Packaged natural mineral water — Specification
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This standard cancels and replaces US 43:2008, Packaged natural mineral waters – Specification, which has been technically revised

Wherever the words, “East African Standard" appear, they should be replaced by "Uganda Standard."
EAST AFRICAN STANDARD

Packaged natural mineral water — Specification

EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY
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Foreword

Development of the East African Standards has been necessitated by the need for harmonizing requirements governing quality of products and services in the East African Community. It is envisaged that through harmonized standardization, trade barriers that are encountered when goods and services are exchanged within the Community will be removed.

In order to achieve this objective, the Community established an East African Standards Committee mandated to develop and issue East African Standards.

The Committee is composed of representatives of the National Standards Bodies in Partner States, together with the representatives from the private sectors and consumer organizations. Draft East African Standards are circulated to stakeholders through the National Standards Bodies in the Partner States. The comments received are discussed and incorporated before finalization of standards, in accordance with the procedures of the Community.

East African Standards are subject to review, to keep pace with technological advances. Users of the East African Standards are therefore expected to ensure that they always have the latest versions of the standards they are implementing.

EAS 13 was prepared by Technical Committee EASC/TC 075, Environment, Health and Safety.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (EAS 13: 2000), which has been technically revised.
Packaged natural mineral water — Specification

1 Scope

This East African Standard specifies the requirements and methods of test for packaged natural mineral water offered for human consumption.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ASTM D 5907, Standard test methods for filterable matter (total dissolved solids) and non-filterable matter (total suspended solids) in water

EAS 38, Labelling of prepackaged foods — Specification

EAS 39, Hygiene in the food and drink manufacturing industry — Code of practice

ISO 10304, Water quality -- Determination of dissolved anions by liquid chromatography of ions

ISO 10359, Water quality -- Determination of fluoride

ISO 10523, Water quality -- Determination of pH

ISO 10530, Water quality -- Determination of dissolved sulfide -- Photometric method using methylene blue

ISO 10566, Water quality -- Determination of aluminium -- Spectrometric method using pyrocatechol violet

ISO 11423, Water quality -- Determination of benzene and some derivatives

ISO 11732, Water quality -- Determination of ammonium nitrogen -- Method by flow analysis (CFA and FIA) and spectrometric detection

ISO 11885, Water quality -- Determination of selected elements by inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometry (ICP-OES)

ISO 11969, Water quality -- Determination of arsenic -- Atomic absorption spectrometric method (hydride technique)

ISO 12020, Water quality -- Determination of aluminium — Atomic absorption spectrometric method

ISO 12846, Water quality -- Determination of mercury -- Method using atomic absorption spectrometry (AAS) with and without enrichment

ISO 13877, Soil quality -- Determination of polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons -- Method using high-performance liquid chromatography
ISO 15089, Water quality -- Guidelines for selective immunoassays for the determination of plant treatment and pesticide agents

ISO 16265, Water quality -- Determination of the methylene blue active substances (MBAS) index -- Method using continuous flow analysis (CFA)

ISO 16266, Water quality -- Detection and enumeration of Pseudomonas aeruginosa — Method by membrane filtration

ISO 21567, Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs — Horizontal method for the detection of Shigella spp.

ISO 24153, Random sampling and randomization procedures

ISO 28540, Water quality -- Determination of 16 polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) in water -- Method using gas chromatography with mass spectrometric detection (GC-MS)

ISO 4832, Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs — Horizontal method for the enumeration of coliforms — Colony-count technique

ISO 5961, Water quality -- Determination of cadmium by atomic absorption spectrometry

ISO 6059, Water quality -- Determination of the sum of calcium and magnesium - EDTA titrimetric method

ISO 6222, Water quality -- Enumeration of culturable microorganisms — Colony count by inoculation in nutrient agar culture media

ISO 6332, Water quality -- Determination of the chemical oxygen demand

ISO 6333, Water quality -- Determination of manganese -- Formaldoxime spectrometric method

ISO 6461-1, Water quality -- Detection and enumeration of the spores of sulphite reducing anaerobes (clostridia) — Part 1: Method by enrichment in a liquid medium

ISO 6461-2, Water quality -- Detection and enumeration of the spores of sulphite-reducing anaerobes (clostridia) — Part 2: Method by membrane filtration

ISO 6703, Water quality -- Determination of cyanide

ISO 6777, Water quality -- Determination of nitrite -- Molecular absorption spectrometric method

ISO 6785, Milk and milk products -- Detection of Salmonella spp.

ISO 6888-1, Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs -- Horizontal method for the enumeration of coagulase-positive staphylococci (Staphylococcus aureus and other species) — Part 1: Technique using Baird-Parker agar medium

ISO 7027, Water quality -- Determination of turbidity

ISO 7393, Water quality -- Determination of free chlorine and total chlorine

ISO 7875, Water quality -- Determination of surfactants

ISO 7887, Water quality -- Determination of colour

ISO 7888, Water quality -- Determination of electrical conductivity

ISO 7890, Water quality -- Determination of nitrate -- Part 3: Spectrometric method using sulfosalicylic acid
ISO 7899-2, Water quality -- Detection and enumeration of intestinal enterococci — Part 2: Membrane filtration method

ISO 7980, Water quality -- Determination of calcium and magnesium -- Atomic absorption spectrometric method

ISO 8165, Water quality -- Determination of selected monovalent phenols

ISO 8245, Water quality -- Guidelines for the determination of total organic carbon (TOC) and dissolved organic carbon (DOC)

ISO 8288, Water quality -- Determination of cobalt, nickel, copper, zinc, cadmium and lead -- Flame atomic absorption spectrometric methods

ISO 9174, Water quality -- Determination of chromium -- Atomic absorption spectrometric methods

ISO 9297, Water quality -- Determination of chloride — Silver nitrate titration with chromate indicator (Mohr’s method)

ISO 9308-1, Water quality -- Detection and enumeration of Escherichia coli and coliform bacteria Part 1: Membrane filtration method

ISO 9696, Water quality -- Measurement of gross alpha activity in non-saline water -- Thick source method

ISO 9697, Water quality -- Measurement of gross beta activity in non-saline water -- Thick source method

ISO 9964-1, Water quality -- Determination of sodium and potassium — Part 1: Determination of sodium by atomic absorption spectrometry

ISO 9965, Water quality -- Determination of selenium -- Atomic absorption spectrometric method (hydride technique)

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this standard, the following terms and definitions shall apply.

