LAW OF UKRAINE

On Quality and Safety of Food Products and Food Raw Materials

This Law provides legal grounds for ensuring quality and safety of food products and food raw materials for the health of people, governs the relationship between the executive bodies, producers, sellers (suppliers) and consumers during development, production, import into the customs territory of Ukraine (hereinafter - import), procurement, supply, storage, transportation, sale, use, consumption and utilization of food products and food raw materials and also provision of public catering services.

CHAPTER I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Terms And Definitions

The terms set out below in this Law are used in the following meaning:

safety of food products - a lack of toxic, carcinogenic, mutagenic, allergic or other harmful impact on human health of food products when they are consumed in the generally accepted quantities the limits of which shall be established by the Ministry of Health of Ukraine:

biologically active addition - substances or their mixtures that are used for the purposes of adding to the food ration special medical or medical-preventive properties;

state sanitary and hygiene expertise - the assessment of possible negative effect of dangerous factors on the health of people through examination of food products, food raw materials and accompanying materials, in the course of which the safety criteria are established (indicators and their ceiling admissible levels, content, concentration, etc.)

certificate of the state sanitary and hygiene expertise - a document which establishes the safety criteria and impact of dangerous factors of a food product (group of products), food raw materials, accompanying materials on human health;

The State Register of Food Products, Food Raw Materials and Accompanying Materials (hereafter - the State Register) - a list of food products, food raw materials and accompanying materials (or their groups) on the basis of both, a certificate of the state sanitary and hygiene expertise allowed as safe products for consumption (including under certain conditions);

energy value - an indicator which characterizes an energy output that may be released from food products in the process of biological oxidization and may be used for ensuring the physiological functions of the human organism;

identification - determination of conformity of quality criteria of food products and food raw materials with the indicators laid out in the regulations and specifications of the producer of food products, or with those indicated in the information thereof, and also determination of conformity of food products and food raw materials with the general practicable name for the purpose of certification;

public catering service - a result of activities of enterprises or entrepreneurs with regard to meeting the consumers demands as per food and leisure time spending;

food raw materials - is a produce of vegetable, animal, mineral, synthetic or biotechnological origin which is used in production of food products;

certification - a procedure in the course of which a body authorized (accredited) by the State Committee of Ukraine on Standartization, Metrology and Certification certifies in a documentary form that a food product or food raw materials meet the established requirements;

certificate of correspondence - a document issued by a body authorized (accredited) by the State Committee of Ukraine on Standartization, Metrology and Certification in accordance with the rules of the state certification system which certifies that food products and food raw materials have appropriate identification and comply with the requirements set out in current regulations;

special food products - medical, dietary, medical-preventive and biologically active food additions, baby food and sportsmen food;

accompanying materials - materials which are used in production, storage, transportation, sale, packaging and marking of food products and have a direct contact with these products while they themselves are not suitable for consumption;

consumption period of a food product - a calendar time determined by the producer of this product in accordance with the legislation, within which the organolepthical, physical and chemical, medical and biological and other indicators of the food product should meet the current Ukrainian norms and regulations in case the appropriate preservation conditions are met;

food addition - a natural or synthetic substance which is deliberately infused in the food product to impart it the desired properties;

food product - any product which in its natural state of after relevant processing is used by people in food or drinks;

quality of food product - accumulative properties of the food product which identify its capacity to provide a human organism with energy, nutritious and gustatory and aromatic substances, safety for health, stability of its contents and nutritious elements within the consumption period;

biological value of a food product - an essential indicator of the quality of food product which determines the degree of its correspondence with the optimal human needs and guaranteed safety of the use according to physiological needs.

Article 2. Legislation of Ukraine on the Quality and Safety of Food Products and Food Raw Materials

Legislation of Ukraine on the quality and safety of food products and food raw materials consists of this Law and other legal acts of Ukraine.

