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NAFDAC Packaged Water and Ice (Registration, Labelling, Advertisement etc.) Regulations, 2026

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NAFDAC Packaged Water and Ice (Registration, Labelling, Advertisement etc.) Regulations, 2026

Arrangement of Regulations

Regulations

Part I
Objective And Application

1. Objectives
2. Application
3. Application for Registration

Part II
Registration, Essential composition & Quality factors etc

4. Application for Registration
5. Post Registration Changes
6. Changes Requiring New Application
7. Suspension or Cancellation of Certificate of Registration
8. Essential Composition
9. Quality Factors
10. Hygiene
11. Labelling Requirements.
12. Packaging
13. Multi Branding
14. Stability Testing, Shelf Life, Batch Coding, Date Marking and Storage Statement
15. Prohibition

Part III
Offences, Penalties and Forfeiture after Conviction

16. Offences and Penalties
17. Forfeiture after conviction

Part IV
Miscellaneous

18. Interpretation
19. Revocation
20. Citation

Schedules

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National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (CAP N1 LFN 2004)

NAFDAC Packaged Water and Ice (Registration, Labelling, Advertisement etc.) Regulations, 2026

[ ] Commencement

In exercise of the powers conferred on the Governing Council of the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control ("the Governing Council") by section 30 of the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control Act, Cap.N1, LFN, 2004 and section 12 of the Food, Drugs and Related Products (Registration, Etc.) Act, Cap. F33. LFN, 2004 and all other powers enabling it in that behalf, the Governing Council, with the approval of the Minister, makes the following Regulations---

Part 1
Objective, Application and Application for Registration

1. **Objective**

The objective of these Regulations is to provide framework for the regulation of packaged water and ice manufactured, exported, imported, advertised, sold, displayed for sale, distributed, or used in Nigeria.

2. **Application**

The Regulations is to provide framework for the regulation of packaged water and ice manufactured, exported, advertised, sold, distributed, and used in Nigeria.

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3. **Application for Registration**

(1) Application for the registration of packaged water and ice shall be made by submitting a completed online application form, accompanied by relevant documents as the Agency may, from time to time, prescribe and

(a) contain the particulars and description of the packaged water and ice in respect of which the application is made;

(b) be accompanied by evidence of payment of such a fee as the Agency may, from time to time, prescribe.

(2) The Packaged water and Ice particulars and description shall be detailed enough to consist of all administrative and technical information as may be required to allow the Agency to make informed decisions about the products.

(3) The Agency, in considering an application-

(a) may request the applicant to supply such other information as may be required to reach a decision on the application:

(b) shall verify the necessity to have the packaged water and ice registered in Nigeria;

(c) may register the packaged water and ice in accordance with the provisions of Food, Drug and Related Products (Registration etc.) Act cap F33 LFN 2004 and other requirements of the Agency.

(4) The registration of packaged water and ice under these Regulations shall, unless it is cancelled, be valid for a period of five years for bottle and two years for sachet and may be renewed.

(5) The Agency shall, from time to time, publish a notice in the gazette and on the NAFDAC website notifying the registration of packaged water and ice under this Regulation.

(6) The Agency may refuse or reject an application for registration if:

(a) it is found that the method, facilities or controls used in the manufacture, processing, and packaging of the Packaged water and Ice are inadequate to ensure and preserve its identity, characteristic(s), quality and safety consistently;

(b) the laboratory report for the product is unsatisfactory;

(c) Good Manufacturing Practice inspection report is unsatisfactory;

(d) product labeling contravenes the NAFDAC Pre-packaged Food (Labeling) Regulations.

(e) relevant documents submitted by applicant are unsatisfactory.

Part II
Post-Registration Changes, Changes requiring new application, Suspension or Cancellation of Certificate of Registration,

4. **Post-Registration Changes**

(1) Except as prescribed in these Regulations, no change shall be carried out to the terms and conditions under which Packaged Water and Ice was registered without prior approval of the Agency.

(2) Every application for change to an approval for an approved product shall be submitted to the Agency describing in detail the proposed change to be carried out.