3.1 packaged natural mineral water
water from a natural source that has been filled and, sealed into containers at the source or close to the source, and intended for human consumption

3.2 natural mineral water
is water that with regard to the source:

a) is characterized by its content of certain mineral salts and their relative proportions and the presence of trace elements of other constituents;

b) is obtained directly from natural or drilled sources from underground water-bearing strata;

c) has constancy of composition, stability of discharge and temperature, taking account of cycles of natural fluctuations;

d) is collected under conditions which guarantee its original bacteriological purity and chemical composition of essential components;

e) is not subjected to any treatment other than physical treatment described in 4.1.2;
f) is water that shall be inspected and approved by an authorized body before it is licensed for exploitation;

  g) is in conformity with all provisions specified in this standard; and

  h) is packaged at source or close to the point of emergence of the source with particular hygienic precautions.

NOTE

3.3 source of natural mineral water
the source shall be the point at which natural mineral water is tapped

3.4 container
any bottle, carton, can or other container to be filled with natural mineral water, properly labelled and intended for sale

3.5 adequate
sufficient to accomplish the intended purpose of this standard

3.6 cleaning
the removal of soil, food residues, dirt, grease or other objectionable matter

3.7 contamination
the occurrence of any objectionable matter in the product

3.9 establishment
any building(s) or areas in which natural mineral water is handled and collected, together with the surroundings under the control of the same management

3.10 handling of natural mineral water
any manipulation with regard to collecting, treating, bottling, packaging, storing, transporting, distributing and selling natural mineral water

3.11 food hygiene
all measures necessary to ensure the safety, soundness and wholesomeness of natural mineral water at all stages from its exploitation and processing until its final consumption

3.12 packaging material
any containers such as cans, bottles, cartons, boxes, cases or wrapping and covering material such as foil, film, metal paper and wax paper.

3.13 pests
any animals capable of, directly or indirectly, contaminating natural mineral water

3.14 aquifers
any solid permeable mass of rocks (layer) containing natural mineral water
3.15
spring
any natural mineral water discharging genuinely from the ground

3.16
supplementary definitions

3.16.1
naturally carbonated natural mineral water
is a natural mineral water, which is naturally carbonated from source without artificial carbonation

3.16.2
non-carbonated mineral water
is mineral water, which by nature; and after possible treatment in accordance with 4.1.2 and after packaging, does not contain free carbon dioxide in excess of the amount necessary to keep the hydrogen carbonate salts present in the water dissolved

3.16.3
decarbonated mineral water
is mineral water, which after possible treatment in accordance with 4.1.2 and after packaging has less carbon dioxide than at emergence

3.16.4
artificially carbonated mineral water
is mineral water, which after possible treatment in accordance with 4.1.2 and before packaging has been made more effervescent by addition of carbon dioxide. This includes sparkling, carbon dioxide fortified and fizzling mineral water

4 Requirements for natural mineral water

4.1 General requirements

4.1.1 Authorization of source

The source for natural mineral water shall be recognized and approved as such by the relevant Authority having jurisdiction in the place of collection and packaging.

The natural mineral water shall be packaged at source or close to the point of emergence of the source with particular hygienic precautions.

NOTE The distance from the source to the establishment shall be determined by the relevant national authority.

4.1.2 Treatment

Treatment permitted includes separation from unsuitable constituents by filtration if necessary, accelerated by previous aeration and decantation.

The treatment referred to above shall only be carried out on condition that the mineral content of the water is not modified in its essential constituents.
4.2 Specific requirements

4.2.1 Physical requirements

Packaged natural mineral water shall not have objectionable taste or odour to the consumers and shall be free from any foreign matter as stipulated in Table 1.