Article 3. Basic Grounds of the State Policy With Regard to the Quality and Safety of Food Products and Food Raw Materials

The basic grounds of the state policy with regard to ensuring the quality and safety of food products and food raw materials shall be as follows:

priority of preserving and strengthening the human health and recognition of its right to a proper quality and safety of food products and food raw materials;

establishment of guarantees for safety of human health during production, import, transportation, storage, sale, use, consumption, utilization or disposal of food products and food raw materials;

the state control and supervision over their production, processing, transportation, storage, sale, use, consumption, utilization or disposal which ensure preservation of environment, import into Ukraine and provision of services in public catering;

introduction of incentives for new safe scientifically grounded technologies of production (processing, re-processing) of food products and food raw materials and accompanying materials, development and production of new kinds of special and ecologically clean food products, food raw materials and accompanying materials;

maintaining control of quality of food products by public organizations;

coordination of efforts of executive bodies during development and realization of the policy with regard to ensuring adequate quality and safety of food products and food raw materials;

establishment of responsibility of producers (suppliers) of food products, food raw materials and accompanying materials for ensuring their proper quality and safety for human health during production, transportation, storage and sale, and also for the sale of this produce in case of its failure to meet the standards, sanitary, veterinary and phytosanitary norms.

CHAPTER II

REQUIREMENTS FOR PREVENTION OF HARM TO CONSUMERS HEALTH CAUSED BY FOOD PRODUCTS AND FOOD RAW MATERIALS

Article 4. Requirements as to prevention of import, production, sale, use of low-grade quality, unsafe or falsified food products, food raw materials and accompanying materials

It shall be prohibited to produce, import, sell, use, in the wholesale or retail trade or in public catering, the substandard, unsafe, harmful for human heath, or falsified food products, food raw materials and accompanying materials.

Food products or raw materials shall be considered substandard, unsafe, harmful for human heath, or falsified if:

- 1) they contain any harmful or toxic substances of exogenous or natural origin, dangerous for health micro-organisms or toxins thereof, hormonal preparations and decomposition products thereof;
- 2) they contain food additions which have not been duly certified by the state sanitary and hygiene expertise and are not allowed for use as they are designed, or the preservation conditions are not specified which if met provide safe use of food products and food raw materials, or their content exceeds the established ceiling admissible levels;
- 3) they contain any outside articles or additions;
- 4) food raw materials or accompanying materials which are not consistent with the name and type of a food product, or, food raw materials are spoiled or unsuitable due to other properties, are used for their production;
- 5) tare, packaging or accompanying materials, which are used in the process of production of food products, are fully or partially made of materials which do not meet the safety requirements, or are missing in the list of materials allowed to contact with food products by the State Chief Sanitary Doctor of Ukraine with regard to certain types of food products;
- 6) the formula, contents, conditions of production or transportation, sale and consumption determined by the normative documents are breached;
- 7) the danger of consumption or low quality thereof are withheld;
- 8) the storage conditions are violated, and (or) if consumption period has expired;
- 9) with the purpose of selling to consumers or using the food product in public catering, the producer (seller) has deliberately made its external design and (or) specific features look as a certain food product, which cannot, however, be identified as that food product. The fact of falsification of a food product shall be determined in the process of its identification.

Food products and food raw materials shall not be considered to be of substandard quality, dangerous for the human health and life, if the harmful or toxic substances and dangerous microorganisms or toxins thereof are not the outside additions in a food product or food raw materials and their quantity doesn't exceed the established ceiling admissible levels.

List of food additions which are allowed to be used in food products, shall be approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

Article 5. Documentary evidence of proper quality and safety of food products, food raw materials and accompanying materials

Any food product (except those produced for own consumption), food raw materials and accompanying materials shall not be allowed to be imported, produced, put up for sale, sold or used in any other manner without having a documentary evidence of their quality and safety.

The documents which confirm the proper quality and safety of food products, food raw materials and accompanying materials are as follows:

- 1) Certificate of Correspondence;
- 2) State Register or a Certificate of the State Sanitary and Hygiene Expertise;
- 3) Veterinary permit for food products and food raw materials of the animal origin;
- 4) Quarantine permit for vegetable origin produce.

Article 6. Requirements with regard to prevention of the use of dangerous food raw materials, accompanying materials and technologies of production (processing, re-processing) thereof

The items stated below shall be prohibited for use for industrial production of food products:

1) accompanying materials and technologies of their production (processing, reprocessing):

which are not allowed in the established order;

which are not provided for in the formula;

without documents certifying their proper quality and safety;

with the level of artificial or natural radiation pollution which exceeds the established ceiling admissible levels;

- 2) food raw materials:
- of vegetable origin which has not passed the quarantine control;
- to which the prohibited pesticides and agrochemicals have been applied or allowed pesticides and agrochemicals if their content in the raw materials exceeds the established ceiling admissible levels;

which contains the prohibited substances with the pharmacological action or allowed substances with pharmacological action in quantities that exceeds the established ceiling admissible levels.

