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Report Highlights:

This report is an annual update of Senegal's food and feed regulations and governmental regulatory bodies and enforcement mechanisms. It provides information and guidance on import requirements, procedures, and documentation. In 2024, Senegal adopted 25 new ECOWAS standards at the national level that are currently undergoing formal approval and integration into the national regulatory framework.

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Disclaimer: This report was prepared by the U.S. Embassy Dakar’s Office of Agricultural Affairs (OAA), for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care has been 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 PRODUCTS IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY’S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.

Executive Summary:

This report provides a comprehensive overview of Senegal's food and agricultural import regulations, outlining the key requirements for U.S. exporters seeking to enter the Senegalese market. Senegal's regulatory framework involves multiple government agencies, which oversee product quality, safety, and compliance through import controls, inspections, and enforcement of sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures. The report covers essential procedures, documentation requirements and food safety standards to help U.S. exporters navigate the Senegalese market effectively.

The report highlights key obligations such as the mandatory Import Declaration for Food Products (DIPA), which ensures quality control and food safety. The DIPA requires supporting documents including pro forma invoices, certificates of origin, health certificates, and product samples for laboratory analysis. Additionally, the report outlines the requirements for a Prior Import Declaration (DPI) for shipments exceeding specific value thresholds and details the inspection procedures that occur before shipment or upon arrival of food products at the Senegalese border.

Regulations specific to food labeling, packaging standards, and fortification requirements are also addressed emphasizing the importance of complying with these standards to ensure smooth entry into the Senegalese market.

U.S. exporters are advised to collaborate closely with local importers, consult with relevant Senegalese authorities such as the Association Sénégalaise de Normalisation ([ASN](#)), and engage certified customs brokers to facilitate the importation process. This proactive approach will help ensure compliance with Senegal’s import regulations and support successful market entry strategies. For additional information, contact the Senegalese Standards Association (ASN) [See Appendix I].

Section I. General Food Laws

A. Regulatory Framework

Senegal's regulatory environment for food and agricultural imports is structured with a clear hierarchy of legal instruments.

At the top are **laws**, passed by the National Assembly with Food Safety Law 66-48 ([Law 66-48](#) of May 1966) being the primary legal framework governing food safety

This law is supplemented by **decrees** issued by ministerial authorities that provide detailed implementation guidelines. Key decrees include:

- [Decree 68-507](#) regulates the trade and production of processed food or feed.
- Decree 68-508 determines procedures for inspections, sampling, risk assessments, seizures, and fraud prevention.
- [Decree 60-121](#) regulates the trade of plants and forestry products.
- [Decree 99-259](#) specifies what ministries have the authority to develop and execute quality and safety regulations for fruits and vegetables and other plant products.
- Decree 69-891 regulates the quality of milk and other dairy products.
- [Decree 89-543](#) regulates the food safety of meat products and byproducts.
- [Decree 69-132](#) regulates the trade or transportation of fish and seafood products.
- [Decree 2009-872](#) mandates that wheat flour and vegetable oil must be fortified with micronutrients (iron and folic acid for wheat flour and vitamin A for vegetable oil).

Standards are further defined by the Association Sénégalaise de Normalisation (ASN), which is responsible for developing, adopting, and promoting national standards to ensure product safety, quality, and compliance with international norms. These standards are often incorporated into regulatory provisions in the form of technical regulations. This structured framework aims to ensure the safety, quality, and proper labeling of imported food and agricultural products while aligning with international trade practices.

B. Regulatory Bodies

Food safety and agricultural imports in Senegal are overseen by the Ministries of Agriculture, Commerce, and Health, with each ministry managing quality, sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures based on the type of product and conducting inspections at border points (air, land, and water) in coordination with other national agencies.

The Ministry of Commerce ensures that imported processed foods and feed (excluding processed fish and seafood products, which are under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Fisheries) meet Senegalese food safety standards. The Director of External Trade from the Ministry of Trade is also the National Notification Authority for the World Trade Organization (WTO), responsible for notifying the WTO of any new or changed regulations related to food safety, animal, and plant health that may affect international trade.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Livestock controls live plants and seeds, media, and bulk commodities such as wheat. It also oversees meat and poultry, live animals, feed products, and milk and dairy products.

The Ministry of Fisheries and Maritime Affairs has jurisdiction over fish and seafood products.

The Directorate of Plant Protection (DPV) and **Directorate of Veterinary Services (DSV)** play critical roles in enforcing sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures. The DPV is the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Enquiry Point.

Senegal's National Codex Committee is responsible for representing Senegal at Codex meetings. The committee's focal point is based in the Ministry of Health and Social Action. It advises and informs government and private sector interest groups on Codex food safety guidelines and their applications, as well as initiates and oversees research and surveys on various food safety issues and standards. The National Codex Committee includes representatives from:

- *the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Livestock*
- *the Ministry of Environment and Ecological Transition*
- *the Ministry of Fisheries and Maritime Affairs*
- *the Ministry of Commerce*
- *the Senegalese Standards Association (ASN)*
- *several research institutions such as the Food Technology Institute (ITA)*
- *university scientists, the private sector, and professional and consumer organizations*

The Senegalese Standards Association (ASN) develops and approves quality and food safety standards and is led by a Board of Directors (nine members) which include: three members elected by secret ballot by the Extraordinary General Assembly, three founding members designated by the founding members, and three members appointed by the Government and representing the following ministries: Industry, Finance, and Commerce. The Board of Directors normally meets annually to review and approve quality and food safety standards created by ASN technical units. The ASN also raises public awareness and trains the private sector, consumers, and government officials on ASN standards. ASN is also the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Enquiry Point.

Development and Implementation Process of Food and Agricultural Standards in Senegal

To initiate the development of a quality or food safety standard, the Ministries of Commerce, Livestock, Agriculture, Fisheries, or any stakeholder may request an ASN technical unit to develop a standard for the respective food or agricultural product under their jurisdiction. This draft standard may reference international guidelines such as Codex. However, the technical units may also develop standards based on Senegal's own risk assessments. After the ASN technical unit drafts the standard, it is sent to an ASN-led committee constituted by government officials, which could include experts from various ministries, the private sector, universities, researchers, other institutions, and a National Codex focal point representative for recommended approval and accreditation. ASN then conducts a public survey on the draft at the national and international level and the results are reviewed by the lead committee before the standard is submitted to the Board of Directors for final approval. However, even if approved by the Board of Directors, the standard will remain "recommended" and unenforceable unless a Ministry issues a decree, which would render it obligatory. Currently, nine ASN standards for food and

agricultural products are obligatory (see Section VII). Risk assessments referenced for the development of ASN standards are conducted by the MHSA. Other government and private entities involved in risk assessments include the Veterinary and Animal Health National Laboratory of the Senegalese Agricultural Research Institute (ISRA), ITA, and the Pasteur Institute.