4.2.2 Chemical requirements

4.2.2.1 Packaged natural mineral water shall comply with the general chemical requirements as stipulated in Table 1.

### Table 1 — General physico-chemical requirements of natural mineral water

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Substance</th>
<th>Limit</th>
<th>Test methods</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i.</td>
<td>Colour, max.</td>
<td>15 true colour units</td>
<td>ISO 7887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii.</td>
<td>Turbidity, max.</td>
<td>1 NTU.</td>
<td>ISO 7027</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii.</td>
<td>pH</td>
<td>6.0 - 8.5.</td>
<td>ISO 10523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv.</td>
<td>Aluminium as Al(^{3+}), max.</td>
<td>0.1 mg/l</td>
<td>ISO 10566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v.</td>
<td>Calcium as Ca(^{2+}), max.</td>
<td>250 mg/l</td>
<td>ISO 5961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vi.</td>
<td>Chloride as Cl(^-), max.</td>
<td>250 mg/l</td>
<td>ISO 9297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vii.</td>
<td>Fluoride as F(^-), max.</td>
<td>mg/l (See Note 1 and 2)</td>
<td>ISO 10359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>viii.</td>
<td>Iron as Fe(^{2+}), max.</td>
<td>0.3 mg/l</td>
<td>ISO 6332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ix.</td>
<td>Magnesium as Mg(^{2+}), max.</td>
<td>100 mg/l</td>
<td>ISO 7980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x.</td>
<td>Nitrate as NO(_3)(^-), max.</td>
<td>50 mg/l</td>
<td>ISO 7890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xi.</td>
<td>Potassium as K(^+), max.</td>
<td>50 mg/l</td>
<td>ISO 9964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xii.</td>
<td>Sodium as Na(^+), max.</td>
<td>200 mg/l</td>
<td>ISO 9964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xiii.</td>
<td>Sulphate as SO(_4)(^{2-}), max.</td>
<td>400 (See Note 3)</td>
<td>ISO 10304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xiv.</td>
<td>Sulphide as H(_2)S max.</td>
<td>0.05 mg/l</td>
<td>ISO 10530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xv.</td>
<td>Total dissolved solids</td>
<td>250-1000 mg/l</td>
<td>ASTM D 5907</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE 1** Packaged natural mineral water containing between 1.5 and 4 mg/l fluoride shall have a labelling declaration "natural mineral water contains Fluoride" included.

**NOTE 2** If the product contains more than 1.5 mg/l "the product not suitable for infants and children under the age of seven years" shall be declared on the label.

**NOTE 3** Packaged natural mineral water containing between 200 and 400 mg/l sulphate shall have a labelling declaration "natural mineral water contains Sulphate" included.

4.2.2.2 Limits of contaminants

Packaged natural mineral water shall not contain inorganic contaminants in excess of limits indicated in Table 2.
Table 2 — Requirements for limits of inorganic contaminants in mineral water

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SL. No.</th>
<th>Substance</th>
<th>Limit, mg/L, max.</th>
<th>Methods of test</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(i)</td>
<td>Ammonia as NH₃</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>ISO 11732</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ii)</td>
<td>Arsenic as As</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>ISO 11969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iii)</td>
<td>Barium as Ba²⁺</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>ISO 11885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iv)</td>
<td>Borate as B</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>ISO11885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(v)</td>
<td>Cadmium as Cd</td>
<td>0.003</td>
<td>ISO 5961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(vi)</td>
<td>Chromium as total Cr</td>
<td>0.005</td>
<td>ISO 9174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(vii)</td>
<td>Copper as Cu²⁺</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ISO 8288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(viii)</td>
<td>Cyanide as CN⁻</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>ISO6703</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ix)</td>
<td>Free Chlorine as Cl₂</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>ISO 7393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(x)</td>
<td>Iodine as I⁻</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(xi)</td>
<td>Lead as Pb</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>ISO 8288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(xii)</td>
<td>Manganese as Mn²⁺</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>ISO 6333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(xiii)</td>
<td>Mercury as Hg</td>
<td>0.001</td>
<td>ISO 12846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(xiv)</td>
<td>Nitrite as NO₂⁻</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>ISO 6777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(xv)</td>
<td>Selenium as Se</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>ISO 9965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(xvi)</td>
<td>Silver as Ag</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(xvii)</td>
<td>Zinc as Zn²⁺</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>ISO 8288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(xviii)</td>
<td>Antimony as Sb</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>ISO 11885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(xix)</td>
<td>Nickel as Ni</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>ISO 8288</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.2.2.3 Packaged natural mineral water shall comply with the requirements for organic contaminants indicated in Table 3.

Table 3 — Requirements for limits of organic contaminants in packaged natural mineral water

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Substance</th>
<th>Limit</th>
<th>Methods of test</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(i)</td>
<td>Benzene, max.</td>
<td>0.005 mg/l</td>
<td>ISO 11423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ii)</td>
<td>Chlorinated hydrocarbons, max.</td>
<td>0.005 mg/l</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iii)</td>
<td>Dioxin</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iv)</td>
<td>Mineral oil</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(v)</td>
<td>Organic matter</td>
<td>3 mg/l (as O₂)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(vi)</td>
<td>Pesticides and PCBs</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>ISO 15089</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(vii)</td>
<td>Phenols</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>ISO 8165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(viii)</td>
<td>Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons max.</td>
<td>0.2 µg/l</td>
<td>ISO 28540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ix)</td>
<td>Polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>ISO 13877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(x)</td>
<td>Surfactants (reacting with methylene blue), max.</td>
<td>0.2 mg/l</td>
<td>ISO 16265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(xi)</td>
<td>Total trihalomethanes, max.</td>
<td>0.1 mg/l</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(xii)</td>
<td>Anionic surfactant (reacting with methylene blue)</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>ISO 7875</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.2.2.4 Packaged natural mineral water shall comply with the requirements of radioactive matter indicated in Table 4 below:

Table 4 — Requirements of radioactive matter in natural mineral water

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Radioactive material</th>
<th>Limits in Bq/L</th>
<th>Method of test</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i)</td>
<td>Gross alpha activity</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>ISO 9696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii)</td>
<td>Gross beta activity</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ISO 9697</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.2.2.5 Packaged natural mineral water shall not have any sediment or suspended matter during its shelf life.

4.2.2.6 Packaged natural mineral water shall not contain any organic or inorganic substances at a level injurious to health.

5 Hygiene

5.1 Packaged natural mineral water shall be collected, processed, packaged, and marketed under hygienic conditions described in Annex A.

