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**Report Highlights:** 

The Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) report provides an overview of the food laws and regulatory environment in Tunisia as it relates to U.S. food and agricultural exports.

#### **Disclaimer:**

This report was prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs of the USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service in Tunis, Tunisia for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped.

# FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.

Please contact this office, if you have any comments, corrections or suggestions about the material contained in this report at: at: agtunis@usda.gov

Please note that hyperlinked Tunisian regulations and government regulatory agencies are in French and should be opened through Google Chrome if possible. The hyperlinks contained in this report were functioning at the time of publication. However, Tunisian official websites are intermittently down, and access is irregular.

# **Table of Contents**

Executive Summary	4
Section I. Food Laws:	4
Section II. Labeling Requirements:	5
Section III. Packaging and Container Regulations:	7
Section IV. Food Additive Regulations:	8
Section V. Pesticides and Contaminants:	8
Section VI. Other Requirements, Regulations, and Registration Measures:	9
Section VII. Other Specific Standards/Laws:	10
Section VIII. Geographical Indicators, Trademarks, Brand Names, and Intellectual Property Rights	13
Section IX. Import Procedures:	14
Section X. Trade Facilitation:	14
Appendix II. Other Import Specialist Technical Contacts:	17

# **Executive Summary**

In 2019, Tunisia has started to reform its legal framework and import regulations on food with the approval of the Food and Feed Safety Law. Key measures in the law include the creation of a national food safety authority as well as a national agency for risk assessment, both of which would report to the Minister of Health. The law allows for a transitional period, and its implementing texts will repeal and replace a number of food and feed safety regulations. The transitional period was initially planned to take two years. However, the time needed to enact all the Food and Feed Safety Law's implementing texts has extended following the Government of Tunisia's pivot to other urgent political and economic legislation. As a result, there is no timetable set for when the Food and Feed Safety Law will be enforced and Tunisia's current regulations on food and feed safety will remain in force until the government is able to implement new regulations. The latest legal development was in late 2023, through Ministry of Health's Decree #2023-765 Tunisia that amended Decree-Law #2021-74 and displayed the administrative and financial organization of the food safety authority.

Historically, U.S. agricultural exports to Tunisia are led by animal feed ingredients, consisting primarily of corn, distillers dried grains with solubles, and soybean for Tunisian crushing facilities. Tunisia has opened to some U.S. consumer-oriented products, notably beef and poultry, although the market remains small.

There are no changes in Tunisian import requirements from the previous year.

#### **Section I. Food Laws:**

Tunisia's Food and Feed Safety Law was approved in early 2019 with the aim of harmonizing Tunisian legislation with European Union food directives 178/2002, 852/2004, 853/2004, 183/2005, and 882/2004. The creation of a one-stop shop national food safety authority and a national agency for risk assessment are under way, albeit slowly. While all current regulations will likely need to be reviewed for consistency with the new food safety law, Tunisia's other relevant laws are as follows:

- Law #92-72 (completed by Law #99-5) concerns the quarantine and phytosanitary requirements applied to unprocessed agricultural products of plant origin,
- Law #99-24 sets the veterinary and sanitary controls of animals and animal products,
- Law #99-42 (amended by Law #2000-66) sets the procedures for seeds and seedlings production, propagation, import, marketing and protection of the rights relating thereto,
- Law #94-86 addresses market distribution channels and retail services, and
- Law #92-117 concerns consumer protections.

Beyond the Government of Tunisia's (GOT's) existing laws and implementing decrees and orders, Tunisia still generally lacks predictability and transparency regarding when and how measures are enacted, interpreted, and enforced through internal measures. Public access to Tunisian import requirements is also often restricted. At the same time, the implementation of Tunisia's regulations is also not always rigorous, particularly regulations that govern labeling, conditioning, handling, transport, and storage of agricultural and food products.

Through Ministry of Trade's Decree #2016-503, Tunisia established a National Commission to ensure its compliance with WTO regulations and facilitate trade, which also coincided with Tunisia's third

WTO <u>Trade Policy Review</u>. However, Tunisia does not have a strong track record of notifying trade measures to the WTO. Virtually all of its relevant SPS and TBT measures have gone unnotified, including those with the stated purpose of restricting trade.

