

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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**Report Name:** Update on Colombia Sodium Resolution 2013 of 2020 for Processed Foods

**Country:** Colombia

**Post:** Bogota

**Report Category:** FAIRS Subject Report

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**Report Highlights:**

On November 9, 2020, Colombia’s Ministry of Health, and Social Protection (MINHEALTH) issued Resolution 2013, a regulation that sets mandatory maximum sodium content limits for 59 processed food product categories. Resolution 2013 introduces a new conformity certificate requirement and reduction goals for sodium content in foods. This report provides updates to technical parameters of the resolution, which were provided during a MINHEALTH-organized webinar on April 22, 2022.

### **Executive Summary:**

Colombia is actively re-assessing its nutritional regulatory framework and associated policies. Specifically, Colombia is evaluating a variety of measures intended to promote healthy eating patterns, including regulatory actions aimed at reducing the consumption of sodium. These efforts, supported by local public health advocacy groups, are viewed as a response to the World Health Organization's global initiative to reduce noncommunicable diseases.

On November 9, 2020, Colombia's MINHEALTH issued Resolution 2013, a regulation that sets mandatory maximum sodium content limits for 59 processed food items ranging from snacks to processed meats and dairy products. Further, Resolution 2013 introduces a new conformity certificate requirement and reduction goals. The first and second sets of reduction goals for each category will go into effect in November 2022 and November 2024, respectively. For more information, including a translation of Resolution 2013 and the list of 59 food items, please see GAIN report: [Colombia Issues New Sodium Regulation for Processed Foods](#). On April 22, 2022, via a webinar, MINHEALTH answered questions about Resolution 2013 and shared further guidance on implementation.

### **Goal of Resolution 2013:**

The goal of Resolution 2013 is to reduce sodium intake in Colombia by establishing mandatory maximum sodium content limits for 59 processed food product categories.

### **Implementation Period:**

Resolution 2013 will go into effect following a phase-out approach by setting two sodium reduction goals. "Target 1" sets an initial threshold of product sodium content. This threshold is customized to each product subject to the regulation. Prioritized processed foods that do not comply with the maximum sodium content under Target 1 by November 9, 2022 must be recalled. "Target 2" is considered full compliance and will go into effect on November 9, 2024. This sodium threshold is more restrictive than Target 1; prioritized processed foods that do not comply with the maximum sodium content established after 48 months of publication of Resolution 2013 will be allowed to remain in the market for only twelve months until November 9, 2025. By this date, local producers and importers will have to remove non-compliant products from the market.

### **Key Takeaways from the April 22 MINHEALTH Webinar:**

- **Scope:** Resolution 2013 sets mandatory maximum sodium content limits for 59 processed food product categories as per technical Annex 1 of the resolution. If products are not listed under the prioritized list, they are not subject to this regulation.
- **Compliance:** MINHEALTH will allow importers to use First-Party Declarations of Compliance ("Declaraciones de Primera Parte") issued by the food producers to meet the certificate of conformity requirement until July 12, 2023. After this date, Third-Party Declarations of Compliance ("Declaraciones de Tercera Parte") will be required to be issued by an accredited body following Chapter 3 guidelines. For accredited laboratories in Colombia, visit the [ONAC website](#).
- **Labeling:** Sodium content must be listed following [Resolution 810 of 2021](#).

- **ABC Guidance:** In April 2022, with the objective of providing clarity to Resolution 2013’s implementation, MINHEALTH issued additional guidance entitled, “ABC of Resolution 2013 of 2020 implementation: Maximum Sodium Content in Prioritized Foods.” It includes definitions, examples, goals, deadlines, and recommendations that will help understand and apply the sodium regulation. Please see the English translation attached.

**Disclaimer:** The Foreign Agricultural Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture contracted a third party to translate this guidance document to English.

**Attachments:**

[ABC-2013 sodium resolution-FINAL English.pdf](#)