C. Strategies and Emergency Response Measures

In 2017, the Ministry of Health developed the **National Food Safety Strategy (NFSS)** to enhance Senegal's food safety system by preventing and reducing foodborne diseases, emphasizing risk assessment, management, and communication. It also suggested creating a centralized food safety authority and targeted key sectors such as rice, fruits and vegetables, foods of animal origin (poultry meat, milk and dairy products, and red meat), and refined vegetable oil.

The National Committee for International Trade Negotiations (CNNCI), established in 2002, addresses trade issues at the bilateral, regional, and multilateral level (such as trade agreements or other issues or disputes). The CNNCI is chaired by the Minister of Commerce (the Directorate of Foreign Trade is the Executive Secretary) and includes membership from other government ministries, the private sector, and consumer associations. The CNNCI has six subcommittees including: a) trade in food and agricultural products; b) trade in goods; c) trade in services; d) trade and the environment; e) trade and investment and development; and f) intellectual property rights that affect trade.

Additionally in 2019, **the National Security Emergency Response Plan for Food Sanitation (PNRUSSA)** was introduced to provide coordinated responses during food safety emergencies. It provides timely responses to limit the risk of the spread of food-borne illnesses and protect the health of consumers.

Section II. Labeling Requirements

A. General Requirements

NS ECOSTAND 050 (**obligatory**) *based on the Codex General Standard for Labeling of Prepackaged Foods* (Codex Stan 1-1985-Rev.1-1991) requires certain labeling requirements for all prepackaged foods for wholesale, retail, catering, and sample purposes unless otherwise noted by Codex. These products must have **French labeling** with the following information:

- Name and address of manufacturer or its local distributor or importer
- Food name, list of ingredients, product designation, net contents and drained weight (must use the metric system), batch identification
- Country of origin
- Instructions for use
- Manufacturing date specifying day, month, and year (DD/MM/YY)
- The expiration date should be marked in the same manner as the date of manufacturing. This should be preceded by an ingredient list and a “Best Before” notice: “*A consumer de preference avant le DD/MM/YY*”
- Irradiated products must clearly indicate irradiation details (percentage and list of ingredients, as well as the weight or volume) alongside the product name.

Food names: according to NS ECOSTAND 050, food names must conform with Codex designations. Otherwise, Senegalese legislation stipulates that certain food names must be used. If no guidance exists, a usual or common name or descriptive term can be used.

List of ingredients: The label must also include a complete list of ingredients in descending order according to weight. Certain foods must be declared in the ingredients list because they may contain potential allergens such as cereals, eggs, fish, shellfish, oilseeds, milk and dairy products, nuts, and sulfite (concentration of 10 mg per kg or more). Also to be declared in the list of ingredients: food containing a large quantity of food additives, or food with sufficient food additives to perform a technological function. Lower quantities of food additives do not need to be declared in the list of ingredients. For foods destined for animal consumption, the label should include a list of ingredients, guaranteed levels of protein, fat and cellulose matter, vitamins, and minerals, as well as instructions for use.

Language: If the original label is not in French, labels in French must be applied on food packaging before export or at the port. For more details, please see NS ECOSTAND 050, which must be obtained in hard copy form from ASN. Labels must be secure on food packaging; moreover, labels must be easily readable.

Health claims: are not allowed on food products. In addition, claims that suggests or imply that a food has a health benefit due to its origin, nutritional properties, nature, composition, or any other quality is not permitted. References or allusions by words, pictures, or any other way from one food product to another related but different product is not permitted.

The U.S. nutritional fact panel is acceptable and should be in French.

B. Other Specific Labeling Requirements

ASN has developed recommended labeling standards for other food products:

Milk Powder: NS 03-001 recommends milk powder labels specify whether the product is “whole milk powder,” “partially creamed milk powder,” or “creamed milk powder.” If sugar is added to the product, the word “sweet” can be placed right next to the product name. When unpasteurized milk is not cow milk, the animal species can be specified following the product name. This also applies to plant protein milk powder. Other recommended descriptions include the following: name, status, brand, and address of the manufacturer or importer, net weight (references the International System of Units), date of manufacture, lot number, quantity of water, fat, and sugar, presence of emulsifiers, and directions for the direct consumption of milk powder. (not obligatory)

Processed dairy products: NS 03-021 recommends labels for processed dairy products and pasteurized fluid milk indicate the expiration date and storage temperature or the statement “Keep Cold.” For example, the labels for pasteurized milk can note that storage temperature ranges from 0 to +10 degrees Celsius (not obligatory).

Butter: NS 03-044 recommends labels for pasteurized butter indicate the packaging date, and the words “half salted” or “salted” near the brand name. Labels for refrigerated butter can note that the product can be stored for no more than three weeks at temperatures ranging from 0 to +6 degrees Celsius, and frozen pasteurized butter for no more than six months at temperatures equal to or less than 14 degrees Celsius (not obligatory).

Fermented milk and dairy products: can follow the labelling requirement of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) 1036-2016 standards (not obligatory).

Meat: NS 03-006 recommends labels for poultry meat and other meat products indicate freezing or deep-freezing dates. Labels of whole, half, or quarter beef products can indicate whether the product is frozen, de-frosted from a previously frozen state, or sliced and processed. If the product is not intended for direct retail sale, it can be labeled with the processing date. If the product is for direct retail sale, it can be labeled with the net weight and expiration date. Uncooked poultry meat has not been eligible for import since 2005. There is no specific requirement for plant-based meat (not obligatory).

Bouillon: An obligatory ASN standard (NS 03-146) for bouillon was approved in 2015, which also includes labelling requirements.

Dried legumes: labels can indicate the name of the products or commercial variety (not obligatory).

Corn products can be labeled as follows: “*maïs*” for corn, “*maïs doux*” for sweet corn, and “*farine de maïs*” for corn flour. In addition, sweet corn grain can be homogenous and of the same origin, variety, and quality (not obligatory).

GE Products: Senegal’s 2022 Biosafety Law states that any genetically engineered (GE) and/or derived product intended for deliberate release, including placing on the market, must be clearly identified and labeled in an indelible and tamper-proof manner. The labeling should mention the specific characteristic

of each GE and/or its derived products. It should be printed in a font large enough to be easily distinguished and read, and the following must appear on the label:

- "Product containing GMOs" if the presence of GE product is proven.
- "Product that may contain GMOs" if the presence of GE product cannot be excluded even if it is not demonstrated.
- "Product that may cause... (specifying the particular reactions, allergies or other side effects) when it is known that a particular reaction, allergy or other side effect may be caused by the product.