#### **Section II. Labeling Requirements:**

#### A. General Requirements

Ministry of Trade's September 3, 2008, Order regulates the labelling of all pre-packaged foodstuffs intended for retail and food service.

The following components are mandatory on labeling:

- Product name;
- Ingredients, including the full list in descending order of prevalence and allergens clearly labeled;
- Net weight using metric units of volume (*liter*, *milliliter*...) for liquids and weight (*kilograms*, *grams*...) for non-liquids. Food items packed in a liquid container must list the net drained weight;
- Date of production and shelf life shall be listed as: day/month/year;
- Date limit for use or date limit for optimum use, as well as any specific conditions of safety and use:
- Name or the trade name and the complete address of the manufacturer or the packager;
- Number of the lot;
- Place of origin; and
- Storage instructions, such as 'keep in a cool place, protect from light or from dampness' must be indicated when necessary, and important use instructions in the case their omission does not allow appropriate use.

The labeling shall comply with the following:

- Labels appended on pre-packaged foodstuffs shall not describe or present the product in a deceptive or untruthful way;
- Pre-packaged food shall not be sold without labeling;
- The sale and distribution of pre-packaged food is prohibited following the expiry date on the label;
- Only products not having exceeded the midpoint of their shelf-life may be imported into Tunisia;
- Indications on the label shall use indelible ink or by molding or engraving.
- The labels shall be fixed in a way that they cannot be detached from the container;
- Arabic language is required on the label.
- The use of a sticker to rectify or correct required information is prohibited; [Note: in practice, stickers are used by importers/retailers to include required information, e.g., Arabic]
- Required information for labelling must be easily understandable, in clear view, legible, and indelible. It must by no means be hidden, warped, or separated by other indications or pictures.

- For foodstuffs processed by ionizing radiation, the label shall bear either the expression: "processed by ionizing radiation" or "processed by ionization" immediately next to the product name. The use of the international symbol of food irradiation (shown to the right) indicated in the regulations in force is optional, but when it is used, it must appear immediately close to the product name;
- For irradiated product used as an ingredient in another product, it must be mentioned in the ingredients list, and when a product is prepared from an ingredient processed by irradiation, the product label must bear an expression indicating the applied processing;
- For pre-packaged food product containing pork, pork fat or beef fat, it must be clearly mentioned by their specific names on the label;
- For foodstuffs containing genetically engineered materials, this must be clearly mentioned on the label;
- For product containing alcohol, the label must clearly bear the expression "product containing alcohol;"
- For mail-order sales, the catalogues, booklets, leaflets or advertisements which make the consumer know the products supplied for sale and allow him to place directly his order shall comply with the same provisions;
- For goods having a shelf-life of three months or more, the mention of the month and the year is sufficient.
- For non-perishable goods, a time limit for optimum use must be indicated using one of the following sentences: 'to be consumed preferably before.../to be consumed preferably before end of.../ to be consumed preferably within a period of...'

#### **B.** Other Specific Labeling Requirements

# **Nutritional Labeling**

The Ministry of Trade's Order, dated September 3, 2008, is partially inspired by the European Union regulations of 2006 on the use of nutrition and health claims for foods. The Order sets forth the rules for health or nutritional claims (such as "low fat" and "helps lower cholesterol") on foodstuffs based on nutrient profiles by means of positive lists of authorized claims that can be made on food. Health claims are prohibited on food intended for babies and children. Nutritional labeling of vitamins, minerals, and other nutrients is mandatory when a producer is making health or dietary claims on the label. This provision applies to fortified products and to food items intended for a particular use (e.g. infant formula). Otherwise, nutritional information is voluntary.