5.2 The source of natural mineral water shall be protected from risks of pollution.

5.3 Packaged natural mineral water shall comply with the microbiological requirements given in Table 5.

Table 5 — Microbiological requirements for packaged natural mineral water

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Type of micro-organism</th>
<th>Limits</th>
<th>Method of test</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i)</td>
<td>Total viable counts at 22 ºC in mL, max. a</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>ISO 6222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total viable counts at 37 ºC, in mL, max. a</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii)</td>
<td>Total Coliforms in 100 mL</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>ISO 4832</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii)</td>
<td>E. Coli in 100 mL</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>ISO 9308-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv)</td>
<td>Staphylococcus aureus in 100 mL</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>ISO 6888-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v)</td>
<td>Sulphite reducing anaerobes in 100 mL</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>ISO 6461-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vi)</td>
<td>Pseudomonas aeruginosa fluorescence in 100 mL</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>ISO 16266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vii)</td>
<td>Streptococcus faecalis in 100 mL</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>ISO 7899-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>viii)</td>
<td>Shigella in 100 mL</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>ISO 21567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ix)</td>
<td>Salmonella in 100 mL</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>ISO 6785</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* This parameter is for monitoring the system at source. Total time before analysis should be not more than 6 h at 4 ºC. Determination of total viable counts shall start within 12 h after collection of the packaged drinking water sample.
6 Packaging

6.1 The product shall be packed in scaled retail containers suitable for preventing the possible adulteration or contamination of water and shall be in accordance with environmental requirements of the EAC partner states.

6.2 The package shall be made from food grade material and strong enough to withstand normal handling and transportation.

7 Labelling

In addition to EAS 38, the following provisions shall apply.

7.1 The name of the product

7.1.1 The name of the product shall be;

a) Natural mineral water.

b) Spring water

7.1.2 The designation “naturally carbonated natural mineral water” may be used only if the content of carbon dioxide from the source is the same as at emergence.

7.1.3 The designation “non-carbonated natural mineral water” may be used only if by nature the natural mineral water does not contain free carbon dioxide.

7.1.4 The designation “decarbonated natural mineral water” shall be used if the content of carbon dioxide in the natural mineral water is less than that at emergence.

7.1.5 The designation “carbonated natural mineral water” shall be used if there has been an addition of carbon dioxide from another origin.

7.2 Net contents

The net contents shall be declared by volume in the metric system (S.I units), avoirdupois or both systems of measurement, as required by the country in which the product is sold.

7.3 Additional labelling requirements

7.3.1 The following term shall appear on the label as part of, on in close proximity, to the name of the product or in an otherwise prominent position: "may be laxative" where the product contains more than 600 mg/l sulphate other than calcium sulphate.

7.3.2 If a packaged natural mineral water has been submitted to a treatment in accordance with sub-section, the treatment shall be declared on the label.

7.4 Labeling prohibitions

7.4.1 No claims concerning medicinal (preventive, alleviative or curative) or other beneficial effects relating to the health of the consumer shall be made in respect of the properties of the product covered by the standard.

7.4.2 The name of the locality, hamlet or specified place may not form part of the trade name unless it refers to a natural mineral water collected at the place designated by that trade name.
7.4.3  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 natural mineral water put on sale, is prohibited.

7.5  Optional labelling

7.5.1  The following terms, descriptive of particular properties of the product, may appear on the label as part of, or in close proximity to, the name of the product or in an otherwise prominent position, provided that conditions specified are adhered to:

a) "Alkaline": where the product contains more than 600 mg/l $\text{HCO}_3$; 

b) "Acidulous": where the product contains more than 250 mg/l free carbon dioxide;

c) "Saline": where the product contains more than 1000 mg/l NaCl;

d) "Contains Fluorine": where the product contains more than 1 mg/l F;

e) "Contains Irons": where the product contains more than 5 mg/l Fe;

f) "Contains Iodine": where the product contains more than 1 mg/l I;

g) "May be Diuretic": where the product contains more than 1000 mg/l total dissolved solids or 600 mg/l $\text{HCO}_3$;

h) Trade name;

i) The date of the authorization to commence collection and production; and

j) The results of analysis of the water wither as it emerges at the source, including a statement of any treatment, or of the results of analysis of the water in the container.

8  Sampling requirements

A formal sampling programme shall be established and implemented. In the absence of a formally established sampling programme, the minimum sampling frequency given in Table 6 shall be used as an interim measure.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population served</th>
<th>Frequency * (minimum) of sampling</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 100 000</td>
<td>10 samples every month per 100 000 of population served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 001 – 100 000</td>
<td>10 samples every month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 001 – 25 000</td>
<td>3 samples every month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 500 – 10 000</td>
<td>2 samples every month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 2 500</td>
<td>1 sample every month</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* During the rainy season, sampling should be carried out more frequently.
9 Parameters required for minimum monitoring

It is recognized that, in many instances, the cost of performing a full analysis against Table 1, Table 2, Table 3, Table 4, Table 5, Table 6 and Table 7 can be prohibitive.

Analysis of the parameters in Table 7 may be deemed acceptable for the purpose of indicating on going levels of operational efficiency in a water treatment plant. However, a relevant authority may require additional tests.

Table 7 — Physico-chemical and microbiological parameters required for minimum monitoring

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Methods of test</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Physicochemical:</strong></td>
<td>See Table 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conductivity, or dissolved solids</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colour</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turbidity;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taste</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Odour</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Microbiological:</strong></td>
<td>See Table 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faecal coliform bacteria or E. coli;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shigella spp</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salmonella spp</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chemical:</strong></td>
<td>See Table 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluoride as F⁻</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrite</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pH value</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aluminum</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron(total)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ammonia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residual chlorine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If abnormal results are encountered in any of these analyses, sampling frequency shall be increased and/or additional analyses carried out.

NOTE A consumer complaints register for the aesthetic qualities of the water should be maintained.

