



# **MANDATORY MARKING AND LABELLING REQUIREMENTS ON IMPORTED PRODUCTS: PRACTICAL COMPLIANCE ISSUES**

**Thematic Session on Technical Regulations –  
Marking and Labelling  
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# Marking & labelling requirements

- ***What?***
- ✓ *Product Characteristics*
- ✓ *Production methods and processes*
- ✓ *Information concerning use*
- ✓ *etc.*



# Marking & labelling requirements



## ***Why?***

- ✓ *Conformity with mandatory technical requirements,*
- ✓ *Identity of manufacturers,*
- ✓ *Informing consumers about safety, health and environmental issues, etc.*

## Background

**Scope** : *practical aspects of compliance with **mandatory marking and labelling** requirements affecting imported products.*

**Objective:** *promote measures and practices that enable producers to fulfil the legitimate objectives pursued by mandatory marking and labelling requirements in the least costly and burdensome way possible.*

# There is no one-size-fits-all: Regulators have to balance

*Legitimate need to ensure products are safe, and provide consumers with adequate information / confidence ...*



... without excessive cost and administrative burden for producers who need to market their products

# Considerations

*1 – What to require*

*2 – What to allow*

*3 – Procedures relating to labels*

*4 – Method and timing of labelling*

## Considerations – 1

### Information required by the regulator

*What kind of information must be affixed on the label?*

*Limited to information:*




- *relevant for consumers or users of the product*
- *needed to indicate the product's conformity with mandatory technical requirements.*

## Considerations – 2

### Information allowed by the regulator

*Allow additional information, unless is misleading, contradictory or confusing*

- *information in other languages in addition to the language required in the importing Members;*
  - *internationally-accepted nomenclatures, pictograms, symbols or graphics;*
- 
- *additional information to that required in the importing Member*



## Considerations – 3

### Mandatory procedures related to labels

*Approval of labels?*

- *No prior approval, registration or certification should be required*

- *No fee disbursement*



## Considerations – 4

### The method and timing of label application

- *Labelling/corrections in the customs territory of the importing party should be allowed*
- *Non-permanent or detachable labels*
- *Sufficient time to adapt the labels of products in case of new labelling requirement / transitional provisions*

## EU Proposals

- *Discuss and share experiences from Members*
- *Develop recommendations or other guidance documents to support Members in the implementation of the TBT Agreement*



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*Thank you !*