If the nutritional content is declared on the label, it is mandatory to display values for energy value, protein, carbohydrates (food fibers excluded), and lipids, as well as the quantity of any other nutritional element subject to a nutritional claim. The quantity of protein shall be calculated according to the following formula:  $Protein = total \ nitrogen \ (kjeldhal) \ x \ 6.25$ . The quantity of energy must be calculated using the following coefficients:

Carbohydrates	4 Kcal/g-17KJ
Polyalcohol	2.4 Kcal/g-10KJ/g
Protein	4 Kcal/g-17KJ
Lipid	9 Kcal/g-37KJ
Alcohol (ethanol)	7 Kcal/g-29KJ
Organic acid	3 Kcal/g/13KJ

#### **Environmental Labeling**

Tunisia has an environmental labeling requirement that applies for pre-packaged food items made entirely or partially of plastic and canned foods made of white iron metal and aluminum cans with capacity greater than 100 milliliters. So far, this requirement is only enforced for bottled water and soft drinks. Decree #97-1102, (June 2, 1997), as amended by Decree #2001-843, (April 10, 2001), mandates a national system managed by the National Agency for Environmental Protection (ANPE) to collect and recycle used packaging. The manufacturer or the importer has four options to comply with this regulation:

- Retrieve and recycle used packaging.
- Entrust the implementation of this obligation to an approved company on a contractual basis.
- Enroll in the state-owned recycling system, which gives the right to print the Eco-leaf logo (shown to the right) on the product's label.
- Re-use the package or use it in another industrial process.



### **Food Quality Label**

Ministry of Industry and Technology Decree #2010-2525 regulates the use of a quality label called "*Food Quality Label Tunisia*," which may be awarded to processed foodstuffs with higher, specific, or traditional quality attributes. To date, only Tunisian products have been approved to use the quality label.



#### Plant-Based Meat and/or Dairy Alternatives

Tunisian consumer awareness of plant-based meat and alternative-dairy products are very low and the products have a limited presence in the Tunisian market. Tunisian law does not require special labeling at this time.

# **Section III. Packaging and Container Regulations:**

Decree #2003-1718, dated August 11, 2003, regulates materials intended to come into contact with foodstuffs and requires packaging to include the food grade international logo (shown to the right). The decree does not apply to coating materials covering foodstuffs and requires entails either clearly stating on the container a short message



(mandatory in Arabic and optional in other languages) such as "material fit for food contact" or featuring the logo.

Tunisia has implemented ISPM15 regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade.

#### **Packaging Sustainability Measures**

Tunisia does not have a national strategy to reduce packing waste. However, Tunisia has banned single use plastic bags in modern food retail outlets.

# **Section IV. Food Additive Regulations:**

Tunisian standard NT 117-01 (1995) (validated by Ministry of Industry Order\_on May 20, 1998) governs the use of food additives. The purpose of this standard is to list authorized additives (positive list), their conditions of use, and their respective identification E-numbers. This standard is largely based on European Union directive 1333/2008 on food additives (specifically, directive 94/35/EC on sweeteners for use in foodstuffs, directive 94/36/EC on colors for use in foodstuffs, and directive 95/2/EC on food additives other than colors and sweeteners).

#### **Section V. Pesticides and Contaminants:**

#### Registration

Pesticides are regulated by Law # 92-72, which is supplemented by Law # 99-5. They must be imported by an approved importer in accordance with the Book of Specifications (*Cahier des Charges*) established by Ministry of Agriculture's Order, dated May 5, 2003. The pesticide must also be registered and officially authorized by the Ministry of Agriculture's official laboratory *Laboratoire de Contrôle et d'Analyse des Pesticides*. The registration procedure takes two years, including one year of experimentation.

#### **Maximum Residue Limits**

The laboratory of the National Institute for Nutrition of the Ministry of Public Health (*Laboratoire de l'Institut National de Nutrition*) and the Central Laboratory of the Ministry of Industry (*Laboratoire Central*) are responsible for analysis in foodstuffs.

Pesticide MRLs are set in Tunisian standard NT 117-03, enacted in 1983. The standard states its equivalence to Codex Alimentarius Standard #100-1981 (Codex CAC/RS 100-1978).

Veterinary drug MRLs are set internally within the Ministry of Agriculture and are not publicly available. However, Article 3 of a Joint Order from January 4, 1996 (amended on September 7, 2005) includes reference to veterinary drugs allowed for use in feed along with other additives:

- Antibiotics
- Substances with anti-oxygen effects
- Coccidiostatics and medicinal substances
- Colorants, including pigments
- Emulsifying, stabilizing, thickening and jellying matters
- Vitamins and pro-vitamins

- Trace elements
- Conservation elements
- Binding, coagulating and anti-lumping agents
- Growth factors
- Aromatic substances
- Acid regulators

#### **Contaminants**

The Ministries of Health, Trade and Agriculture's Joint Order, dated May 13, 2013 (replacing Tunisian standard NT 117-02), sets Tunisia's maximum limits for food contaminants, including metals, metalloids, and aflatoxins (B1, B2, G1, G2, M1, M2, ochratoxins and histamines).