10 Sampling plan for packaged natural mineral water

10.1 In drawing, preparing, storing and handling samples, the following precautions and directions shall be observed as far as possible:

a) Sample shall be drawn in original sealed bottle/container and kept in protected place not exposed to damp air, dust or soot;

b) Each bottle/container in original shall be sealed and marked with full details of sampling;
10.2 The quantity of packed water of the same type belonging to the same batch of manufacture and packed in a day shall constitute a lot.

10.3 For ascertaining the conformity of the material to the requirements of the specification, samples shall be tested from each lot separately.

10.4 The number of containers to be selected from a lot shall depend on the size of the lot and shall be according to Table 8.

Table 8 — Sampling plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of containers in the Lot (L)</th>
<th>Sample size(number of containers)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>L ≤ 5000</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5000 &lt; L ≤ 10000</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10000 &lt; L ≤ 15000</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L &gt; 15000</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Annex A
(normative)

Recommended hygienic practices

A.1 Field of application

This code prescribes appropriate general techniques for collecting natural mineral water, its treatment, bottling, packaging, storage, transport, distribution and sale for direct consumption, so as to guarantee a safe, healthy and wholesome product.

A.2 The definitions, terms and expressions used are the same as those given in Clause 3.

A.3 Prescriptions of the resources of natural mineral water

A.3.1 Protection of Alimentary Reservoirs and Aquifers

A.3.1.1 Authorization

Natural mineral water shall be recognized and approved as such by the relevant Authority having jurisdiction in the place of collection.

A.3.1.2 Determination of the genesis of natural mineral water

As far as it is methodologically possible in each case, a precise analysis should be carried out on the origin of natural mineral waters, the period of their residence in the ground before being collected and their chemical and physical qualities.

A.3.1.3 Perimeter of protection

If possible areas wherein natural mineral water might be polluted or its chemical and physical qualities otherwise deteriorated should be determined by a relevant authority. Where indicated by hydrogeological conditions and considering the risks of pollution and physical, chemical and biochemical reactions, several perimeters with separate dimensions may be provided.

A.3.1.4 Protective measures

All possible precautions should be taken within the protected perimeters to avoid any pollution, of or external influence on, the chemical and physical qualities of natural mineral water.

It is recommended that regulations be established for the disposal of liquid, solid or gaseous waste, the use of substances that might deteriorate natural mineral water (e.g. by agriculture) as well as for any possibility of accidental deterioration of natural mineral water by natural occurrences such as a change in the hydrogeological conditions. Particular consideration should be given to the following potential pollutants: bacteria, viruses, fertilizers, hydrocarbons, detergents, pesticides, phenolic compounds, toxic metals, radioactive substances and other soluble organic or inorganic substances. Even where nature provides apparently sufficient protection against surface pollution, potential hazards should be taken into consideration, such as mining, hydraulic and engineering facilities etc.
A.3.2 Hygiene prescriptions for collection of natural mineral water

A.3.2.1 Extraction

The withdrawal of natural mineral water (from springs, galleries, genuine or drilled wells) must be performed in conformity with the hydrogeological conditions in such a manner as to prevent any other than the natural mineral water from entering or, should there be pumping facilities, prevent any extraneous water from entering by reducing the supply. The natural mineral water thus collected or pumped should be protected in such a way that it will be safe from pollution whether caused by natural occurrence or actions or neglect or ill will.

A.3.2.2 Materials

The pipes, pumps or other possible devices coming into contact with natural mineral water and used for its collection should be made of such material as to guarantee that are original qualities of natural mineral water will not be changed.

A.3.2.3 Protection of the extraction area

In the immediate surroundings of springs and wells, precautionary measures should be taken to guarantee that no pollutant whatsoever could enter the extraction area. The extraction area should be inaccessible to non-authorized people by providing adequate devices (e.g. enclosure). Any use not aiming at the collection of natural mineral water should be forbidden in this area.

A.3.2.4 The exploitation of natural mineral water

The condition of the extraction facilities, areas of extraction and perimeter protection as well as the quality of the natural mineral water should periodically be checked. To control the stability of the chemical and physical particulars of the natural mineral water derived, besides the natural variations, automatic measurements of the typical characteristics of water should be carried out and notified (e.g. electrical conductance, temperature, and content of carbon dioxide) or frequent partial analysis should be done.

A.3.3 Maintenance of extraction facilities

A.3.3.1 Technical aspects

Methods and procedures for maintaining the extraction facilities should be hygienic and not be a potential hazard to human health or a source of contamination to natural mineral water. From the hygiene standpoint, servicing of the extraction installations should meet the same standards as those required for the bottling or treatment.

A.3.3.2 Equipment and reservoirs

Equipment and reservoirs used for extraction of natural mineral water should be constructed and maintained in order to minimize all hazards to human health and to avoid contamination.

A.3.3.3 Storage at the point of extraction

The quantity of natural mineral water stored at the point of extraction should be as low as possible. The storing should furthermore guarantee protection against contamination or deterioration.

A.3.4 Transport of natural mineral water within an establishment and from the source

Packaging at the source is preferred.
A.3.4.1 Means of transport, piping and reservoirs

Any vehicle, piping or reservoir used in the processing of natural mineral water from its source to the bottling facilities, the latter included, should comply with the necessary requirements and be made of inert material such as ceramic and stainless steel which prevents any deterioration, be it by water, handling, servicing or disinfection; it should allow easy cleaning.

A.3.4.2 Maintenance of vehicles and reservoirs

Any vehicle or reservoir should be properly cleaned and disinfected and kept in good repair so as not to present any danger of contamination to natural mineral water and of deterioration of the essential qualities of natural mineral water.

A.4 Establishment for processing natural mineral waters — Design and facilities

A.4.1 Location

Establishments should be located in areas, which are free from objectionable odours, smoke, dust or other contaminants and are not subject to flooding.