(3) Depending on the type of change, the Certificate of Registration holder shall apply to the Agency about the change through a variation application along with the payment of the prescribed fee as may be determined by the Agency or by way of notification.

(4) As may be determined by the Agency, a post-registration change(s) may be accomplished through:

(a) Change in product name;

(b) Change in packaging materials design;

(c) change in pack-size or additional pack size;

(d) change in label design;

(e) special authorization;

(f) or any other change as approved by the Agency.

(5) Where change(s) is to be effected, the Certificate of Registration holder shall not distribute the Packaged water and Ice unless:

(a) The effect of the change has been duly assessed and duly approved by the Agency

(b) The product label has been revised to reflect the change(s), where applicable.

5. **Changes requiring new application**

For the purpose of these Regulations, the following changes shall require a new application:-

(a) Change in manufacturing site

(b) Addition of new manufacturing site

(c) Change in packaging material

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6. **Suspension or Cancellation of Certificate of Registration**

(1) The Agency may suspend or cancel the registration of Packaged water and Ice if -

(a) the grounds on which the products were registered are later found to be false or incomplete, or the circumstances under which the product were registered no longer exist;

(b) any of the conditions under which the products were registered has been contravened;

(c) the standard of quality and safety as prescribed in the documentation for registration is not being complied with;

(d) the premises in which the products or part thereof is manufactured, assembled or stored on behalf of the holder of the certificate of registration are not in compliance with the requirements of Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP), or as may be determined by the Agency;

(e) the Certificate of Registration holder has given a notice to the Agency in writing of any intentions to suspend product registration for a period not exceeding the validity of the certificate of registration.

(2) Where the registration of Packaged water and Ice product is suspended or cancelled, the Agency shall order the withdrawal from circulation of that water product and shall accordingly cause the suspension, cancellation or withdrawal to be published.

(3) Consequent upon the provisions in Regulations 5 (2) a Certificate of Registration holder may notify the Agency of his intention to resume marketing a registered product and shall submit relevant document and pay the prescribed renewal fee for product registration where the product registration certificate has expired.

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7. **Modification and handling of Packaged water and Ice.**

Permitted physicochemical modifications and antimicrobial treatments may be applied to waters defined by their origin, provided that such modifications or processing do not alter their essential physicochemical properties or compromise their chemical, radiological, or microbiological safety once packaged.

8. **Quality requirements**

Packaged water and ice shall;

(1) be colourless, odourless, and acceptable in taste.

(2) be free from pathogenic microorganisms and harmful chemical substances.

(3) not contain faecal indicator microorganisms.

(4) be protected from contamination by human and animal waste at all stages of production, handling, storage, and distribution.

(5) comply with prescribed physical, chemical, biological, and radiological standards.

(6) be safe, wholesome, and suitable for human consumption, and shall not present any risk to public health.

9. **Addition of minerals**

Addition of minerals to packaged water and ice before packaging shall comply with the provisions of these Regulations, NAFDAC Food Additives Regulations and other requirements of the Agency.

10. **Physical and Organoleptic Requirements**

The physical and organoleptic requirements of packaged water and ice shall be as specified in the First Schedule to this Regulations.

11. **Chemical Requirements**

The chemical requirements of packaged water and ice shall be as specified in the Second Schedule to this Regulations.

12. **Hygiene**

Raw water for the manufacture of packaged water and ice shall be stored, treated, packaged and transported, in accordance with the Agency's Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) Regulations, and other requirements of the Agency.

13. **Labelling Requirements**

(1) Labelling of packaged water and ice shall be in accordance with the Agency's Pre-Packaged Food (Labelling) Regulations

(2) In addition to the requirements of Pre-Packaged Food (Labelling) Regulations, 2022 the following labelling provisions shall apply:

(a) the brand name of the packaged water and ice shall indicate the appropriate product statement of identity on the source of the water as specified in Scheduled ……

(b) the name shall be assigned based on the category of packaged water and ice such as

(i) if the water is a blend from different environmental sources, each origin must be clearly shown on the label.

(ii) Only waters classified as "defined by origin" may use names that imply a specific natural or geographical source.

(3) Where packaged water and Ice has been modified by a permitted treatment before packaging, the modification or the result of the treatment must be declared on the label in a manner prescribed as prescribed by Agency.

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14. **Label Declarations for Carbonated Packaged water and Ice**

(1) The following declarations shall appear on the product label based on the characteristics and treatment of the Packaged water and Ice, in accordance with the criteria outlined below:

(a) For Groundwaters Defined by origin.

(i) the term "Naturally Carbonated" or "Naturally Sparkling" shall be used where, after packaging, carbon dioxide is spontaneously and visibly released under normal temperature and pressure conditions, provided that:

(ii) the carbon dioxide originates exclusively from the same source as the water at the point of emergence.

(iii) the level of carbon dioxide present is the same as at the point of emergence, allowing for a technical tolerance of ±20%.

(iv) reincorporation of carbon dioxide from the sae source is permissible within this tolerance range.

(b) For Groundwaters Defined by Origin Fortified with Carbon Dioxide

(i) the declaration "Fortified with Carbon Dioxide" shall be used where, after packaging, carbon dioxide is spontaneously and visibly released under normal temperature and pressure conditions, and

(ii) the carbon dioxide originates from the same source as water.

(iii) the level of carbon dioxide present is at least 20% higher than the original level at the point of emergence.
(iv) reincorporation of carbon dioxide captured from the same source is permitted.

(c) For All Categories of water;
(i) the term "Carbonated" or "Sparkling" shall apply where, after packaging, carbon dioxide is spontaneously and visibly released under normal temperature and pressure conditions, and:
(ii) the carbon dioxide is not entirely sourced from the same origin as the water at emergence.

15. **Packaging**

(1) The containers shall be food-grade, hygienic, suitable and completely clean and shall not impact any objectionable odour, taste or colour to the water.

(2) They shall be leak-proof sealed containers made from the following materials:
(a) Linear Low-Density Polyethylene (LLDPE) materials including pouches
(b) Polyethylene (PET)- Non-returnable Bottles
(c) Polycarbonate (PC)- Returnable Bottles
(d) Tetrapacks
(e) Glass

16. **Advertisement**

Advertisement of packaged water and ice shall be in accordance with the Food Product Advertisement Regulations.

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17. **Multi-branding**

(1) A person shall not export, distribute, or display for sale or sell the same packaged water and ice from the same manufacturer under different brand names.

(2) Notwithstanding the provision of regulation 13 (1) of this regulation, a water product can be registered under contract manufacturing agreement.

18. **Prohibition**

(1) A person shall not manufacture, export, advertise, sell, distribute, or use packaged water and ice in Nigeria unless the product is registered in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations.

(2) Notwithstanding the provision in regulation 14 (1) of this regulation, the Agency may issue a permit for packaged water and ice for the purpose of export only.

(3) Claims concerning spiritual or medicinal including preventive, alleviative or curative effects is prohibited for packaged water and ice covered by these Regulations.

(4) The name of the locality, hamlet or specified place may not form part of the trade name unless it refers to a water defined by origin collected at the place designated by that trade name.

(5) The use of any statement or of any pictorial device which may create confusion in the mind of the public or in any way mislead the public about the nature, origin, composition and properties of packaged water and ice put on sale is prohibited.

Part IV
Offences and Penalties

19. **Offences and Penalties**

(1) Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of these Regulations commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction. In case of -

(a) an individual, to a fine not less than N5,000,000, to imprisonment for a term of five years; and

(b) a body corporate, to a fine less than N20,000,000 or forfeiture of the property or assets of the body corporate.

(2) Where an offence under these Regulations is committed by a body corporate, firm or other association of individuals every: -

(a) director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate.

(b) partner or officer of the firm.

(c) trustee of the body concerned.

(d) person concerned in the management of the affairs of the association; or

(e) person who purports to act in a capacity referred to in paragraphs (a) to (d) of this sub-regulation, is severally liable to be proceeded against and punished for that offence in the same manner as if he had himself committed the offence, unless he proves that the act or omission constituting the offence took place without his knowledge, consent or connivance.