Within Tunisia's Books of Specification and Technical Sheets, Tunisia also generally requires a certificate indicating the amount of dioxin residues for all imports of bulk and processed food items as well as a certificate of non-contamination from radioactivity, which may be issued by the country of origin or by Tunisia's National Center for Radioprotection after testing.

#### Section VI. Other Requirements, Regulations, and Registration Measures:

Tunisia maintains many specifications for imported products, and it is recommended to work closely with your importer to ensure these are met. However, Tunisia's Ministry of Industry has undertaken some reforms, including an April 16, 2013, Order which canceled several mandatory product specifications, including but not limited to citrus, apples, table grapes, almonds, hazelnuts, and dried fruit.

#### Free-Import Regime / Import Licenses

Law #94-41 (March 7, 1994) largely allows importers to operate under a free-import regime without first requiring prior authorization via an import license. Products not under the free-import regime require an import authorization granted by the Ministry of Trade that generally lasts for one year. Decree #94-1742 (August 29, 1994), amended by Decree #95-2277 (November 13, 1995), Decree #2000-1803 (July 31, 2000), and Decree #2001-842 (April 10, 2001), established the list of products excluded from the free-import regime.

Decree #94-1743 (August 29, 1994) established the modalities for importers operating under the free-import regime. To obtain a license, a number of documents are required, such as the commercial contract (or other equivalent documents), as well as information about the contracting parties, the products, their origin and where they come from. Exceptions also apply for companies operating under re-export programs or in free trade zones.

#### **Technical Controls**

Decree #94-1744 (August 29, 1994), updated by Decree #99-1233 (May 31, 1999) and Decree #2010-1684 (July 5, 2010), concerns technical inspection procedures for imported products entering Tunisia under the free-import regime. Ministry of Economy's Order (August 30, 1994), amended by Ministry of Trade's Order (September 15, 2005), defines the list of products subject to one of three categories of technical control measures:

- List A: Products Imported under Systemic Technical Control Such products are subject to a conformity assessment against established technical regulations for each shipment which may require additional sampling and laboratory analysis regardless of whether the product has or has not been already tested in the past.
- List B: Products under the Certification Regime Such products may be cleared by Customs as long as they are accompanied by a certificate issued by the country of origin which states that the goods are in compliance with international standards. Agricultural products are no longer among products subject to the Certification Regime.
- List C: Products under the Cahiers de Charges Such products are subject to conformity with conditions defined by a GOT-sanctioned Book of Specifications. Conditions include the importer's eligibility in terms of storage capacity, funding availability, production data disclosure, etc.

Tunisia has no known product or facility registration requirements other than those listed in other sections of this report.

#### Section VII. Other Specific Standards/Laws:

#### **Animals and Animal Products**

Law #2005-95 serves as the legal basis for Tunisia's production, processing, and marketing of dairy, livestock, and poultry and products thereof.

#### **Live Animals & Genetics**

In 2017 and 2018, the United States and Tunisia agreed to <u>sanitary certificates</u> to facilitate the trade of U.S. bovine semen, equine semen, breeding cattle, sheep and goats, and day-old chicks and hatching eggs. In 2022, the United States and Tunisia reached agreement on a <u>sanitary certificate</u> to accompany exports of U.S.-origin bovine, caprine, and ovine embryos, as well as U.S.-origin caprine and ovine semen.

#### **Dairy Products**

In 2012, the United States and Tunisia agreed to a <u>sanitary certificate</u> to facilitate the trade of U.S. dairy products.

The Ministries of Industry and Trade regulate milk powder imports through a quota allocation system according to a Book of Specifications. Quotas are allocated on the basis of the annual requests presented by the end-users (cheese and yoghurt processors).

#### **Treated Hides and Skins of Ungulates**

In 2008, the United States and Tunisia agreed to a <u>sanitary certificate</u> to facilitate the trade of U.S. treated hides and skins of ungulates.

