

3 April 2018

Page: 1/2

(18-2017)

Original: French

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6.

1. Notifying Member: FRANCE

If applicable, name of local government involved (Articles 3.2 and 7.2):

2. Agency responsible:

Ministère des solidarités et de la santé (Ministry of Solidarity and Health), Direction générale de la santé (Directorate-General of Health) Sous-direction prévention des risques liés à l'environnement et à l'alimentation (Sub-Directorate for the Prevention of Environmental and Food-related Risks) Bureau environnement extérieur et produits chimiques (Office of the External Environment and Chemical Products) (EA1) 14 avenue Duquesne 75350 PARIS 07 SP delphine.caamano@sante.gouv.fr

Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:

3. Notified under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [], 5.6.2 [], 5.7.1 [], other:

- 4. Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition where applicable): Radio equipment for which manufacturers are required to measure the specific absorption rate (SAR).
- **5. Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:** *Projet de décret modifiant le Décret n° 2010-1207 du 12 octobre 2010 relatif à l'affichage du débit d'absorption spécifique des équipements terminaux radioélectriques* (Draft decree amending Decree No. 2010-1207 of 12 October 2010 on the displaying of the specific absorption rate of radio terminal equipment) (2 pages, in French)
- 6. **Description of content:** The purpose of this draft decree is to improve public information on exposure to radio frequencies emitted by radio equipment. Its aim is to make it obligatory to display the SAR value of radio equipment that is subject to a measuring requirement. This value will be provided free of charge to end consumers in the immediate vicinity of the equipment to which it relates at points of sale or distribution and in all advertisements.
- 7. Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable: As stated in Article 10(8) of Directive 2014/53/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to the making available on the market of radio equipment, "manufacturers shall ensure that the radio equipment is accompanied by instructions and safety information in a language which can be easily understood by consumers and other end-users, as determined by the Member State concerned."

In addition, the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health and

Safety (ANSES) published, in October 2013, an update of its expert appraisal on radio frequencies and health. This takes into account the health assessments carried out by expert working groups convened by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), which were published in October 2013 in volume 102 "Monographs on the evaluation of carcinogenic risks to humans: radiofrequency electromagnetic fields", and recommends in particular that exposure be reduced by encouraging the moderate use of mobile phones and the use of hands-free kits and the weakest SAR mobile terminals.

The measure is justified from a public health perspective, as the SAR is currently the only information on electromagnetic field exposure that can be provided to consumers.

- 8. Relevant documents: Loi n° 2015-136 du 9 février 2015 relative à la sobriété, à la transparence, à l'information et à la concertation en matière d'exposition aux ondes électromagnétiques (Law No. 2015-136 of 9 February 2015 on restraint, transparency, information and dialogue regarding exposure to electromagnetic waves)
- 9. Proposed date of adoption: 1 July 2018

Proposed date of entry into force: 1 July 2018

- **10.** Final date for comments: 60 days from the date of notification.
- **11.** Texts available from: National enquiry point [] or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:

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https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2018/TBT/FRA/18 1840 00 f.pdf