Section III. Packaging and Container Regulations

There are no obligatory packaging and container regulations for food products, including sustainability measures. However, ASN recommends (not obligatory) that food products exported to Senegal be packed with materials resistant to tropical weather (heat and high moisture) and strong enough to withstand poor handling. Thin cardboard or plywood materials are not recommended. In general, packages should be sturdy and, depending on the type of product, banded on the outside with steel strapping. In addition, ASN recommends that packaging materials should be safe and suitable for intended use and not diffuse any toxic substances or undesirable odors or flavors. Bags must be clean, sturdy, and strongly sewn or sealed.

- NS 03-001 recommends (not obligatory) that foods such as **milk powder** have certain packaging requirements and preserve hygienic and organoleptic qualities. More specifically, milk powder packaging is suggested to have multiwall paper bags (five layers); one layer can be reinforced by a 0.1 mm of polyethylene, tinned white iron, or aluminum reinforced by polyethylene.
- NS 03-021 recommends (not obligatory) that **pasteurized fluid milk** be packaged in one-liter, half-liter, or quarter-liter containers.
- NS 03-044 recommends (not obligatory) that pasteurized butter be mechanically packed in boxes, cardboard boxes covered with paraffin, or wrapped with a polyethylene film and sealed cardboard.
- NS ECOSTAND 047 (**obligatory**) requires that **wheat** shipped in bulk be packaged to preserve hygienic and organoleptic qualities.

NB: Other specific standards exist for the packaging of various food and agricultural products and are made available to the public through the ASN. It is strongly recommended to consult ASN before shipping food products to Senegal.

A. Packaging Sustainability Measures

Senegalese [law No. 2015-09 of May 4, 2015](#) (in French) on the prohibition of the production, importation, possession, distribution, use of low-micron plastic bags and the rational management of

plastic waste prohibits the production, importation, holding for sale, offering for sale, sale, making available to the user, use, in any form whatsoever, of single-use plastic products or disposable plastic products. Single-use plastic products or disposable plastic products are the products made or manufactured from the following plastic materials: tumblers, glasses and glass lids; cutlery and plates; drinking straws and stir sticks; bag intended and used to condition water or any other beverage, alcoholic or not, for marketing purposes.

For municipal waste disposal and recycling regulations, please visit Senegalese [law No. 2015-09 of May 4, 2015](#) (in French).

Section IV. Food Additive Regulations

The [ASN](#) has issued standards (NS 03-017) for cooking salt and (NS 03038) iodine content in cooking salt that are not obligatory.

However, the standard (NS ECOSTAND 048) for iodized cooking salt is obligatory. Adding iodine to salt has been compulsory in Senegal since December 2000 (Decree 2000-1154 of December 29, 2000).

Other obligatory standards require the addition of vitamins or minerals in food products, such as iron and folic acid in wheat flour (NS ECOSTAND 047) and Vitamin A in vegetable oil (NS ECOSTAND 008).

NB: For food additives that do not have an ASN standard, Senegal references standards applied by the exporting country or the Codex General Standards for Food Additives (192-1995).

Section V. Pesticide and Contaminants

Senegal applies control measures adopted through the Phytosanitary Convention for Africa and the Sahelian Pesticides Committee, which is a part of the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS). For more information on authorized pesticides, please visit the [committee's website](#).

Pesticides sold in Senegal must be registered and approved by the Directorate of Plant Protection in the Ministry of Agriculture, which maintains a list of approved, restricted, and banned pesticides. In December 2019, ASN issued a standard on Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) of pesticides. This standard (NS 03-0171) is recommended but not obligatory. Senegal also applies recommended Codex guidelines concerning maximum residue levels for pesticides or veterinary drugs.

The sale or distribution of agro-pharmaceutical products that have not been approved by the Government of Senegal (e.g., Agricultural Services or Animal Health Services) is prohibited.

Products that are quarantined for testing are stored in areas approved by the Inter-African Phytosanitary Council.

Section VI. Other Requirements, Regulations, and Registration Measures

Import certificate: The Government of Senegal requires import certificates or other certification/accreditation for imported processed food, animal products, live animals, plants and plant products, fish and seafood products, and feed.

Inspection: Food and agricultural products that enter Senegal's market are subject to inspections performed by the relevant ministry (Please see Section I to understand ministry responsibilities). Please see the latest FAIRS Export Certificate Report <https://gain.fas.usda.gov/Pages/Default.aspx> (published simultaneously with this one) for more information.

Phytosanitary certificate: All imports of plants, plant parts, seeds, soils, manures, composts, and all packaging used to transport such products must be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate issued by the competent authorities of the country of origin. This certificate should attest that the products are free of any and all parasites. Phytosanitary border inspectors ensure the phytosanitary control of imported products and materials. The phytosanitary certificate accompanying the imported products and materials are subject to the approval of these inspectors, who may perform as many checks as they deem necessary. These provisions do not apply to fresh vegetables and fruits intended for consumption, except for those listed in Decree 60-121. Phytosanitary control measures adopted by Senegal should conform to measures promulgated through the Phytosanitary Convention for Africa. For more information on Decree 60-121, please see the GAIN report [here](#).

Export certificate or Certificate of Free Sale: Senegal does not require a Certificate of Free Sale but accepts U.S. state-issued export certificates. All relevant certificates must be from a competent authority. Senegal does not waive export certificates.

Facility /Product registration: Senegal does not require facility or product registration prior to export. It is important to note that all products should be legally on sale in their country of origin.

GE or derived products: Under Senegal's 2022 Biosafety Law, any activity involving GE products or their derivatives must receive prior approval from the designated competent authority. For more information, please see the latest [Agricultural Biotechnology Annual Report](#).

Poultry Importation Ban: Since 2005, Senegal has banned the importation of live poultry including chick flesh and eggs (tariff position 01-05), uncooked poultry meat and poultry cuts (tariff position 02-07) including fresh egg and egg products intended for consumption (tariff 04-07 and 04-08). Until Senegal lifts the ban, no uncooked poultry meat can be exported to Senegal, though processed poultry products are eligible for export. Only day-old chicks for breeding and eggs for hatching along with health certificate and certificate of origin can be imported.

Alcoholic liquids: Any importer of alcohol or alcoholic liquids must be approved by decision of the Minister of Finance.

Section VII. Other Specific Standards

Other ASN standards that are applicable to various agricultural foods and feed products are listed below, but not all are obligatory. The list includes standards covering a range of issues such as packaging, vitamin-enrichment, and other issues. For known ASN standards that are obligatory, these are specifically indicated below in red. However, because ASN standards can change (including those that are obligatory), it is strongly recommended to inquire with ASN, the Ministry of Health, or other relevant ministries before shipping any agricultural products or foods to Senegal. Detailed information and guidance on ASN standards and their applications can be provided by ASN upon request.

A. Vitamin- and mineral-enrichment requirements

- NS ECOSTAND 008 on enriched vitamin A vegetable oil with a specific name (cottonseed oil, palm oil, peanut oil, sesame seed oil, sunflower oil, colza oil, corn oil, and soybean oil). The content of vitamin A should range from 11 to 24 mg per kg of soybean oil for retail – **Obligatory**
- NS ECOSTAND 047 on wheat flour enriched in iron and vitamin B9 (revised in November 2013) – **Obligatory**
- NS ECOSTAND 048:2015 on specifications for iodized food salt – **Obligatory**

B. Other Standards

- NS 03-001 on milk powder (revised in November 2013)
- NS 03-005 on meat transportation – **Obligatory**
- NS 03-006 on meat conservation through freezing
- NS 03-010 on animal feed nutritional requirements
- NS 03-014 on poultry and rabbit meat preparations and trading requirements
- NS 03-019 on radioactivity - permitted levels of radioactive elements in foods
- NS03-00026 (rev1) specifications for condensed milks (revised in February 2019)
- NS 03-0038 on method of determining levels of iodine in salt using potassium iodate
- NS 03-0039 on method of determining levels of iodine in salt using iodide potassium
- NS 03-0146 on bouillon - **Obligatory**
- NS 03-148 for halal food guidelines
- NS03-00152 specifications on sweetened condensed milks
- NS03-00153 specifications on blends of condensed skimmed milk and vegetable fat
- NS03-00154 specifications on blends of sweetened condensed skimmed milk and vegetable fat
- NS 03-0165: Standard for fermented milk - August 2019
- NS 03-030 specifications for meat and sausage products
- NS 03-040 on vinegar - **Obligatory**
- NS 03-060 on refined vegetable oil
- NS 03-092 specifications for fruit juice and nectar
- NS 03-094 specifications for corn
- NS 03-096 specifications for nectar of Guava, baobab fruit, “Ditax”, mango
- NS 03-105 on corn flour

- NS 03-108 specifications for garlic
 - NS 03-109 specifications for sweet corn
 - NS ECOSTAND 001:2013 on parboiled or milled rice - **Obligatory**
 - NS ECOSTAND 011 on concentrated tomato paste – **Obligatory**
 - NS ECOSTAND 018: Standard for raw milk - June 2014
 - NS ECOSTAND 050 on labelling of prepackaged foods - **Obligatory**
 - NS ECOSTAND 052 on the general principles of food hygiene.
-
- NS N UEMOA 0001:2016 guidelines on fresh meat products
 - NS N UEMOA 0003:2016 guidelines for enriched vegetable oil production in the WAEMU zone
 - NS N UEMOA 1036:2016 guidelines on fermented milk and milk products
 - NS N UEMOA 1016:2016 (03-00081) on principles for adding additives to food
 - NS 03-135 on milk and dairy products – research of salmonella spp.
 - NS 03-137-1 on milk and dairy products – enumeration of suspected Escherichia coli part 1
 - NS 03-137-2 on milk and dairy products – enumeration of suspected Escherichia coli part 2
 - NS 03-018 on fish products – microbiological criteria for frozen or flash frozen fish
 - NS 03-00159 model certificate for fish and fishery products
 - NS 03-0160 on Canned Fish - Specifications
 - NS 03-0161 on frozen eviscerated and non-eviscerated fish
 - NS 03-0162 on Canned Tuna and Bonito
 - NS 03-0163 on frozen blocks of fish fillets, minced fish meat and mixtures of fillets and minced fish meat
 - NS 03-0164 on Frozen Shrimp
 - NS 03-0174 specifications for bakery breads
 - NS 03-0171 Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) of pesticides on horticultural products
 - NS03-00174: Bakery breads, Specifications
 - NS 03 - 00172: Infant flour: Specifications
 - NS 03 - 00173: Practical guide to the production of infant flours
 - NS 03 -00178: Guide to good hygiene practices in markets
 - NS ARS 1000-1:2021, on sustainable cocoa, Part 1: Requirements relating to the Management Systems of Cocoa Producers as Entities / Producer Groups / Producer Cooperatives and to Performance
 - NS ARS 1000-2:2021, on sustainable cocoa - Part 2: Cocoa Quality and Traceability Requirements
 - NS ARS 1000-3:2021, on sustainable cocoa — Part 3: Requirements for Cocoa Certification Systems
 - NS ARS 1000-1, NS ARS 1000-2, and NS ARS 1000-3 covers standards on Sustainable Cocoa: Management System Requirements for the Cocoa Producer Entity/Producer Group/Cooperative and Performance; Cocoa Quality and Traceability Requirements, and Cocoa Certification System Requirements
 - NS03-041: Onions - Specifications
 - NS03-042: Conserved potatoes
 - NS03-00176: Carrots - Specifications
 - NS03-177: Frozen Potato Fries

- NS 03- 178: Chopped Meat- Specifications (the number may change since it has been used previously)
- NS 03-179-1: Food additives - Part 1: Dairy and similar products
- NS 03-179-2: Food additives - Part 2: Fats and oils, and fat emulsions
- NS 03-179-3: Food additives - Part 3: Salts, spices, soups, sauces, salads, and protein-based products
- NS 03-179-4: Food additives - Part 4: Beverages
- NS ISO 22000 - Food safety management systems — Requirements for any organization belonging to the food chain
- NS ISO/TS 22002-1: Prerequisite programs for food safety — Part 1: Food manufacturing
- NS ISO/TS 22002-2: Prerequisite programs for food safety — Part 2: Catering
- NS ISO/TS 22002-3: Prerequisite programs for food safety — Part 3: Agriculture
- NS ISO/TS 22002-4: Prerequisite programs for food safety — Part 4: Manufacture of food packaging
- NS ISO/TS 22002-5: Prerequisite programs for food safety — Part 5: Transport and storage
- NS ISO/TS 22002-6: Prerequisite programs for food safety — Part 6: Animal feed production
- NS ISO/TS 22003: Food safety management systems — Requirements for organisms providing audit and certification of food safety management systems
- NS ISO 22005: Traceability of the food chain — General principles and basic requirements for system design and implementation

Chilled or frozen meat: standard NS 03-005 specifies that chilled or frozen meat should be transported in its original packaging and packaging must be of a durable/resistant material (Obligatory). The temperature for chilled or frozen meat should be:

- +7°C for chilled meat.
- -12°C to -15°C for frozen meat.
- -18°C for flash frozen meat.