Article 7. Food Products Marking Requirements

It is prohibited to sell or use domestic food products or those imported into Ukraine without marking being made in the state language of Ukraine which shall contain the information in the understandable for the consumer form indicating:

- 1) general name of food product;
- 2) nominal quantity of food product in the established measurement units (mass, volume, etc.);
- 3) composition of the food product if it is made of several components, indicating the list of the names used in the process of making other food products, food additions, dyes, other chemical substances or combinations;
- 4) energy value (for those food products which have it);
- 5) date of production;
- 6) consumption period or its expiration date;
- 7) storage conditions;
- 8) indication of the regulation about domestic food products;
- 9) producer's name, address and place of production;
- 10) conditions of usage
- 11) percent of outside synthetic (artificial) additions;
- 12) precautions as to the use of a food product by children if it is not a baby food, while there exist some precautions;
- 13) other information as provided for by the current laws and regulations of Ukraine which are applicable in respect of certain food products.

Marking of unpacked food products is done in the order established by the regulations for certain food products.

When marking of domestic and imported food products it shall not be allowed to place the information on their medical effects without receiving an approval from the Ministry of Health Protection of Ukraine.

The text to be used when marking special food products shall be subject to compulsory approval by the Ministry of Health Protection of Ukraine.

When marking food products the specific symbols adopted in the established order shall be used by which the medical, dietary, medical-preventive, biologically active food products, baby food, sportsmen food, and also the ecologically clean food products.

Marking of food products by bar code shall be carried out in the order to be established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

Article 8. Food Products Advertising Requirements

Advertising of special food products without prior agreeing of its text with the Ministry of Health Protection of Ukraine and also advertising of food products which do not have a documentary evidence of their quality and safety shall not be allowed.

It shall be prohibited to use for the advertising of food products the following:

expressions about a possible action, pain relief (except special food products);

letters of thankfulness, recognition, advice, if they relate to the treatment or ease of diseases, and also reference to such information;

expressions that cause or cause the appearance of a feeling of negative psychological condition.

Article 9. Special food products and food raw materials production requirements and the state incentives for production thereof

The procedure of attributing food products to the category of special food products and the regulations on their use shall be established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

Food raw materials used for production of special foodstuffs shall be subject to higher requirements as to quality and safety for human health set forth by the law.

The state shall stimulate domestic production of special and ecologically clean foodstuffs, and food raw materials, including stimulation by means of loan programs, pricing, customs and tariff regulation, and law on taxation.

Control over the quality and safety of special foodstuffs, and conditions of their production, importation, storage, transportation and sales shall be exercised in compliance with the laws of Ukraine and other normative acts of Ukraine.

Production, storage, importation, sales and use of special foodstuffs shall be carried out in compliance with relevant normative documents to be approved by the Ministry of Health of Ukraine through a procedure set forth by the law.

SECTION III

STATE REGULATION OF PROPER QUALITY AND SAFETY OF FOODSTUFFS AND FOOD RAW MATERIALS

Article 10. Objectives of the State Regulation of Proper Quality and Safety of Foodstuffs and Food Raw Materials

State regulation of proper quality and safety of foodstuffs and food raw materials shall be exercised for the purpose of guaranteeing:

safety for human life and health is case of consumption or use thereof;

their production in conditions which meet the requirements of technology, sanitary rules, safety and environmental protection;

their production with the use of allowed food raw materials and supplementary materials:

full and true information about their properties;

their compliance with normative documents on quality and safety;

their sales in compliance with trade regulations.

Article 11. State Regulation of Proper Quality and Safety of Foodstuffs and Food Raw Materials

State regulation of proper quality and safety of foodstuffs and food raw materials shall be exercised by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, authorized central executive power

bodies, their institutions in the Crimean Autonomous Republic, oblasts and rayons, cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol by means of:

approval of state norms of quality and safety of foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials;

state registration of foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials;

state registration of normative documents on foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials;

compulsory certification of foodstuffs, food raw materials, supplementary materials, public catering services, and certification of quality systems for the manufacture of such foodstuffs, raw materials and services;

approval and fulfillment of procedures of importation of foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials into Ukraine;

control over the fulfillment of procedures of importation of foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials.