A.4.2 Roadways and areas used by wheeled traffic

Such roadways and areas serving the establishment, which are within its boundaries or in its immediate vicinity, should have a hard paved surface suitable for wheeled traffic. There should be adequate drainage and provision should be made for protection of the extraction area where appropriate and to allow for cleaning. Adequate road signals may be provided to call the attention of road users to the existence of natural mineral water extraction area.

A.4.3 Building and facilities

A.4.3.1 Type of construction

Buildings and facilities should be of sound construction and maintained in good repair.

A.4.3.2 Disposition of holding facilities

Rooms for recreation, for storing or packaging of raw material and areas for the cleaning of containers to be reused should be apart from the bottling areas to prevent the end product from being contaminated. Raw and packaging materials and any other additions, which come into contact with natural mineral water, should be stored apart from other material.

A.4.3.3 Adequate working space should be provided to allow for satisfactory performance of all operations.

A.4.3.4 The design should be such as to permit easy and adequate cleaning and to facilitate proper supervision of natural mineral water hygiene.

A.4.3.5 The buildings and facilities should be designed to provide separation by partition, location or other effective means between those operations, which may cause cross-contamination.

A.4.3.6 Buildings and facilities should be designed to facilitate hygienic operations by means of a regulated flow in the process from the arrival of the natural mineral water at the premises to the finished product, and should provide for appropriate temperature conditions for the process and the product.
A.4.3.7 Natural mineral water handling, storing and bottling areas

A.4.3.7.1 Floors

Where appropriate, should be of waterproof, non-absorbent, washable, non-slip and non-toxic materials, without crevices, and should be easy to clean and disinfect. Where appropriate, floors should slope sufficiently for liquids to drain to trapped outlets.

A.4.3.7.2 Walls

Where appropriate, should be of waterproof, non-absorbent, washable and non-toxic materials and should be light coloured. Up to a height appropriate for the operation they should be smooth and without crevices, and should be easy to clean and disinfect. Where appropriate, angles between walls, between walls and floors, and between walls and ceilings should be sealed and smoothened to facilitate cleaning.

A.4.3.7.3 Ceilings

Should be so designed, constructed and finished as to prevent the accumulation of dirt and minimize condensation, mould development and flaking, and should be easy to clean.

A.4.3.7.4 Windows

Windows and other openings should be so constructed as to avoid accumulation of dirt and those which open should be fitted with screens. Screens should be easily movable for cleaning and kept in good repair. Internal windowsills, if present, should be sloped to prevent use as shelves.

A.4.3.7.5 Doors

Should have smooth, non-absorbent surfaces and, where appropriate, be self-closing and close fitting.

A.4.3.7.6 Stairs, lift cages and auxiliary structures

Such as platforms, ladders, chutes; should be so situated and constructed as not to cause contamination to food. Chutes should be constructed with inspection and cleaning hatches.

A.4.3.7.7 Piping

Piping for natural water lines should be independent of potable and non-potable water.

A.4.3.8 In natural mineral water handling areas all overhead structures and fittings should be installed in such a manner as to avoid contamination directly or indirectly of natural mineral water and raw materials by condensation and drip, and should not hamper cleaning operations. They should be insulated where appropriate and be so designed and finished as to prevent the accumulation of dirt and to minimize condensation, mould development and flaking. They should be easy to clean.

A.4.3.9 Living quarters, toilets and areas where animals are kept should be completely separated from and should not open directly to natural mineral water handling areas.

A.4.3.10 Where appropriate, establishments should be so designed that access can be controlled.

A.4.3.11 The use of material, which cannot be adequately cleaned and disinfected, such as wood, should be avoided unless its use would not be a source of contamination.

A.4.3.12 Canalization, drainage lines
Canalization and drainage and used water lines as well as any possible waste storage area within the protected perimeter should be built and maintained in such a manner as not to present any risk whatsoever of polluting aquifers and springs.

A.4.3.13 Fuel storage area

Any storage area or tank for the storing of fuels such as coal or hydrocarbons should be designed, protected, controlled and maintained in such a manner as not to present a risk of aquifers and springs being polluted during the storage and manipulation of these fuels.

A.4.4 Hygienic facilities

A.4.4.1 Water supply

A.4.4.1.1 Ample supply of potable water under adequate pressure and suitable temperature should be available with adequate facilities for its storage, where necessary, and distribution with adequate protection against contamination.

A.4.4.1.2 Natural mineral water, potable water, non-potable water for steam production or for refrigeration or any other use should be carried in separate lines with no cross connection between them and without any chance of back siphonage. It would be desirable that these lines be identified by different colours. Steam used in direct contact with natural mineral water and natural mineral water contact surfaces should contain no substances, which may be hazardous to health or may contaminate the food.

A.4.4.2 Effluent and waste disposal

Establishments should have an efficient effluent and waste disposal system, which should at all times be maintained in good order and repair. All effluent lines (including sewer systems) should be large enough to carry full loads and should be so constructed as to avoid contamination of potable water supplies.

A.4.4.3 Changing facilities and toilets

Adequate, suitable and conveniently located changing facilities and toilets should be provided in all establishments. Toilets should be so designed as to ensure hygienic removal of waste matter. These areas should be well lighted, ventilated and where appropriate heated, and should not open directly to natural mineral water handling areas. Hand washing facilities with warm or hot and cold water, a suitable hand-cleaning preparation, and with suitable hygienic means of drying hands, should be provided adjacent to toilets and in such a position that the employee will have to use them when returning to the processing area. Where hot and cold water are available mixing taps should be provided. Where paper towels are used, a sufficient number of dispensers and receptacles should be provided near each washing facility. Taps of a non-hand operatable type are desirable. Notices should be posted directing personnel to wash their hands after using the toilet.