Meat: Although NS 03-030 is not obligatory, according to official contacts, inspectors at the border are implementing aspects of this standard to test imported meat and sausage products for:

- Total flora at 30 °C
- Thermotolerant coliforms
- Coagulase-positive staphylococci
- Sulfite-reducing anaerobes (*Clostridium*)

For feed and feed products, ASN has issued the following standards:

- NS 03-009 on packaging, labeling, sampling, and chemical composition of imported animal feed, produced or marketed in Senegal and imported products likely to enter the composition of feed.
- NS 03-010 on nutritional characteristics of feed which determine the minimum and maximum nutrient intake specific to each animal species, age and physiological condition for which the feed is intended.

Levels of acidity, levels of humidity, water content, fat and non-fat content, nitrogen content, immuno-enzyme testing, and levels of microorganisms for butter and fresh, sweet, fermented, and powdered milk are covered by ASN standards ranging from NS 03-117 to NS 03-137 and NS 03-0145 (which includes 28 standards).

The methodology for detecting microorganisms in food is covered by ASN standards ranging from NS 03-138 to NS 03-144 and NS 03-0147 (which includes 10 standards).

In 2024, Senegal adopted **25 new ECOWAS standards** at the national level that are currently undergoing the homologation process (formal approval and integration into the national regulatory framework).

NS 09-062:2024 - Labeling and Packaging of Chemical Products – April 2024

NS 03-001:2024 - Animal Feed – Part 1: Broiler Chickens – Specifications

NS INMPI 1:2024 - General Requirements for Halal Foods (OIC/SMIIC 1:2019, IDT)

NS INMPI 4:2024 - Halal Cosmetics – General Requirements (OIC/SMIIC 4:2018, IDT)

NS INMPI 6:2024 - Specific Requirements for Applying OIC/SMIIC 1 to Places Where Halal Foods and Beverages are Prepared, Stored, and Served (OIC/SMIIC 6:2019, IDT)

NS INMPI 18:2024 - Halal Quality Management System — Requirements (OIC/SMIIC 18:2021, IDT)

NS INMPI 20:2024 - Precious Metals – General Requirements for Refined Gold (OIC/SMIIC 20:2020, IDT)

NS INMPI 23:2024 - Halal Animal Feed – General Requirements (OIC/SMIIC 23:2022, IDT)

NS ARS 58:2024 - White Sugars – Specifications (ARS 58:2017, IDT)

NS ARS 875:2024 - Raw Cane Sugar – Specifications (ARS 875:2017, IDT)

NS ARS 876:2024 - Brown Sugars – Specifications (ARS 876:2017, IDT)

NS ARS 462:2024 - Sorghum Grains – Specifications (ARS 462:2022, IDT)

NS ARS 751:2024 - Organic Products – Code of Good Practices (ARS 751:2013, IDT)

NS ARS 831:2024 - Fresh Bananas – Specifications (ARS 831:2017, IDT)

NS ARS 832:2024 - Banana Chips – Specifications (ARS 832:2017, IDT)

NS ARS 833:2024 - Fried Banana Chips – Specifications (ARS 833:2017, IDT)

NS ARS 834:2024 - Dried Bananas – Specifications (ARS 834:2017, IDT)

NS ARS 839:2024 - Dried Cassava Chips – Specifications (ARS 839:2016, IDT)

NS ARS 840:2024 - High-Quality Cassava Flour – Specifications (ARS 840:2016, IDT)

NS ARS 860:2024 - Fortified Wheat Flour – Specifications (ARS 860:2016, IDT)

NS ARS 884:2024 - Fresh Tomatoes – Specifications (ARS 884:2018, IDT)

NS ARS 1403:2024 - Extracted Honey – Specifications (ARS 1403:2018, IDT)

NS ARS 1418:2024 - Honey Processing Unit – Technical Requirements (ARS 1418:2018, IDT)

NS ARS 1419:2024 - Honey – Specifications (ARS 1419:2018, IDT)

C. Halal

There is a standard on Halal food guidelines (NS 03-148), but it is not obligatory and is not a condition of import for food or beverage products.

D. Plant-Based Meat and/or Dairy Alternatives

There are no regulations on plant-based meat or dairy alternatives.

E. Biotechnology

Since June 2022, Senegal has a biosafety law that regulates GE and derived products. For more information, please see the latest [Agricultural Biotechnology Annual Report](#).

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

Senegal is a member of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and signed the WIPO Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks in March 2006. Senegal acceded to the Paris Industrial Property Convention in 1963, the Hague Deposit of Industrial Designs Convention in 1984, and the WIPO Copyright Treaty in 2002. Senegal is also a member of the African Intellectual Property Rights Organization. The Senegalese government body responsible for managing intellectual property rights is the Senegalese Agency for Industrial Property and Technological Innovation (ASPIT) which is in the Ministry of Industrial Development and Small and Medium Industries. Registration is not obligatory, but Senegal guarantees the protection of industrial property rights through legal texts in accordance with international standards.

Geographical indications, trademarks, industrial designs, and patents are regulated by national legislation based on the Bangui Agreement on Trademarks, Patents, and Industrial Designs of 1977 (revised in 1999).

Section IX. Import Procedures

A. General process flow

1. Import Registration

The importer must be registered with the relevant authorities and hold a trade card and an import-export card. To conduct trade in Senegal, it is mandatory for businesses to register in the commercial register, after which they are issued a trade card. This card is essential for engaging in various commercial activities, such as wholesale trade. Additionally, traders involved in

import and export should obtain an import-export card, which is issued to those who already possess a trade card. This import-export card streamlines customs procedures and facilitates the movement of goods across borders.

2. Import Declaration for Food Products (DIPA)

The importer submits an Import Declaration for Food Products (DIPA). A DIPA is required to legally import any food or agricultural product in Senegal and initiate the customs clearance process. The DIPA is issued by the Division of Consumption and Consumers Safety in the Ministry of Commerce. To obtain the DIPA, the importer must provide:

- Commercial invoice
- Certificate of origin
- Any document certifying the product's quality (e.g., health or sanitary certificate, phytosanitary certificates, analysis certificates, non-radioactivity certificates, or dioxin-free certificates)
- Four product samples for analysis purposes

The DIPA is valid for two months from the date of signature and costs about \$1.70.

