

NOTIFICATION

1. Member to Agreement notifying: <u>MEXICO</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2. Agency responsible: Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT)
3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): Wood packaging material
4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: All natural and legal persons using wood packaging material in the international marketing of goods and services.
5. Title, language and number of pages of the notified document: Draft Mexican Official Standard PROY-NOM-144-SEMARNAT-2004, Establishing the Internationally Recognized Phytosanitary Measures for Wood Packaging Material Used in International Trade in Goods (14 pages (11-page draft and three-page Annex), in Spanish).
6. Description of content: The purpose of this draft Mexican Official Standard, which will be mandatory throughout Mexican territory, is to establish phytosanitary measures for wood packaging material in use in international trade in goods, the technical specifications thereof, and the use of the globally recognized mark attesting to the application of such measures. It also lays down the requirements governing the use of this mark on wood packaging material used for the exportation of goods and establishes guidelines to facilitate the inspection at entry points into the country of wood packaging material used for the importation of goods with a view to reducing the risk of pest introduction. The final version of the Mexican Official Standard the draft of which is notified hereby will, upon its entry into force, replace Emergency Mexican Official Standard NOM-EM-144-SEMARNAT-2003 "Establishing the Technical Specifications for the Phytosanitary Measure (Treatment) and Use of the Mark Accrediting the Application Thereof in Relation to Wood Packaging Material in International Trade", published in the <i>Diario Oficial de la Federación</i> (Official Journal) of 26 November 2003 and circulated to Members of the WTO Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures as a notification in document G/SPS/N/MEX/204 of 10 December 2003 (and which remains in force until 26 January 2005).
7. Objective and rationale: [] food safety, [] animal health, [X] plant protection, [] protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, [X] protect territory from other damage from pests

<p>8. International standard, guideline or recommendation: <input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission, <input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention, <input type="checkbox"/> None If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations:</p>
<p>9. Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:</p> <p>(a) <i>Diario Oficial de la Federación</i> (Official Journal) of 24 September 2004 (available in Spanish);</p> <p>(b) Official Journal of 27 July 2004 (available in Spanish);</p> <p>(c) Official Journal of 26 November 2003 (available in Spanish);</p> <p>(d) Notifications G/SPS/N/MEX/204 and G/SPS/N/MEX/204.Add1-URG of 10 December 2003 and 10 June 2004, respectively.</p>
<p>10. Proposed date of adoption: To be determined</p>
<p>11. Proposed date of entry into force: The day following publication of the final version of this Mexican Official Standard in the Official Journal, with the exception of Article 5 thereof, which will enter into force on 1 July 2005.</p>
<p>12. Final date for comments: 23 November 2004 Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:</p>
<p>13. Texts available from: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: Web site: www.economia.gob.mx/?P=85 (Standards catalogue) E-mail: cidgn@economia.gob.mx</p>