



SCREENING CHAPTER 12
FOOD SAFETY, VETERINARY AND PHYTOSANITARY POLICIES

AGENDA ITEM 30: NATURAL MINERAL WATER

Country Session: Republic of Turkey
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I. INTRODUCTION

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The EU harmonization studies

EU harmonization studies related with bottled water (including natural mineral water, spring water, bottled drinking water) are under the responsibility of Ministry of Health

Production licences for the natural mineral water are issued in accordance with the provisions of the “Implementing Regulation on Natural Mineral Water”

Production licences for spring water and bottled drinking water are issued in accordance with the provisions of the “Implementing Regulation on Water Intended for Human Consumption”



➤ **Competent Authority:** Ministry of Health - General Directorate of Primary Health Care

➤ **Legislation:**

1. “Implementing Regulation on Natural Mineral Water” covers the approval, licensing, packaging, labelling, selling and control of the features of natural mineral water (OG 01.12.2004, 25657)

Harmonized Directives: a. Council Directive 80/777/EEC
b. Council Directive 2003/40/EC

2. “Implementing Regulation on Water Intended for Human Consumption” covers the production, packaging, labelling, selling and inspecting of spring and table waters as well as bringing quality standards to table water, spring water and table-use water. (OG 17.02.2005, 25730)

Harmonized Directives:
Council Directive 98/83/EC

II. IMPLEMENTING REGULATION ON NATURAL MINERAL WATER



II. IMPLEMENTING REGULATION ON NATURAL MINERAL WATER

- Commission, member state and third world country concepts have been introduced
- Maximum limits of by-products such as ozone, bromate, bromoform born from ozone-enrichment treatment are determined
- New rules on labelling information and advertisements have been introduced
- Contract filling has been forbidden
- Inspection and monitoring systems have been reorganized
- The representatives of non-governmental organizations have been included in City Inspection Committees.



Main Provisions of Implementing Regulation on Natural Mineral Water

A- Responsibilities of Natural Mineral Water Businesses

- Natural mineral water businesses are obliged to get approval for the water and to get facility license and working permission according to the minimum technical and hygienic conditions laid down in the legislation.
- Natural mineral water businesses should employ a responsible manager.
- Natural mineral water businesses have to analyze water regularly as indicated in the legislation
- Natural mineral water businesses have to recall the products not properly produced and should destroy under supervision of the health authority.
- Natural mineral water businesses have to make daily analysis in their laboratories to keep in line with the rules
- Water businesses have to get permission for the packaging materials issued by MARA.



B- Label Information and Advertisement

- The labelling information of the natural mineral water should include: the name of the spring, type, the place/address where the spring is exploited, the authorization date and number given by the Ministry, the precautions seen as necessary by the Ministry, the list of elements permitted by the Ministry, the information of any treatment and the characteristic of elements of the natural mineral water.
- The containers, caps, packages, labels and advertisements cannot contain symbols or information that would mislead the consumer.
- The production and expiry date and series number are written either on the label or in a place where easily seen on the package.



C- Inspection

The businesses are locally inspected, once a year by the Ministry, four times a year by Provincial Health Directorates.

D- Import and Export Permission

The import and export procedures of the natural mineral water are implemented in accordance with the legislation (Communiqué No:2006/4 on Standardization of Foreign Trade)



III. CURRENT SITUATION



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1. Licensed Businesses

30 businesses have acquired the licence for natural mineral water. The deadline to adopt the Implementing Regulation on Natural Mineral Water is 31.12.2007.

Production licence is issued for 167 spring water and 29 bottled drinking water.

2. Authorized Laboratories

Laboratories (Refik Saydam Hygiene Center, Regional Hygiene Institutes, State Hydraulic Works, Turkish Standards Institute, TÜBİTAK, Turkish Atomic Energy Agency).



III. CURRENT SITUATION

- A network program is developed to get feedback from provinces on the natural mineral water.
- Training programme is being implemented to the manufacturers and Provincial Health Directorates.
- A standard procedure is prepared for daily laboratory analysis at the businesses.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION