



Dairy Regulation and Standards

(PRJ-0439-2026)

Dairy Standard Agency

Quarter 1 2026 (July 2026 till September 2026)

Project goals

Goal 1 - Deliberation of industry regulations relating to food safety, product composition, metrological and related standards as well as voluntary industry related standards e.g., animal welfare and related matters

Achievements

1. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Directorate: Food Control - Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act

1.1 Draft Regulations relating to the Labelling and Advertising of Foodstuffs (R.3337 dated 21 July 2023)

The Department of Health confirmed that it has completed the process of collating and responding to stakeholders' comments received on the draft Regulations relating to the Labelling and Advertising of Foodstuffs (R.3337), as well as incorporating relevant comments into the second draft regulation. The engagement meetings with the affected industry stakeholders at the NEDLAC Trade and Industry Chamber are ongoing to interrogate and refine the provisions of R.3337 with the objective of developing a balanced, science-based regulation that is practical and implementable.

1.2 Review of the Regulations relating to Milk and Dairy products (R.1555 dated 21 November 1997)

The revised draft regulation is to be shared again with internal stakeholders before submission to the Department of Health for consideration and possible incorporation into the regulatory amendment process.

1.3 Request for time bound increase of somatic cell count prescribed in R.1555 dated 21 November 1997

Following further clarification to the Department of Health by the interim Project Manager of Animal Health & Welfare Project that the proposed increase to 700,000 cells/ml would be a temporary measure applicable only at farm level. It was also clarified that the concession could be withdrawn earlier should the FMD situation improve to the extent that it no longer presents a widespread national challenge. The Department of Health has responded to the follow-up request for their feedback that the request has been considered, and the submission is now moving through the required internal processes.

2. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Directorate: Food Safety and Quality Assurance – Agricultural Product Standards Act

2.1 Draft Amendment of the Dairy and Imitation Dairy Regulation (R.1510 dated 22 November 2019)

The Directorate: Food Safety and Quality Assurance (FSQA) has indicated that the amendment process of the draft Regulations relating to Dairy and Imitation Dairy Products has progressed to its final stage and undergoing notification at the World Trade Organization (WTO). Publication of the final amended regulation in the Government Gazette is anticipated later this year.

2.2 Implementation of the Methods of Production as a Management Control System in terms of the Management Control System Regulations

With the coming into operation of the Management Control System (MCS) Regulation (R.6634 of 19 September 2025) on 19 September 2026, the Directorate: FSQA issued a letter dated 21 September 2026 citing the delayed implementation of the methods of production as MCS.

This is since the process of consolidating input received from stakeholders in response to the Gazetted Notice No. 7577, dated 19 June 2026 requesting comments on the intension to register 16 proposed methods of production as MCS is still underway together with the alignment of the quality regulations relating to eggs, meat classification, and poultry meat with the MCS Regulation. The letter further indicated that in due cause stakeholders will be invited to a meeting(s) to discuss the consolidated inputs and finalize the registration of methods of production as MCS after which the implementation of these MCS will commence as soon as each is finalised and published in the Government Gazette.

3. CONSUMER GOODS COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA (CGCSA)

NEDLAC consultation process on the Labelling Regulation Amendment (R.3337)

The Consumer Goods Council of South Africa (CGCSA), under the leadership of Business Unity South Africa (BUSA), requested NEDLAC to formally table the proposed Regulations relating to the Labelling and Advertising of Foodstuffs (R.3337) at the NEDLAC Trade and Industry Chamber. The engagement and consultation process is on-going with business, labour and the community represented at NEDLAC to assess the scientific and policy evidence presented by the Department of Health, propose practical amendments where necessary, and contribute towards the development of a balanced, evidence-based, and implementable regulation. The consultation process is expected to continue for at least six months.

4. SOUTH AFRICAN BUREAU OF STANDARDS (SABS)

The SABS/TC 0034/SC 5 on “Milk and milk products” held its annual meeting on 29 July 2026 and agreed to withdraw SANS 2446 to help eliminate duplication and improve clarity within the standards portfolio. Since the corresponding SANS 19662:2025 has already been adopted and published by the international standard as South African National Standards (SANS). Additionally, the following documents were posted for ballot voting by technical committee members during the third quarter:

1. [ISO/TS 4985:2023: Milk and milk products — Determination of alkaline phosphatase activity — Fluorimetric microplate method](#)
2. [ISO 11870:2009: Milk and milk products — Determination of fat content — General guidance on the use of butyrometric methods](#)
3. [ISO 23970:2021: Milk, milk products and infant formula — Determination of melamine and cyanuric acid by liquid chromatography and tandem mass spectrometry \(LC-MS/MS\)](#)
4. [ISO 3976:2006: Milk fat — Determination of peroxide value](#)
5. [ISO 9874:2006: Milk — Determination of total phosphorus content — Method using molecular absorption spectrometry](#)
6. [ISO/CD 5544: Caseins and caseinates — Determination of "fixed ash"](#)

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 2 - Liaison with industry and statutory bodies in terms of draft, promulgated and repealed legislation and effective communication through the Milk SA organisational structures

Achievements

A letter with a Summary of the Food Donation Best Practice Guidelines for Dairy Processors was circulated to industry members through the established communication system, following its launch by the South African Food Loss and Waste Initiative (SA FLWI), led by the CGCSA.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 3 - Liaison with international bodies e.g., African Organisation for Standardisation, Codex Alimentarius and International Dairy Federation

Achievements

1. AFRICAN ORGANISATION FOR STANDARDISATION (ARSO)

The ARSO Technical Committee TC 04 on Milk and Milk Products circulated the following Final Draft African Standards (FDARS) for balloting during the third quarter:

1. FDARS 1092:2026, Blended processed cheese with vegetable oils and fats —Specification
2. FDARS 1354: 2026, Dairy ice, dairy ice lollies and ice lollies — Specification
3. FDARS 2134: 2026, Blend of cream and vegetable fat — Specification
4. FDARS 2215: 2026, Guidelines for establishing a generic certificate for export of milk and milk products

2. CODEX ALIMENTARIUS

The South African Codex Contact Point in the Department of Health held an online Preparatory meeting on 2 September 2026 for the 57th session of the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues and requested inputs urgently on the following matters under Agenda Item 7 of the Working Document that are of particular relevance to the dairy industry in order to inform and establish the national position to be presented at the session:

1. Expression of MRLs for fat-soluble pesticides in milks and milk products: Consideration of applying the “F” suffix to CXLs for milks.
2. Updating the references to the Codex standards for milk and milk products in Class E.

3. INTERNATIONAL DAIRY FEDERATION (IDF)

The IDF Standing Committee on Standards of Identity and Labelling (SCSIL) circulated the

following for comments:

1. Draft discussion paper on the IDF approach and criteria to new additives for the Action Team members' comments and deliberation during an online meeting.
2. Draft revised Code of Practice for the Reduction of Aflatoxin B1 in raw materials and supplemental feeding stuff for milk-producing animals.
3. Proposed draft Standard for Pasteurized Liquid Camel Milk.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 4 - Liaison and consultation on an internal and external basis and comment within specified time frames via Milk SA organisational structures

Achievements

Consultation with key role-players and liaison with relevant stakeholders through Milk SA's established organisational structures were undertaken to ensure that the dairy industry's positions through stakeholders' comments were solicited, consolidated, and submitted within prescribed timeframes to government departments, standards bodies, and other relevant organisations.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 5 - Report to industry via Milk SA structures

Achievements

Regular reporting on regulatory and standards matters to the organised dairy industry through Milk SA communication structures, ensuring that stakeholders remained informed of regulatory developments, project progress, emerging risks, and key decisions affecting the industry. Updates are presented through industry communication platforms, enabling timely dissemination of information, promoting transparency, and facilitating coordinated industry responses to legislative and standards-related matters.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 6 - Liaison with government, departments regarding legislation and policies within the scope of the project, that may affect the Milk SA strategic goals

Achievements

Maintaining ongoing engagement with relevant government departments and regulatory authorities such as the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Health to monitor legislative and policy developments affecting the dairy industry and Milk SA's strategic objectives. Through formal

submissions, technical consultations and participation in regulatory forums, the project provides science-based input to safeguard industry interests, promote alignment with national and international standards, and protect the integrity of the South African dairy industry.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Income and expenditure statement

Income and expenditure statement	September 2026 - CORFIN151 - PRJ0439.pdf September 2026 - CORFIN173 - PRJ0439.pdf
Unnecessary spending during period	No

Popular Report

[RS popular report Q3 2026.docx](#)

Popular report and Additional documentation

[Letter to All Stakeholders 21 September 2026.pdf](#)

Statement

Levy funds were applied only for the purposes stated in the contract	Yes
Levy funds were applied in an appropriate and accountable manner	Yes
Sufficient management and internal control systems were in place to adequately control the project and accurately account for the project expenditure	Yes
The information provided in the report is correct	Yes