# Beef, Poultry, and Egg products

In 2019, the United States and Tunisia reached agreement on a health certificates to accompany exports of U.S. beef, poultry, and egg products.

#### **Plants and Plant Products**

Ministry of Agriculture's Order, dated February 19, 2016, requires an original phytosanitary certificate conforming to the model established by the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) to accompany all shipments of plants or plant parts into Tunisia. The certificate shall be issued no more than 14 days before export. If the exporting country is not the country of origin, shipments shall be accompanied by a re-export certificate and the phytosanitary certificate issued by the country of origin, otherwise the exporting country must mention the country of origin on its certificate. The phytosanitary certificate must specify that plants are free of certain diseases, as listed in Ministry of Agriculture's Order, dated May 31, 2012, and it shall include an additional statement attesting that the plants or the plant parts comply with the requirements in Article #4 of the Order dated February 19, 2016.

Ministry of Agriculture's Order, dated June 26, 2015, provides a list of banned plant products, including citrus and dates from all countries, apples and pears from all countries with fire blight (*Erwinia amylovora*), and alfalfa from all countries with bayoud (*Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *albedinis*). See also GAIN: Plant Products Banned from Import into Tunisia.

#### **Seeds and Seedlings**

The phytosanitary conditions for the imports of seeds and seedlings as well as the Book of Specifications for seed production, storage, and packaging are detailed in the following decrees:

- Decree #2000-101 (January 18, 2000);
- Decree #2002-621 (March 19, 2002);
- Decree #2004-2179 (September 14, 2004), which amends Decree #2000-101;
- Decree #2007-1104 (May 2, 2007), which amends Decrees #2000-101 and #2002-621;
- Decree #2017-991 (August 15, 2017), which amends Decree #2000-101.

### Wheat and Barley

The Ministry of Agriculture outlines the requirements for the purchase of locally produced wheat and the sale domestically of local and imported wheat in Decree #2012-621. Under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture, Tunisia's Office of Cereals (OCT) maintains an import monopoly on durum wheat, common wheat, and barley. Imports by private entities are only permitted under a re-export program. Import requirements also accompany tenders in a Book of Specifications, which stipulates that U.S. wheat contracts shall correlate with USDA/FGIS standards. See also GAIN: Discount Schedule for Internal Sale Price of Imported Wheat.

# Corn and Soybean Meal

The Ministries of Trade and Agriculture's Joint Order of January 11, 1997, sets the import requirements for corn and soybean meal. See also GAIN: <u>Corn and Soybean Meal Import Requirements</u>.

# Distiller's Dried Grains with Solubles (DDGS).

Tunisia's import requirements for DDGS are established via an internal "technical sheet". See GAIN: DDGS Import Requirements.

#### Feed and Feed Ingredients

The Ministries of Agriculture, Public Health, and Trade's Joint Orders from July 29, 1999, and September 12, 2001, regulate feed production, marketing, labeling, and quality controls. The Ministries of Health and Agriculture's Joint Order of July 9, 2009, laid out the authorized substances in the compound feed formulation and the limits for the unauthorized ones.

To import ingredients for compound feed production, importers are required to maintain a register showing:

- Name and quantities of imported ingredients
- Name and address of supplier
- Date of production of ingredients
- Name and address of buyers
- Quantities and numbers of lots of ingredients sold or in stock
- Analysis certificates giving contents of noxious elements

#### Beer, Wine, and Spirits

Alcoholic beverage imports into Tunisia are restricted to authorized companies. All imports must be registered and stamped by the Ministry of Finance at the point of entry. Distribution and sale of alcoholic drinks is also controlled by the Government according to the Law #98-14 (amended by Law #2004-76), and only a few companies (including major modern retailers) are allowed to conduct these activities. The Ministries of Commerce and Interior's Joint Order from December 14, 2006, sets the conditions for retail sales. Sales for on-site consumption are only authorized to hotels, restaurants, and a few bars.

#### Vitamin Enrichment requirements; Dietetic or Special Use Foods

No specific requirements are available for vitamin enrichment, dietetic foods, or special use foods other than the information listed in the labelling section of this report.