3. Prior Import Declaration (DPI)

The importer submits a Déclaration Préable d'Importation (DPI), a document prepared by the importer to notify the authorities of their intention to import goods into Senegal. It contains key information about the shipment, including product details and payment information. To submit a DPI, importers must contact GIE GAINDE 2000 (a company for trade facilitation and modernization of customs procedures) to open their file. The DPI is valid for six months and should be done at least 15 days before expedition of the goods. For more information contact helpdesk@douanes.sn or ORBUS at +221 33 859 39 89.

The DPI is mandatory for goods with an FOB value greater than or equal to 1 million XOF (~\$1,660) or for any customized container, regardless of the FOB value.

The DPI must be approved by the importer's bank upon presentation of the related invoice and then submitted to the inspection company.

4. Inspection Prior to Shipment of Goods

The inspection company registers the DPI if the provided information matches the verified invoice details.

The DPI initiates the goods inspection procedure, which is conducted before shipment to ensure the goods match the declared information, including product type, weight, tariff classification, and value. The inspection company issues an Attestation de Vérification (AV), which provides an assessment of the verified goods' value. The AV is mandatory for imports with a FOB value of 3 million XOF (~\$5,000) or higher.

If the inspection is not conducted before shipment, a **control at destination (in Senegal)** may be authorized by the **General Director of Customs**. In such cases, the importer must submit a request for destination inspection and pay a fine.

5. Customs Declaration Domiciliation and Required Documents

The customs declaration must be domiciled with an approved bank to guarantee the payment of customs duties and other taxes. Then the importer must provide the following documents:

- Commercial invoice detailing the goods
- Bill of lading or air waybill
- Certificate of origin
- Sanitary or phytosanitary certificates if required
- a Declaration préalable d'importation <prior import declaration> (DPI)
- Declaration d'importation de produits alimentaires (DIPA) (if applicable)
- Verification Attestation established by the inspection company to provide its assessment of the value of verified goods. It is required for all imports of goods with a free on board (FOB) value equal to or greater than 3 million XOF (\$5,000).
- Value Declaration Form (FDV) for goods whose customs value exceed 200,000 XOF
- Transport document

6. Customs Declaration

The importer (or their customs broker) submits the declaration via the **GAINDE** or **ORBUS** electronic system, which is used by Senegalese customs to streamline procedures.

Since 2005, the ORBUS collection system has been in place, which is a computer network that collects all the documents required for any import-export operation.

7. Inspection and Control

Customs authorities conduct document verification and may carry out a physical inspection of the goods based on the assigned risk channel (green, yellow, or red).

When the inspection has not been carried out before boarding, a control is carried out at destination (in Senegal) with the authorization of the General Director of Customs. In such cases, the importer must submit a request for destination inspection and pay a fine.

8. Payments and Customs Duties

Once the declaration is validated, the importer pays customs duties, VAT, and other applicable taxes.

9. Goods Release

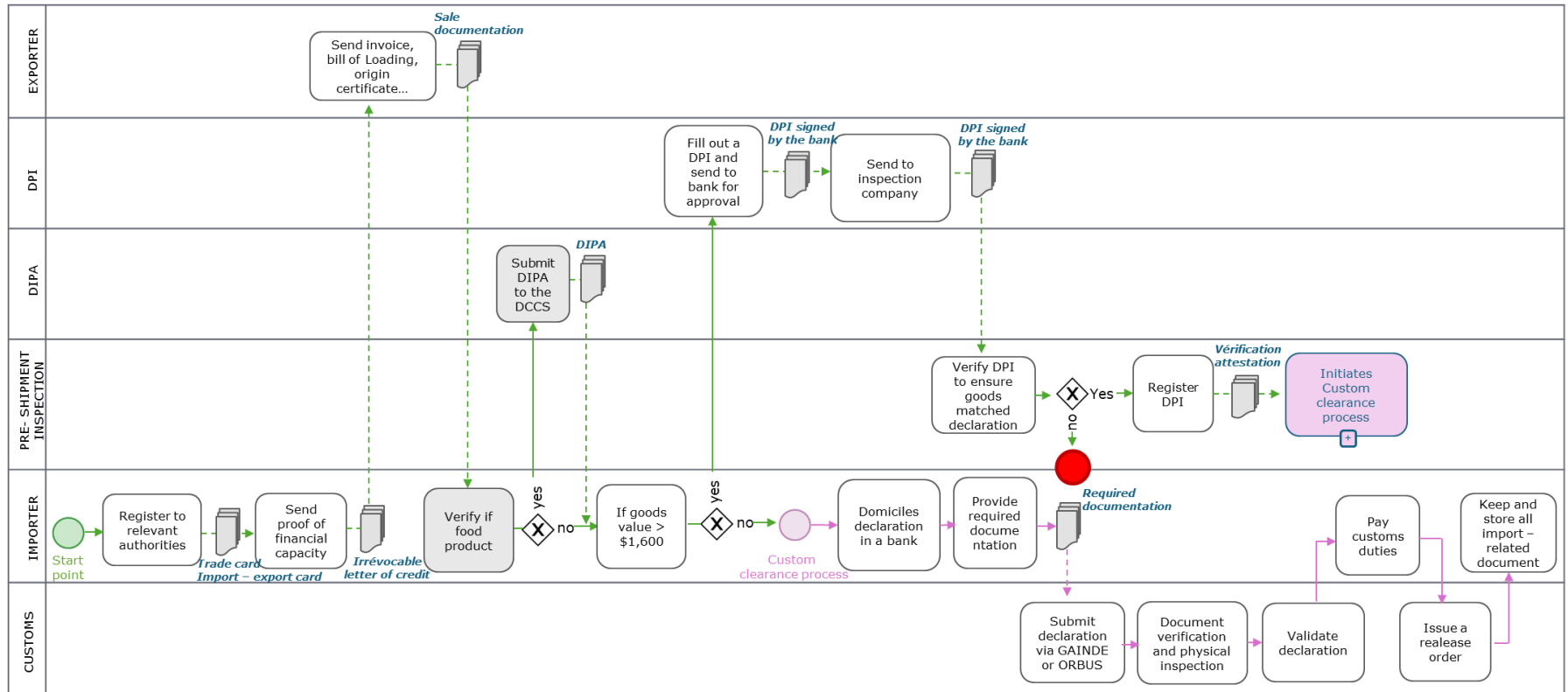
After inspection and payment, customs authorities issue a **release order**, authorizing the removal of goods from the port, airport, or border post.

10. Follow-up and Record keeping

It is advisable to keep all import-related documents for future reference and potential audits.

For additional information, visit [here](#).

This chart describes the general process flow for all imported food and agricultural products.



B. Specific Recommendations on Import Clearance Process

For U.S. exporters, it is strongly recommended to identify a reliable importer/distributor to help in the import clearance process. Always confirm with the importer/agent if a particular export certificate or other documentation is required for importation.

The commercial invoice is presented in two copies (final invoice or pro forma invoice), indicating the contact information of the exporter and importer, a complete description of the merchandise, including its weight, quantity, and cost, insurance, and freight (CIF) value.

The sanitary or phytosanitary certificate must be approved by the DPV. A DPI is mandatory for any import of goods with an FOB value greater than or equal to one million XOF (~\$1,660), or for any customized container, regardless of the FOB value.

The verification attestation is required for all imports of goods with a free on board (FOB) value equal to or greater than 3 million XOF (\$5,000).

For specific products such as meat, fish, poultry, and plants, the importer must submit to the border inspector one of the required export certificates (like certificate of wholesomeness, phytosanitary certificate, certificate of non-radioactivity, certificate of non-contamination with dioxin) issued by the competent authority of the country of origin, to receive an import certificate indicating the product meets Senegalese import requirements. The import certificate is issued by the border inspector of the importing country.

C. Additional Procedures for Specific Products

Import procedure for meat and meat products and plant and plant products: After the shipment arrives at port, an applicable export certificate (e.g., certificate of wholesomeness or phytosanitary certificate) issued by the competent authority of the country of origin must be submitted to Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Livestock border inspectors. The border inspector will take random samples for testing before issuing an import certificate (Please see the latest FAIRS Export Certificate Report [for](#) more information). The importer/agent submits the import certificate along with other documentation (reference documents #3 to #6 above) to the Ministry of Commerce to receive a DIPA.

Import procedure for fish and seafood products (includes processed fish and seafood products): After the shipment arrives at port, an applicable export certificate of health issued by the competent authority of the country of origin and a Preliminary Import Declaration of Halieutic Products (PIDHP) form (completed by the importer/agent) must be submitted to Ministry of Fisheries border inspectors. These inspectors will take random samples for testing before issuing an import certificate (Health Certificate) and approving the PIDHP. The importer/agent submits the import certificate and PIDHP

along with other documentation (please reference documents #3 to #6 above) to the Ministry of Commerce to receive a DIPA.

Import procedure for processed foods (excludes processed fish and seafood products): Ministry of Commerce border inspectors may take four random samples for testing before a DIPA will be issued. These samples are tested at the laboratory of the Directorate of Interior Trade. The importer/agent must submit other documentation (please reference documents #3 to #6 above) to the Ministry of Commerce to receive a DIPA.

Import procedure for feed, feed ingredients, or additives: A list of products should be sent to the Direction of Veterinary Services to get an import authorization prior to shipment along with a proforma invoice. The importer/agent must bring this authorization with other documentation (please reference documents #3 to #6 – see above) to the Ministry of Commerce to receive a DIPA.

For food or agricultural product imports that are unknown to the Ministry of Commerce, samples are required for laboratory analysis to determine if the product meets Senegalese import requirements. Samples for processed products can be sent prior to shipment. Samples will be required for the first four shipments. If the food or agricultural product successfully meets Senegalese import requirements after the fourth shipment, samples will no longer be required.

Food Ingredients: A manufacturer in Senegal seeking to import alcohol, essences, and colorants to produce mint cream, vinegar, syrups, pastries, and carbonated drinks will need to request a preauthorization certificate issued by the Anti-Fraud Services located in the Ministry of Commerce.

D. Other Useful Information

Goods imported for re-export are not assessed customs duties.

Financial Transaction: West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) regulations note that transactions for imported products worth over 10 million XOF (\$18,000) (there are some exceptions – please review regulation No. 09/2010/CM/UEMOA) must be domiciled in a licensed intermediary bank, which is a bank licensed by a WAEMU country's Minister of Finance. This means that importers/buyers who import food and agricultural products worth over approximately \$18,000 into WAEMU member states (such as Senegal) are required to use licensed banks in WAEMU to facilitate payment to exporters. A Foreign Exchange Transaction Form must be approved by a licensed intermediary bank in WAEMU before a payment can be made. Please see WAEMU Regulation No. 09/2010/CM/UEMOA for more information.

Samples: Product samples for trade shows or not for commercial distribution are subject to the same import regulations as all other products, such as registration and certification regulations. The same regulation applies also for sample, mail order, and cross-border e-commerce shipments if the size is considered commercial. The importer can request a waiver prior to shipment to get samples.

Duration of clearance procedure: The duration of customs clearance may typically take several hours to several days unless there is an issue, including to but not limited to food safety issues, counterfeiting, smuggling, and or not meeting specific standards.

Language: The official language is French but import documents in English do not need to be translated. However, translation to French, even not officially certified, can help expedite customs clearance.

Detention or rejection: There is a notification and an appeals system for detained and/or rejected products. Each case is dealt with according to the specific regulations guiding the authority in charge.

Section X. Trade Facilitation

The government of Senegal has issued information on trade processes to export products to Senegal that is available online. http://www.tpsnet.org/portal?cmd=the_import_export_guide

Advance Rulings

Senegal does not currently issue advance rulings, although the country is working on developing a national advance rulings system. In January 2023, as part of the EU-WCO Program for the Harmonized System in Africa (HS-Africa Program), financed by the European Union, the World Customs Organization carried out a diagnostic mission on developing an advance rulings system, for the benefit of the Senegal Customs Administration. For more information see [here](#).

Preclearance Programs

Senegal uses the single window ORBUS 2000 System to facilitate import clearance procedures through electronic exchanges between the various actors. ORBUS allows pre-clearance formalities thereby reducing the time and costs related to formalities, improving service quality, and eliminating the use of paper documents. ORBUS is compliant with most of the United Nations and World Customs Organization standards and guidelines. Goods whose customs value does not exceed about \$330 can be declared by their owner. Otherwise, when the value exceeds this amount, you will need to use the service of an approved customs broker or benefit from an authorization to declare for yourself.

Use of Electronic Certificates or Filing

Senegal is now implementing the electronic plant health certification (ePhyto) which is the international standard for electronic transmission protocols and procedures for plant health certification.

