



European  
Commission



# Toys

Product requirements in Japan under  
the EU-Japan EPA



## Contents

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| <b>1. General.....</b>  | <b>3</b> |
| 1.1 Import Procedures under the Food Sanitation Act .....   | 3        |
| 1.2 Standards for Chemicals/Additives.....  | 3        |
| 1.3 Display of Information regarding Safety on the Surface of Products (i.e., Precautions regarding Use and Expected Life of the Product) ..... | 4        |
| 1.4 The Obligation to Report Serious Incidents Prescribed under the Consumer Product Safety Act .....   | 5        |
| 1.5 Environmental Regulations which apply to Imported Goods in General .....  | 5        |
| 1.5.1 Labelling Requirements Prescribed under the Act on the Promotion of Effective Utilization of Resources.....                               | 5        |
| 1.5.2 Requirement to Recycle Containers/Packages Made of Paper, Plastic, PET, or Glass.....   | 5        |

**Disclaimer:** This document has been prepared for the European Commission by Nishimura & Asahi, SD Policies Limited and Development Solutions Europe Ltd and is part of the Support Facility for the Implementation of the EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA). This document been prepared with the sole purpose of clarifying and simplifying the understanding of some parts of the EU-Japan EPA related to product requirements and bears therefore no legal standing. This document does not constitute legal advice in terms of business development cases. As a result, only the legal text and annexes of the EU-Japan EPA, as well as relevant legislation in the EU and Japan prevail. It reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

## 1. General

- MIPRO: [Guide to import of toys into Japan 2015](#) (Japanese)

### 1.1 Import Procedures under the Food Sanitation Act

- MHLW: [Import Procedure under Food Sanitation Act](#) (English)
- MHLW: [Notification Form for Importation of Foods, etc.](#) (English)
- MHLW: [Import procedures](#) (Japanese)
  - The [import notification form](#) for submission to the quarantine information office is available in Japanese
- Food Sanitation Act ([English](#) and [Japanese](#))
  - The English translation at the above link is outdated. The latest text is available only in Japanese.

### 1.2 Standards for Chemicals/Additives

- MHLW: [Draft Positive Lists](#) of the chemicals and additives which are to be allowed to be contained in cookware and packaging of food products sold in Japan (Japanese, partially English)
- More information in English can be found [here](#) on the amendment of Food Sanitation Act and the Positive List. Within that file a link is provided to the draft positive lists in excel (available both in Japanese and English).
  - The notification which prescribes the positive lists is scheduled to be published in February 2020, and the positive lists will be implemented from June 1, 2020. The Committee on the Regulation of Food Utensils, Containers, and Packaging recommended that the MHLW take a sufficient transition period for about 5 years before requiring all the relevant stakeholders to comply with the positive lists.
- For more information on the discussion in the [Committee on the Regulation of Food Utensils, Containers, and Packaging](#) regarding the implementation of the positive lists, please see the reference material published in Japanese by the Committee, which is disclosed with the [member list and other materials](#) (Japanese)

### 1.3 Display of Information regarding Safety on the Surface of Products (i.e., Precautions regarding Use and Expected Life of the Product)

- This obligation is applicable only to the toys which are used by inserting a plug into the electric outlet.
- Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI): Electrical Appliances and Materials Safety Act Statutory Operations Implementation Guide For Manufacturers/Importers ([Version 3 English](#), [Version 4 Japanese](#))
  - The latest edition is available only in Japanese.
  - Exporters of electrical appliances are not required to submit a notification of business or to ensure electrical appliances' conformity with the technical requirements contained in the Electrical Appliances and Materials Safety Act; instead, this responsibility falls to the domestic manufacturers and importers of such appliances.
- METI: Electrical Appliances and Materials Safety Act Statutory Operations Implementation Guide For Manufacturers/Importers ([Version 3 English](#), [Version 4 Japanese](#))
  - The latest edition, is available only in Japanese
  - Exporters of electrical appliances are not required to submit a notification of business or to ensure electrical appliances' conformity with the technical requirements contained in the Electrical Appliances and Materials Safety Act; instead, this responsibility falls to the domestic manufacturers and importers of such appliances.
- Electrical Appliances and Materials Safety Act ([English](#) and [Japanese](#))
  - The English translation at the above link is outdated. The latest text is available only in Japanese. An overview of the act is also available on the [METI website](#) (English)
- METI: [Trade and Investment Q&A - Display of information regarding safety on the surface of products](#) (Japanese)
  - This information does not have to be affixed to the products at the time of importation. However, displaying the required information is a necessary prerequisite for distribution of the products in Japan.

## 1.4 The Obligation to Report Serious Incidents Prescribed under the Consumer Product Safety Act

- METI: [Handbook for enterprises outlining the incident reporting and disclosure system](#) (Japanese)
- Consumer Product Safety Act ([English](#) and [Japanese](#))
  - The English translation at the above link is outdated. The latest text is available only in Japanese at:

## 1.5 Environmental Regulations which apply to Imported Goods in General

### 1.5.1 Labelling Requirements Prescribed under the Act on the Promotion of Effective Utilization of Resources

- Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI): [Description of the Act on the Promotion of Effective Utilization of Resources](#) (Japanese)
  - Description of the requirement to put an identification mark on paper and plastic containers/packages which indicates that those containers/packages are made of paper or plastics that is recyclable.
- Act on the Promotion of Effective Utilization of Resources ([English](#) and [Japanese](#))
  - The English translation at the above link is outdated. The latest text is available only in Japanese.

### 1.5.2 Requirement to Recycle Containers/Packages Made of Paper, Plastic, PET, or Glass

- METI: [Description of the Act on the Promotion of Effective Utilization of Resources](#). You can find further information [here](#) (Japanese)
  - Description of the requirement to recycle paper, plastic, PET, or glass containers/packages imposed on enterprises (which meet the thresholds for turnover or number of employees, and which import these containers/packages or use these containers/packages when they sell their products). These entities can also fulfill their obligations by paying commissions to the Japan Containers and Packaging Recycling Association, which is a public interest incorporated foundation.
- Act on the Promotion of Sorted Collection and Recycling of Containers and Packaging ([English](#) and [Japanese](#))
  - The English translation at the above link is outdated. The latest text is available only in Japanese.