

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** September 03,2020

**Report Number:** JA2020-0157

**Report Name:** Japan Publishes English Translation of the Enforcement Notice for the Positive List System for Food Packaging and Container Substances

**Country:** Japan

**Post:** Tokyo

**Report Category:** Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

**Prepared By:** Suguru Sato

**Approved By:** Mariya Rakhovskaya

**Report Highlights:**

Japan's Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) updated its English language website with more information about Japan's new positive list system for food packaging materials. Japan implemented the positive list system on June 1, 2020 with a five-year transition period. Interested parties are encouraged to consult the MHLW website for further information on the positive list system.

## General Information

On June 1, 2020, Japan implemented the positive list system for food packaging and container substances. To avoid trade disruption, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) provided a five-year transition period for food manufacturers to comply with the new requirements ([JA2020-0094](#)). At the time of implementation, MHLW did not provide an English translation of the new positive list system. In June 2020, MHLW published the English translation of the positive list ([JA2020-0130](#)). More recently, MHLW has translated the [Enforcement Notice of the Positive List System for Food Containers and Packaging Materials](#) (<https://www.mhlw.go.jp/content/000651038.pdf>).

On July 20, 2020, MHLW has published its latest update to the list of approved substances on its Japanese language site. The list includes CAS registry numbers and compound names in English and Japanese: [Table 1 \(base polymer substances\)](#) and [Table 2 \(additive substances\)](#).

MHLW's English language website for information on utensils, containers and packaging is [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kenkou\\_iryuu/shokuhin/kigu/index\\_00003.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kenkou_iryuu/shokuhin/kigu/index_00003.html).

During the five-year transition period, MHLW will continue to review substances to add to the positive list. Interested parties are encouraged to contact MHLW to request that additional substances be included in the positive list.

The MHLW point of contact can be reached at:

Food Safety Standards and Evaluation Division

Pharmaceutical Safety and Environmental Health Bureau

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

1-2-2, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku

Tokyo 100-8916, Japan

Tel: 03-5253-2341 (from overseas, international access code +81-3-5253-2341)

Fax: 03-3501-4868 (from overseas, international access code +81-3-3501-4868)

Email: [packpl4@mhlw.go.jp](mailto:packpl4@mhlw.go.jp)

## Attachments:

No Attachments.