#### **Halal and Kosher Label**

Tunisia does not maintain a regulation on halal requirements. However, halal, kosher, and other religious considerations remain a requirement that is enforced at the business-to-business level. The Government of Tunisia does not maintain a list of authorized halal certifiers, and exporters should work with their importer to specify which halal certification is required. Meat exporters should note that Tunisian consumers expect that any meat product for sale (for example, beef, lamb, and chicken) has been manufactured according to halal traditions. Consumers will reject a meat product if it has not been manufactured using halal practices. Tunisia allows the sale of alcohol and pork products.

#### **Food Sanitation Laws/Guidelines**

The Minister of Agriculture Order dated January 4, 2013, set sanitary conditions for the creation of meat and offal processing and stocking establishments. The Minister of Agriculture Order dated May 26, 2006 (and amended January 27, 2014) established Tunisia's veterinary-sanitary control methodology and the conditions/procedures for granting health approvals to production, processing, and conditioning establishments of animal-origin products.

# Plant-Based Meat and/or Dairy Alternatives

Tunisia currently places no restrictions or additional requirements on the importation of plant-based meat and/or dairy alternatives.

# **Biotechnology**

Tunisia currently places no restrictions or additional requirements on the importation of biotechnology derived products.

# Section VIII. Geographical Indicators, Trademarks, Brand Names, and Intellectual Property Rights

Law #94-36 protects copyrights and establishes the Tunisian Institution for the Protection of Copyright (*Organisme Tunisien de Protection des Droits d'auteur*). According to Article 18, the copyright shall be valid during the author's lifetime and must continue for fifty calendar years after the author's death. The law established monetary sanctions for violations or infringements.

Law #2001-36 (completed by Law #2007-50) protects trademarks and brand names. Registration with the National Institute for Standardization and Industrial Property (INNORPI) is required to obtain protection and is normally issued upon filling an application for registration. A trademark registration is valid for fifteen years from the date on which the application for registration is filled. It may be renewed indefinitely for similar periods of time. Tunisia does not require use of a trademark as a condition for maintaining registration.

Ministry of Finance's Order, dated January 11, 2016, outlines Customs procedures to stop trade of goods suspected of violating copyright and/or trademark laws.

Tunisia is a member of World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and has signed most WIPO agreements. Tunisia is also a WTO member and thereby a signatory to the TRIPS agreement.

In 2018, the European Union proposed to Tunisia mutual recognition of each party's Geographical Indications.

# **Section IX. Import Procedures:**

The customs clearance process for a product imported under the free-import regime is composed of two essential steps:

- 1) Declaration: Import declarations may be completed online with the Tunisian customs office and consists of an application form along with documents cited below.
  - Request an 'Autorisation de Mise à la Consommation' (AMC) and/or an 'Autorisation Provisoire d'Enlevement' (APE), bearing the signature of the importer, in accordance with the model of the single bundle enacted by Ministry of Trade's Order of November 14, 2000. Note: The APE is a provisionary document used in absence of the AMC to expedite customs clearance; however, importers must refrain from distributing or further processing the imported good until the AMC is delivered by the Ministry of Trade, Directorate of Quality and Consumer Protection. The AME provides authorization for the importer to sell the product in the marketplace.
  - Commercial Invoice: Since October 2006, customs clearance requires domiciliation of
    the commercial invoice with an approved financial intermediary (i.e. commercial bank).
    Tunisia's Central Bank prohibits the flow of currency out of Tunisia as payment for
    imports before documents are presented to the issuing bank confirming that the
    merchandise has entered the country.
  - Certificate of Origin,
  - Packing List,
  - Bill of Lading,
  - Technical Notice describing the composition of product, the number of lot, the date of
    production and the validity period, safety requirements, rules of storage, compliance
    certificate, and analyses...
  - Other document(s) at the discretion of the Authorities
- 2) Custom Control: All products that arrive for entry are systematically sorted by Customs' information system "Système d'information douanier automatisé (SINDA)" according to certain criteria, including the type of the product and the importer. The products are then inspected accordingly to the procedures described in Section VIII in order to receive the Autorisation de Mise â la Consommation (AMC). This operation can take up to 20 days depending on the product.