State regulation of quality and safety of foodstuffs and food raw materials at the time of their development, production, importation, storage, transportation, sales, use, disposal or destroying, and rendering of public catering services shall include: state supervision over the fulfillment of standards, norms and rules; state metrological supervision; state sanitary and epidemiological supervision; state veterinary and sanitary supervision; state control over the fulfillment of Ukrainian law on protection of consumer rights; state control over the fulfillment of law on quarantine of plants; accreditation of bodies for certification of foodstuffs and food raw materials, and testing laboratories under the state certification system; as well as attestation (including metrological) of laboratories at enterprises, institutions, organizations and establishments.

Article 12. Approval of State Norms of Quality and Safety of Foodstuffs, Food Raw Materials and Supplementary Materials

Approval of state norms of quality of foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials shall be exercised by fixing such norms in standards and other normative documents at the time of drafting thereof.

Approval of state norms of safety of foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials shall be exercised by a specially authorized central executive power body in the sphere of health protection by way of fixing maximum allowed content of pollutants and other substances of chemical, biological or another origin, as well as regular publication in mass media of the list of materials allowed for use in the production of foodstuffs and technological equipment.

Methodologies of measurement of content of pollutants and other aforesaid substances should be attested according to a procedure set forth by the State Committee of Ukraine for Standardization, Metrology and Certification, and approved by the Chief Sanitary Doctor of Ukraine. Testing appliances and measuring equipment should be approved or attested according to a procedure set forth by the State Committee of Ukraine for Standardization, Metrology and Certification.

The list of attested methodologies shall be regularly published in mass media by the State Committee of Ukraine for Standardization, Metrology and Certification.

Article 13. State Registration of Foodstuffs, Food Raw Materials and Supplementary Materials

State registration of foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials shall be exercised by the Ministry of Health of Ukraine. State registration of foodstuffs and supplementary materials shall require a positive conclusion of the state sanitary and hygienic examination, and state registration of food raw materials shall require a positive conclusion of the state veterinary and sanitary examination. If a certain food product, food raw material or supplementary material are included into the State Register, their use for their intended purpose shall be allowed. The procedure of state sanitary and hygienic examination of foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials, and the procedure of including them into the State Register shall be determined by the Chief State Sanitary Doctor of Ukraine and the Chief State Veterinary Inspector of Ukraine in compliance with the law of Ukraine.

A conclusion of the state sanitary and hygienic examination of a food product, food raw material or supplementary material shall be issued before their production (importation) is started, and shall be valid until expiration of a normative document establishing safety requirements for these products.

The State Register shall be regularly published in mass media by the Ministry of Health of Ukraine.

A conclusion of the state sanitary and hygienic examination shall not substitute a conformity certificate.

Article 14. State Registration of Normative Documents on Foodstuffs, Food Raw Materials and Supplementary Materials

Production of foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials in Ukraine shall be carried out according to the requirements of normative documents on these foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials, which are to be agreed, approved and registered by the State Committee of Ukraine for Standardization, Metrology and Certification according to a procedure set forth by the law.

The procedure of state registration of normative documents on foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials shall be set forth by the State Committee of Ukraine for Standardization, Metrology and Certification, which shall also provide for regular publication in mass media of the lists of normative documents registered in Ukraine.

The use and state registration of normative documents on foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials in which fix safety indicators are not specified shall be prohibited.

For state registration of normative documents, a manufacturer of a food product must have a technology description or another document describing the technological process, as well as a list of raw materials, substances and supplementary materials used in the manufacturing process, with specification of their content in the finished food product. Recipe shall be the property of the manufacturer.

Article 15. Compulsory Certification of Foodstuffs, Food Raw Materials, Supplementary Materials and Public Catering Services, and Certification of Quality Systems for the Manufacture of Such Foodstuffs, Raw Materials and Services

Foodstuffs, food raw materials, supplementary materials, technological equipment for production thereof, as well as public catering services shall be subject to compulsory certification according to procedures and regulations set forth by the State Committee of Ukraine for Standardization, Metrology and Certification.

Compulsory certification of foodstuffs, food raw materials, supplementary materials and public catering services, and certification of quality systems for the manufacture of such foodstuffs, raw materials and services shall be exercised by certification bodies accredited by the State Committee of Ukraine for Standardization, Metrology and Certification.