Fees at Ports

Imported goods are distinguished by their origin for taxation purposes: either within the WAEMU or Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) region, or outside of the WAEMU or ECOWAS region. Merchandise originating from the WAEMU region and included in the Community Preferential Tax (TPC) are free of all other taxes and duties (Common External Tariff

(TEC)) except the Value Added Tax and other internal taxes. This includes products originating from the ECOWAS area and listed under the ECOWAS Trade Liberalization Scheme.

Products originating from third countries are subject to the TEC, which has been in effect since January 1, 2000.

For a complete list of entry taxes and duties please visit [here](#). Some entry tax and duties to be aware of include:

- Customs duties
- The statistical import charge
- The Community Solidarity Tax
- Cyclical import tax on particular products such as sugar, wheat flour, concentrated tomato, fruit juices, or sweet concentrated milk
- The ECOWAS Community Tax
- Value Added Taxes (VAT)
- Senegalese Shippers Council (OSEC) royalties (for seaway imports)
- Internal taxes on certain products such as alcohol and carbonated drinks
- Surcharges on certain products such as cigarettes, onions, and potatoes

Electronic Payment

Senegal allows electronic payment for customs duties and similar taxes through the electronic payment system CORUS. The economic operator should have an account opened with a local commercial bank. This option saves time and increases the transparency and security of customs revenue.

Average Release Times

Shipment release times depend on how long it takes for the importer to pay all duties and taxes. Once all duties and taxes are paid, the auditor issues a voucher for collection which allows the owner to dispose of the cargo. No removal can be made without payment of duties and taxes, a deposit, or, in some cases, the deposit of sufficient guarantee.

Delays could occur due to multiple inspections from ministries, additional paperwork, and delayed tax payments which can slow down the import process. According to local authorities, average release times range from two to seven days. Processed products are generally released more quickly than plant and meat products, which require additional certificates.

Please note that Senegal does not have any consularization requirements (signature from consular, stamp requirements, etc.)

Appendix I. Key Government Regulatory or Agency Contacts

Senegalese Standards Association – *Association Sénégalaise de Normalisation (ASN)*

(Designated as the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade Enquiry Point)

Avenue Bourguiba, Immeuble Serigne Saliou Mbacké près de Jet d'eau – 7eme étage

Tel: +221 33 829 58 25

Email: asn@asn.sn

Website: <http://www.asn.sn>

Codex Focal Point – *Point Focal Codex*

Ministry of Health and Social Action

Fann Hospital, Avenue Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar, Senegal

Tel: + 221 824 64 63

Email: codexsenegal@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.sante.gouv.sn>

Ministry of Industry and Trade

Diamniadio Sphères ministérielles Seydina Ndiaye

Tel: 221 33 869 29 25

Directorate of External Trade – *Direction du Commerce Extérieur*

(Designated as the World Trade Organization National Notification Authority)

Ministry of Industry and Trade Diamniadio Sphères ministérielles Ahmed Tidiane Dia

Tel: +221 33 869 21 20

Directorate of Internal Trade – *Direction du Commerce Intérieur*

Ministry of Industry and Trade

Tel: +221 33 865 99 43

National Laboratory for Analysis and Control (LANAC) – *Laboratoire National d'Analyses et de Contrôle*

Directorate of Internal Trade – *Direction du Commerce Intérieur*

Ministry of Industry and Trade Rue Parchappe X Beranger Ferraud, Dakar, Senegal

Tel: +221 33 821 69 89

Division of Consumption and Consumer Safety – *Division de la Consommation et de la Sécurité des Consommateurs*

Directorate of Internal Trade – *Direction du Commerce Intérieur*

Ministry of Industry and Trade Tel: +221 33 869 29 25 / 33 865 99 43

Website: <http://dci-sn.sn/index.php>

Directorate of Veterinary Services – *Direction des Services Vétérinaires*
Ministre de l'Agriculture, de la Souveraineté alimentaire et de l'Elevage
Diamniadio, Bâtiment C
Tel: +221 33 859 06 33
Website: <https://agriculture.gouv.sn/>

Division of Inspection and Control in the Bureau of Industries – *Division des Inspections et du Contrôle de la Direction des Industries de Transformation*
Ministry of Fisheries and Maritime Economy
Diamniadio
Tel: +221 33 849 84 40
Email: samnabou@hotmail.com

Directorate of Plant Protection – *Direction de la Protection des Végétaux*
(Designated as the World Trade Organization Sanitary and Phytosanitary Enquiry Point)
Ministre de l'Agriculture, de la Souveraineté alimentaire et de l'Elevage Km 15, Route de Rufisque
BP 20054, Thiaroye- Dakar, Senegal
Tel: +221 33 834 03 97
Fax: +221 33 834 28 54, +221 33 853 22 52
Email: dpv1@orange.sn

National Biosafety Authority - *Autorité Nationale de Biosécurité (ANB)*
Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
Immeuble Mariama Sacré-Cœur 3 VDN - BP 64 593
Dakar, Senegal
Tel: +221 33 867 98 99
Website: www.biosecuritesn.sn

ORBUS Helpdesk
Focal point Safietou Mbengue
Tel: +221 33 859 39 89

Senegalese Agency for Industrial Property and Technological Innovation – *Agence Sénégalaise pour la Propriété Industrielle et l'Innovation Technologique (ASPIT)*
Ministry of Industrial Development and Small and Medium Industries
Liberté 6 extension Nord Villa 21, en face du cimetière St. Lazar
Email: aspit@orange.sn

Appendix II. Other Import Specialist Technical Contacts

Trade Point Sénégal (Import information and requirements)

Km 2,5 Boulevard du Centenaire de la Commune de Dakar

Tel: (221) 33 839 73 73

Fax: (221) 33 839 73 90

Email: tpdakar@tpsnet.org

Food Technology Institute – *Institut de Technologie Alimentaire*

Route des Pères Maristes - Dakar Hann, Senegal

Tel: +221 33 859 07 07

Fax: +221 33 832 82 95

Email: ita@ita.sn

Website: www.ita.sn

Animal Production and Veterinary Research Laboratory - *ISRA, Laboratoire National d'Elevage et de Recherche Vétérinaire*

Tel: +221 33 832 36 78

Fax: +221 33 832 36 79

Website: www.isra.sn

Institut Pasteur of Dakar (Food safety and quality testing)

36, Avenue Pasteur

Tel: + 221 33 839 92 00

Fax: + 221 33 839 92 10

Email: pasteurdakar@pasteur.sn

Website: <https://institutpasteurdakar.sn/>

Attachments:

No Attachments