#### Section X. Trade Facilitation:

In July 2020, Tunisia ratified the WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement and notified 59.7 percent of its commitments as Category A with remaining commitments yet unnotified.

Tunisia has no known advance ruling procedures and preclearance programs. Therefore, there are no products currently in a Tunisian pre-clearance program.

Electronic certificates are not permissible, including the Global e-Phyto hub created by the International Plant Protection Convention.

Traders should be prepared to pay customs fees at the border. Tunisian customs fees are estimated at 3 percent of the good's value.

The time required to file an import declaration is estimated at 45 minutes and the customs clearance process for a product imported under the free-import regime takes less than 12 days on average. However, common port disruptions may cause delays and waiting that exceed the average. According to Tunisian importers these delays can sometimes exceed two weeks.

# **Appendix I. Government Regulatory Key Agency Contacts:**

#### Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Hydraulic Resources

# **Directorate General for Veterinary Services**

30, rue Alain Savary, 1002, Tunis,

Tunisia

Phone: +216 71 786 833 E-mail: mag@ministeres.tn

# Directorate General for Agricultural Production

30, rue Alain Savary, 1002, Tunis,

Tunisia

Phone: +216 71 786 833 E-mail: mag@ministeres.tn

# Ministry of Trade

# Directorate of Quality and Consumer Protection (DQPC)

37, av. Keireddine Pacha, 1002 Tunis Phone: +216 71 890-070 / 890 337 E-mail: mcmr@ministeres.tn

#### Ministry of Industry

# National Institute for Standardization and Industrial Property (INNORPI)

BP 23 - 1012 Tunis Belvédère

Tel: +216 71 785 922 Fax: +216 71 781 563 E-mail: <u>inorpi@email.ati.tn</u> Web: http://www.innorpi.tn/

# Directorate General for Crop Protection and Quality of Agricultural Products

30, rue Alain Savary, 1002, Tunis,

Tunisia

Phone: +216 71 786 833 E-mail: mag@ministeres.tn

### Cereal Board of Tunisia (OCT)

65, Rue de la Syrie 1002 -Belvédère-

**Tunis** 

Phone: +216 71 800 040 E-mail: octmail@gnet.tn

Web: http://www.oc.com.tn/fr/

#### Trade Board of Tunisia

65, Rue de la Syrie 1002 -Belvédère-

**Tunis** 

Phone: +216 71 800-040 E-mail : oct@email.ati.tn

# Packaging Technical Centre (PACKTEC)

Cité El Khadra, par la rue Alain SAVARY. BP 64 .1003 Tunis.

Tel: +216 71 772 755 Fax: +216 71 773 300 E-mail: Packtec@packtec-

tunisia.com

Web: https://www.packtec.tn

#### Ministry of Public Health

# **National Agency of Sanitary and Environmental Control of Products**

2 rue Ibn Nadim Monplaisir Tunis

Phone: +216 71 966-687

E-mail: ancsep@ancsep.com.tn Web: http://www.ancsep.rns.tn/

# Ministry of Finance

# **Directorate General for Customs Services**

5 rue ichbilia, Tunis, Tunisie

Tel: +216 71 353 685 Fax: +216 71 353 257

Web: <a href="http://www.douane.gov.tn/">http://www.douane.gov.tn/</a>

# Ministry of Culture

# **Tunisian Institution for the Protection of Copyright**

37 Rue Mikhail Nouaima, 1005 El Omrane

**Tunis Tunisie** 

Tel: + 216 71 840 668 Fax: + 216 71 847 125 Email: otpda@planet.tn

#### Other Agencies

# **Tunisian Central Bank**

25, Rue Hédi Nouira – Tunis

Tel: +216 71 122-000 Fax: +216 71 340-615

Web: https://www.bct.gov.tn/

# **Appendix II. Other Import Specialist Technical Contacts:**

#### U.S. Government

# Office of Agricultural Affairs

U.S. Embassy Tunis Morocco and Tunisia E-mail: agtunis@usda.gov

Phone: +216-71-107-486 Fax: +216-71-107-101

# **Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service**

U.S. Embassy Cairo North Africa and Middle East Phone: +20-2-2797-2238

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#### Office of Patent and Trademark

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#### **Attachments:**

No Attachments