

Dear Ms. Stefania Condello,

We hope you are well, Referring to EU comments on "G/TBT/N/SAU/996 - Saudi Arabia Draft "Technical Regulation of Textile Products". Appreciation to clarify the inquiries from your side as the following :

1. Procedures to ensure the safety of products (Article (4): Obligations of Suppliers-A. General requirements).

Safety of products are achievable by meeting requirements against hazardous chemical materials in textile products which mentioned in this notified draft (e.g. : Formaldehyde - Penta, Tetra and Ortho chlorophenol - Heavy metals - Dyestuffs and derived materials doubted to be hazardous - Amines carcinogens found in Azo dyes - Flame retardants - Pesticides – Phthalates ...etc.).

Regards the self-declaration, It is important but is not sufficient, since article 6 referred to the supplier who is responsible for making the product available on the market shall obtain a conformity certificate issued by Notified Bodies by SASO (Accepted) as following:

- Type 3 for children's products and underwear.
- Type 1a (Type Approval) for textile products other than children's products and underwear.

2. Labelling requirements – country of origin (Article (4): Obligations of Suppliers-B. Label content).

About more information on how the country of origin is defined?

Referring to FTA "yet there is no internationally agreed upon rules of origin", where the country of origin is defined according the agreement between the countries themselves since kingdom of Saudi Arabia developed agreements with the countries who are members of WTO countries .

3. Labelling requirements – product weight, size or dimension and care instructions (Article (4): Obligations of Suppliers-B. Label content)

All requirements mentioned in notified draft related to weight, size, dimension as well as permanent label ...etc. shall be introduced to the consumer at fully completed and clearly manner, It is also in line with EU regulation No. 1007/2011 article 19 "Misleading commercial practices".

Also product weight, size or dimension are defined according to the type of the product such as dimension for carpets, weight for blankets, size for ready garments.. etc.

For all care instruction and symbols related to textile products, It is based on ISO 3758 "Textiles - care labelling code using symbols" .

On the other hand, for instance, in case of fabric rolls the non-permanent label is accepted for care instruction.

Best Regards,