20. **Forfeiture after conviction**

(1) A person convicted of an offence under these Regulations shall forfeit to the Federal Government:-

(a) any asset or property constituting proceeds derived from or obtained, directly or indirectly, as a result of the offence; and

(f) any of the person's property or instruments used in any manner to commit or to facilitate the commission of the offence.

(2) In this section, "proceeds" means any property derived or obtained, directly or indirectly, through the commission of the offence.

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Part V
Miscellaneous

21. **Interpretation**

In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires –

Agency means the 'National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control'.

Packaged water means water for human consumption and may contain minerals, naturally occurring or intentionally added; may contain carbon dioxide, naturally occurring or intentionally added; but shall not contain sugars, sweeteners, flavorings or other water stuffs.

Waters defined by origin means; a) waters originate from specific environmental resources without passing through a community water system; b) precautions have been taken within the vulnerability perimeters to avoid any pollution of, or external influence on, the chemical, microbiological and physical qualities of water at origin; c) collecting conditions which guarantee the original microbiological purity and essential elements of their chemical make-up at origin; d) from the microbiological standpoint, are constantly fit for human consumption at their source and are kept in that state with particular hygienic

precautions until and while packaging.

22. **Revocation**
    (1) Processed Waters Registration Regulations 2005 has been revoked.
    (2) Bottled Water Registration Regulations 1996
    (3) The revocation of the Regulations specified in Regulations 13 (1) and (2) shall not affect anything done or purported to be done under the repealed Regulation

23. **Citation**
    These Regulations shall be cited as NAFDAC Packaged Water Regulations, 2026.

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First Schedule

Physical/Organoleptic Characteristics

Parameter	Tolerance
Colour (TCU^0)	3.0
Taste	Unobjectionable
Odour	Unobjectionable
Temperature ^0C	Ambient
Turbidity (NTU^b)	5.0
pH	6.5-8.5
Conductivity	1000 μS/cm

Second Schedule

Chemical Requirements

Inorganic Constituents

Parameter	Maximum Permitted Levels
Chloride	100mg/L
Fluoride	1.0mg/L
Copper	1.0mg/L
Iron	0.3mg/L
Nitrate	10mg/L
Nitrite	0.02mg/L
Manganese	0.1mg/L
Magnesium	2.0mg/L
Sodium	100mg/L
Aluminium	0.02mg/L
Zinc	5.0mg/L
Total dissolved solids	500mg/L
Hardness (as $CaC0_3$)	100mg/L
Hydrogen sulphide	0.01mg/L
Sulphate	100mg/L

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Organic Constituents

Substance (Polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbon which include)	Maximum Permitted Level
Fluroathene 3,4 Benzfluoroanthene 11,12- Benzfluoroanthene 3,4- Benzpyrene 11,12- Benzpyrene Indeno (1,2, 4- cd pyrene)	0.0002mg/L

Disinfectant and Disinfectant by -Products

Substance	Maximum Permitted Level (mg/L)
Free Residual Chlorine	0.2
2- Chlorophenol	0.01
2,4- dichlorophenol	0.04
2,4,6-trichlorophenol	0.02
Trihalomethane	0.001

Toxic Chemical Substances

Substances	Maximum Permitted Level (mg/L)
Lead	0.01
Cyanide (as CN)	0.01
Cadmium	0.003
Arsenic	0.01
Barium	0.05
Mercury	0.001
Chromium	0.01
Nickel	0.01

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Contaminants

Substances	Maximum Permitted Level (mg/L)
Pesticides	0.0005
Mineral Oil	0.003
Ammonia	0.05
Phenol compounds (as Phenol)	0.001
Detergents (as Lauryl sulphate)	0.01
Radionuclides (Bq/l) for gross Alpha (Bq/l) emitters (Not during emitters activity into the environment)	0.1

MADE at Abuja this ……. day of ……...2026

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Dr. Mansur Kabir
Chairman Governing Council
National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC)