 - i as regards England and Wales, the Food Standards Agency;
 - ii as regards Scotland, Food Standards Scotland;
 - q “prescribed” means prescribed by regulations;
 - r “appropriate authority” means—
 - i in relation to England, the Secretary of State;
 - ii in relation to Wales, the Welsh Ministers;
 - iii in relation to Scotland, the Scottish Ministers.]
- 2 The definitions laid down in Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 shall also apply.
- 3 In the Annexes to this Regulation the terms ‘where necessary’, ‘where appropriate’, ‘adequate’ and ‘sufficient’ shall mean respectively where necessary, where appropriate, adequate or sufficient to achieve the objectives of this Regulation.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Art. 2(1)(d) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The General Food Hygiene \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/642\)](#), regs. 1, **4(a)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F2** Art. 2(1)(g) substituted (31.12.2020) by [The General Food Hygiene \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/642\)](#), regs. 1, **4(b)** (as amended by S.I. 2020/1504, regs. 1(2), **11(3)(a)**); 2020 c. 1, **Sch. 5 para. 1(1)**
- F3** Art. 2(1)(p)-(r) inserted (31.12.2020) by [The General Food Hygiene \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/642\)](#), regs. 1, **4(c)** (as amended by S.I. 2020/1504, regs. 1(2), **11(3)(b)**); 2020 c. 1, **Sch. 5 para. 1(1)**

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 of the european parliament and of the council, Article 2.