In case of compulsory certification, foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials shall be subject to tests in testing laboratories accredited under the state certification system for the purpose of establishing their compliance with the compulsory requirements of the laws and other normative and legal acts of Ukraine.

Compulsory certification of foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials shall be carried out provided they are included into the State Register, and in case of newly developed or imported foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials, compulsory certification shall be carried out upon presentation of a conclusion of the state sanitary and hygienic examination for these foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials.

Article 16. Procedure of Importation of Foreign Foodstuffs, Food Raw Materials and Supplementary Materials into Ukraine

Imported foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials shall be admitted into the customs territory of Ukraine provided that the supplier has fulfilled the requirements of the rules of their registration and certification.

The procedure of importation of foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials into Ukraine shall be set forth by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

Relevant executive power bodies which exercise compulsory certification and the state sanitary and hygienic examination of foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials, shall control that contracts (agreements) contain the specification of quality and safety indicators.

Foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials which are imported into Ukraine and stay under customs control, must be brought out of Ukraine if the issuance of documents confirming their quality and safety was refused.

Article 17. Control over the Fulfillment of Procedures of Importation of Foodstuffs, Food Raw Materials and Supplementary Materials into Ukraine

Control over the fulfillment of procedures of importation of foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials into the customs territory of Ukraine shall be exercised by the customs service.

Customs clearance of imported foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials for free use on the territory of Ukraine shall be allowed provided that:

a conformity certificate, or a certificate of recognition in Ukraine of a foreign certificate, issued by a body of the state certification system authorized (accredited) by the State Committee of Ukraine for Standardization, Metrology and Certification, is present;

a veterinary permit for foodstuffs and raw materials of animal origin is present; a quarantine permit for foodstuffs and raw materials of vegetable origin is present; foodstuffs and food raw materials are marked in compliance with the law of Ukraine.

Physical persons shall be allowed to bring in imported foodstuffs for personal use (except for raw materials of animal origin), total quantity of which does not exceed norms set forth by the law of Ukraine, without the submission to the customs authorities of Ukraine of a conclusion of the state sanitary and hygienic examination, a conformity certificate, or a certificate of recognition in Ukraine of a foreign certificate.

Article 18. Bodies Which Exercise State Control and Supervision over the Quality and Safety of Foodstuffs and Food Raw Materials

State control and supervision over the quality and safety of foodstuffs and food raw materials at the time of their production, storage, transportation, sales, disposal or destroying, and rendering of public catering services shall be exercise by specially authorized central executive power bodies in the sphere of health protection, protection of consumer rights, standardization, metrology and certification, veterinary medicine, quarantine of plants, and their institutions in the Crimean Autonomous Republic, oblasts, rayons, cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol within their competence.

SECTION IV

RIGHTS, OBLIGATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITY OF MANUFACTURERS, SELLERS (SUPPLIERS) AS TO ENSURING PROPER QUALITY AND SAFETY OF FOODSTUFFS AND FOOD RAW MATERIALS

Article 19. Rights of Manufacturers and Sellers (Suppliers) as to Ensuring Proper Quality and Safety of Foodstuffs and Food Raw Materials

Business entities - physical and legal persons of all types of ownership, dealing with the development, manufacturing, transportation, importation into Ukraine, use, as well as sales of foodstuffs and food raw materials, shall have the following rights:

to receive, within a period of time set forth by the law, necessary, available and true information from relevant executive power bodies about the possibility of sale, use and consumption of foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials in Ukraine;

to apply to a court for protection of their rights.

Article 20. Obligations of Manufacturers and Sellers (Suppliers)

Business entities - physical and legal persons of all types of ownership, dealing with

the development, manufacturing, transportation, storage, importation, as well as sales, use, disposal and destroying of foodstuffs and food raw materials, shall have the following obligations:

to have special education (training);

to manufacture, import into Ukraine, sell and use foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials which comply with the requirements of this Law and effective normative documents on these foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials;

to sell and use foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials only provided their quality and safety is confirmed by relevant documentation. A manufacturer (seller) of foodstuffs and food raw materials must regularly check their quality and take proper measures to prevent sales of ineligible foodstuffs, expired foodstuffs and foodstuffs with no or illegible marking;

to provide unimpeded access to respective facilities to officers who exercise state control and supervision, in order to allow them check whether the manufacturing, storage, transportation, sales and use of foodstuffs and food raw materials comply with the requirements, norms and rules as to quality and safety of these foodstuffs and raw materials set forth by relevant normative documents, and to present, free of charge, to such officers normative documents and other information, as well as samples (in quantities set forth by normative documentation) of used food raw materials, supplementary materials and manufactured foodstuffs required for the exercise of their functions;

to reimburse to consumers for damages caused by violation of Ukrainian laws on quality and safety of foodstuffs and food raw materials.

Sales of foodstuffs and food raw materials by physical and legal persons shall be made in compliance with regulations on sales of foodstuffs in Ukraine approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine or an body authorized by it.

Article 21. Responsibility for Violation of the Requirements of this Law

Persons guilty of violation of the requirements of this Law shall bear civil, administrative or criminal responsibility in compliance with the laws of Ukraine.

SECTION V

WITHDRAWAL OR DESTROYING OF FOODSTUFFS, FOOD RAW MATERIALS AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS INCONSISTENT WITH PRESCRIBED REQUIREMENTS

Article 22. Withdrawal, Use, Disposal or Destroying of Foodstuffs, Food Raw Materials and Supplementary Materials Inconsistent with Prescribed Requirements

Subject to withdrawal shall be low-quality, unsafe, falsified and incorrectly marked foodstuffs, foodstuffs which did not receive a positive conclusion of the state sanitary and hygienic examination and a conformity certificate, expired foodstuffs, as well as foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials not accompanied by documents confirming their quality and safety.

Withdrawal shall be made by a resolution of executive power bodies which exercise state control and supervision over the quality and safety of foodstuffs, food raw materials and

supplementary materials, according to their competence.

Withdrawn foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials shall be subject to a relevant state sanitary and hygienic, veterinary and sanitary, and commodity examination for the purpose of determining their further use, disposal or destroying according to a procedure set forth by the law of Ukraine.

In case when the above examinations proved that withdrawn foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials are consistent with quality and safety requirements, an officer who resolved to withdraw them shall cancel his/her decision on withdrawal, and return the withdrawn foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials to their owner for further use. Owner (seller) of withdrawn foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials shall have the right to reimbursement for material damages caused.

The owner shall be obliged to withdraw foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials inconsistent with prescribed requirements, and provide for their further use, disposal or destroying at his/her own expense.

Responsibility for storage and use of foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials inconsistent with the requirements set forth in this Article, shall be borne by their owner.

SECTION VI

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Article 23. International Cooperation of Ukraine in the Sphere of Quality and Safety of Foodstuffs, Food Raw Materials and Supplementary Materials

International cooperation of Ukraine in the sphere of quality and safety of foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials shall be conducted through:

participation in the work of international organizations;

conclusion of international agreements, including agreements on mutual recognition of assessments of conformity of foodstuffs with quality and safety requirements (certification);

harmonization of state standards, norms and rules with international standards, norms and rules which set forth the requirements of quality and safety of foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials, as well as testing methods;

exchange of information with trade partners on measures taken in Ukraine for the purpose of ensuring quality and safety of foodstuffs, food raw materials and supplementary materials.

Article 24. International Agreements of Ukraine

If international agreements of Ukraine, recognized as binding by the Supreme Rada of Ukraine, establish rules other than those provided in this Law, rules of international agreements shall apply.

SECTION VII

FINAL PROVISIONS

- 1. This Law shall come into force from the day of publication thereof.
- 2. Until laws of Ukraine and other normative and legal acts are brought into compliance with the provisions of this Law, they shall apply as far as they are consistent with this Law.
 - 3. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine before March 1, 1998 shall:

submit to the Supreme Rada of Ukraine proposals on introduction of changes to the laws of Ukraine resulting from this Law;

bring its normative and legal acts in compliance with this Law;

within its competence, provide for adoption of normative and legal acts set forth by this Law:

provide for revision and invalidation by ministries and other central executive power bodies of Ukraine, of their normative and legal acts inconsistent with this Law.

4. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall prepare and submit to the Supreme Rada the following draft laws of Ukraine:

on responsibility of suppliers for manufacturing and sales of low-quality and unsafe products;

on withdrawal and disposal of low-quality and unsafe products; on state regulation of manufacturing and sales of ecologically clean products.

Chairman of the Supreme Rada

of Ukraine /signature/

O. MOROZ

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