

Managing NTMs:
Classification,
Statistical Challenges
and Policy Implications



ADBI-ESCAP JOINT WORKSHOP

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# What are Non-Tariff Measures (NTM)?













#### **Definitions**

# NA

### Non-tariff measures (NTMs)

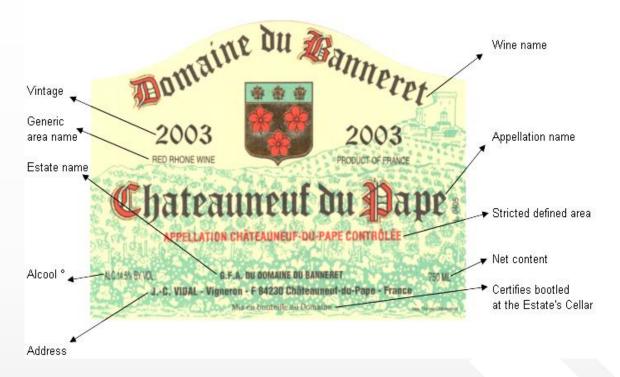
Official policy measures on export and import, other than ordinary customs tariffs, that can potentially have an effect on international trade in goods, changing quantities traded, or prices or both.

Mandatory requirements, rules or regulations legally set by the exporting, importing or transit country (in contrast to private standards which are not legally set)

Can affect both export and import



#### Example: EU labeling requirement on a wine bottle



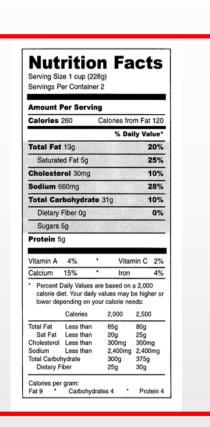
#### Labels on wines exported to the EU must include:

- Net contents of the bottle, in milliliters, centiliters or liters;
- Name and address of the importer preferably printed on the main label;
- The wine's alcohol content;
- Indication of manufacturing lot;
- Indication of country of origin.



**ENGAGEMENT** 

# Example of a Mayonnaise for a Swiss supermarket – labeling requirements







#### NTMs and other trade obstacles

#### **NTMs**

Policy measures, other than ordinary customs tariffs, that can potentially have an economic effect on international trade in goods, changing quantities traded, or prices or both. (GNTB MAST, 2009).

NTBs: NTMs that have a 'protectionist or discriminatory intent'

# Excessively strict/ complex requirements

The requirements are too strict or complex to comply with.

#### **Procedural Obstacles**

Practical challenges or administrative hurdles which make compliance with NTMs difficult.

#### Business Environment

General operating conditions in the country that are not related to NTMs but which may hinder company's ability to trade.



# **Trade Obstacles**

## Why do governments impose NTMs?

- NTMs are introduced for legitimate reasons, for example protection of human, animal and plant health
- But can also be misused as an instrument of protection

Why do countries use NTMs?

# **Importing Country**

- Health and safety of consumers
- Environmental factors
- Infant industry protection
- Acheive political goals

Why do countries use NTMs?

## **Exporting Country**

- Ensure adequate supply for the domestic market
- Maintain quality
- Ensure best value for their exports
- Political reason
- .....



### NTMs – Why a concern for exporters and importers?

- Products need to comply with a wide range of NTMs; NTMs often vary across products and countries and can change quickly.
- The nature of NTMs has changed over time they have become less visible and direct, but rather more complex.
- The problems companies face in relation to NTMs and their compliance are often linked to lack of capabilities, infrastructure and efficient procedures ("procedural obstacles") in a country.
- Often there is no transparency and easy access to relevant information about NTMs that are applied by the destination country.

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