A.4.4.4 Hand washing facilities in natural mineral water processing areas

Adequate and conveniently located facilities for hand washing and drying should be provided wherever the process demands. Where appropriate, facilities for hand disinfection should also be provided. Warm or hot and cold water should be available and taps for mixing the two should be provided. There should be suitable hygienic means of drying hands. Where paper towels are used, a sufficient number of dispensers and receptacles should be provided adjacent to each washing facility. Taps of a non-hand operatable type are desirable. The facilities should be furnished with properly trapped waste pipes leading to drains.

A.4.4.5 Disinfection facilities

Where appropriate, adequate facilities or cleaning and disinfection of working implements and equipment should be provided. These facilities should be constructed of corrosion resistant materials, capable of being
easily cleaned, and should be fitted with suitable means of supplying hot and cold water in sufficient quantities.

A.4.4.6 Lighting

Adequate natural or artificial lighting should be provided throughout the establishment. Where appropriate, the lighting should not alter colours and the intensity should not be less than:

- 540 lux (50 foot candles) at all inspection points;
- 220 lux (20 foot candles) in work rooms; and
- 110 lux (10 foot candles) in other areas.

Light bulbs and fixtures suspended over natural mineral water in any stage of production should be of a safer type and protected to prevent contamination of natural mineral water in case of breakage.

A.4.4.7 Ventilation

Adequate ventilation should be provided to prevent excessive heat, steam condensation and dust and to remove contaminated air. The direction of the airflow should never be from a dirty area to a clean area. Ventilation openings should be provided with a screen or other protecting enclosure of non-corrodible material. Screens should be easily removable for cleaning.

A.4.4.8 Facilities for storage of waste and inedible material

Facilities should be provided for the storage of waste and inedible material prior to removal from the establishment. These facilities should be designed to prevent access to waste or inedible material by pests and to avoid contamination of natural mineral water, potable water, equipment, buildings or roadways on the premises.

A.4.5 Equipment and utensils

A.4.5.1 Materials

All equipment and utensils used in natural mineral water handling areas and which may contact the natural mineral water should be made of material which does not transmit toxic substances, odour or taste, is non-absorbent, is resistant to corrosion and is capable of withstanding repeated cleaning and disinfection. Surfaces should be smooth and free from pits and crevices. The use of wood and other materials, which cannot be adequately cleaned and disinfected, should be avoided except when their use would be a source of contamination. The use of different materials is exercised in such a way that contact corrosion that can occur should be avoided.

A.4.5.2 Hygienic design, construction and installation

All equipment and utensils should be so designed and constructed as to prevent hazards and permit easy and thorough cleaning and disinfection.

A.5 Establishment: Hygiene requirements

A.5.1 Maintenance

The buildings, equipment, utensils and all other physical facilities of the establishment, including drains, should be maintained in good repair and in an orderly condition. As far as practicable, rooms should be kept protected from steam, vapour and surplus water.
A.5.2 Cleaning and disinfection

A.5.2.1 Cleaning and disinfection should meet the requirements of this standard.

A.5.2.2 To prevent contamination of natural mineral water, all equipment and utensils should be cleaned as frequently as necessary and disinfected, whenever circumstances demand.

A.5.2.3 Adequate precautions should be taken to prevent natural mineral water from being contaminated during cleaning or disinfection of rooms, equipment or utensils, by water and detergents or by disinfectants and their solutions. Detergents and disinfectants should be suitable for the purpose intended and should be acceptable to the official agency having jurisdiction. Any residues of these agents on a surface, which may come in contact with natural mineral water, should be removed by thorough rinsing with water, before they are or equipment is again used for handling natural mineral water.

A.5.2.4 Either immediately after cessation of work for the day or at such other times as may be appropriate, floors, including drains, auxiliary structures and walls of natural mineral water handling areas should be thoroughly cleaned.

A.5.2.5 Changing facilities and toilets should be kept clean at all times.

A.5.2.6 Roadways and yards in the immediate vicinity of and serving the premises should be kept clean.

A.5.3 Hygiene control programme

A permanent cleaning and disinfection schedule should be drawn up for each establishment to ensure that all areas are appropriately cleaned and that critical areas, equipment and material are designated for special attention. An individual, who should preferably be a permanent member of the staff of the establishment and whose duties should be independent of production, should be appointed to be responsible for the cleanliness of the establishment. He should have a thorough understanding of the significance of contamination and the hazards involved. All cleaning personnel should be well trained in cleaning techniques.

A.5.4 Storage and disposal of waste

Waste material should be handled in such a manner as to avoid contamination of natural mineral water or potable water. Care should be taken to prevent access to waste by pests. Waste should be removed from the natural mineral water handling and other working areas as often as necessary and at least daily. Immediately after disposal of the waste, receptacles used for storage and any equipment, which has come into contact with the waste, should be cleaned and disinfected. The waste storage area should also be cleaned and disinfected.

A.5.5 Exclusion of animals

Animals that are uncontrolled or that could be a hazard to health should be excluded from establishments.

A.5.6 Pest control

A.5.6.1 There should be an effective and continuous programme for the control of pests. Establishments and surrounding areas should be regularly examined for evidence of infestation.

A.5.6.2 Should pests gain entrance to the establishment, eradication measures should be instituted. Control measures involving treatment with chemical, physical or biological agents should only be undertaken by or under direct supervision of personnel who have a thorough understanding of the potential hazards to health resulting from the use of these agents, including those hazards which may arise from residues retained in the natural mineral water, such measures should only be carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the official agency having jurisdiction.

A.5.6.3 Pesticides should only be used if other precautionary measures cannot be used effectively. Before pesticides are applied, care should be taken to safeguard natural mineral water equipment and utensils.
from contamination. After application, contaminated equipment and utensils should be thoroughly cleaned to remove residues prior to being used again.

A.5.7 Storage of hazardous substances

A.5.7.1 Pesticides or other substances, which may present a hazard to health, should be suitably labeled with a warning about their toxicity and use. They should be stored in locked rooms or cabinets used only for that purpose and dispersed and handled only by authorized and properly trained personnel or by persons under strict supervision of trained personnel. Extreme care should be taken to avoid contamination of natural mineral water.

A.5.7.2 Except when necessary for hygienic or processing purposes, no substance which could contaminate natural mineral water should be used or stored in natural mineral water handling areas.

A.5.8 Personal effects and clothing

Personal effects and clothing should not be deposited in natural mineral water handling areas.

A.6 Personnel hygiene and health requirements

A.6.1 Hygiene training

Managers of establishments should arrange for adequate and continuing straining of all natural mineral handlers in hygienic handling of natural mineral water and in personal hygiene so that they understand the precautions necessary to prevent contamination of natural mineral water.

A.6.2 Medical examination

Persons who come into contact with natural mineral water in the course of their work should have a scheduled medical examination if the official agency having jurisdiction, acting on medical advice, considers that this is necessary, whether because of epidemiological considerations or the medical history of the prospective natural mineral water handler. Medical examination of natural mineral water handlers should be carried out at other times when clinically or epidemiologically indicated.

A.6.3 Communicable diseases

The management should take care to ensure that no person, while known or suspected to be suffering from, or to be a carrier of a disease likely to be transmitted through food or while afflicted with infected wounds, skin infections, sores or with diarrhoea, is permitted to work in any natural mineral water handling area in any capacity in which there is any likelihood of such a person directly or indirectly contaminating natural mineral water with pathogenic micro-organisms. Any person so affected should immediately report to the management.

A.6.4 Injuries

Any persons who has a cut or wound should not continue to handle natural mineral water or natural miner water contact surfaces until the injury is completely protected by a waterproof covering which is firmly secured, and which is conspicuous in colour. Adequate first-aid facilities should be provided for this purpose.

A.6.5 Washing of hands

Every person, while on duty in a natural mineral water handling area, should wash his hands frequently and thoroughly with a suitable hand cleaning preparation under running water. Hands should always be washed before commencing work, immediately after using the toilet, after handling contaminated material and whenever else necessary. After handling any material, which might be capable of transmitting disease, hands
should be washed and disinfected immediately. Notices requiring hand washing should be displayed. There should be adequate supervision to ensure compliance with this requirement.

A.6.6 Personal cleanliness

Every person engaged in a natural mineral water handling area should maintain a high degree of personal cleanliness while on duty, and should at all times while so engaged, wear suitable protective clothing including head covering and footwear, all of which should be cleanable, unless designed to be disposed of and should be maintained in a clean condition consistent with the nature of the work in which the person is engaged. Aprons and similar items should not be washed on the floor. When natural mineral water is manipulated by hand, any jewellery that cannot be adequately disinfected should be removed from the hands. Personnel should not wear any insecure jewellery when engaged in handling of natural mineral water.

A.6.7 Personal behavior

Any behavior, which could result in contamination of natural mineral water, such as eating, use of tobacco, chewing (e.g. gum, sticks, betel nuts, etc) or unhygienic practices such as spitting, should be prohibited in natural mineral water handling areas.

A.6.8 Visitors

Precautions should be taken to prevent visitors to natural mineral water handling areas from contaminating the product. These may include the use of protective clothing. Visitors should observe the provisions recommended in paragraph A.5.8, A.6.3, A.6.4 and A.6.7.

A.6.9 Supervision

Responsible for ensuring compliance by all personnel with all requirements of A.6.1 to A.6.8 inclusive should be specifically allocated to competent supervisory personnel.

A.7 Establishment-hygienic processing requirements

A.7.1 Raw material requirements

To guarantee a good and stable quality of natural mineral water, certain criteria should be monitored regularly, namely,

A.7.1.1 Spring discharge, temperature of the natural mineral water.
A.7.1.2 Appearance of the natural mineral water.
A.7.1.3 Odour and taste of the natural mineral water.
A.7.1.4 The conductance of natural mineral water or any other adequate parameter.
A.7.1.5 The microbiological flora.
A.7.2 Should there be a perceptible lack in meeting the standards; the necessary corrective measures are immediately to be taken.

A.7.3 Treatment

The treatment may include decantation, filtration, airing and where necessary application of off takes of carbon dioxide.

A.7.3.1 Processing should be supervised by technically competent personnel.
A.7.3.2 All steps in the production process, including packaging, should be performed without unnecessary delay and under conditions which will prevent the possibility of contamination, deterioration, or the development of pathogenic and spoilage micro-organisms.

A.7.3.3 Rough treatment of containers should be avoided to prevent the possibility of contamination of the processed product.

A.7.3.4 Treatment are necessary controls should be such as to protect against contamination or development of a public health hazard and against deterioration within the limits of good commercial practice.

A.7.4 Packaging material and containers

A.7.4.1 All packaging material should be stored in a clean and hygienic manner. The material should be appropriate for the product to be packed and for the expected conditions of storage and should not transmit to the product objectionable substances beyond the limits acceptable to the official agency having jurisdiction. The packaging material should be sound and should provide appropriate protection from contamination. Only packaging material required for immediate use should be kept in the packing or filling area.

A.7.4.2 Product containers should not have been used for any purpose that may lead to contamination of the product. In case of new containers if there is a possibility that they have been contaminated, should be cleaned and disinfected. When chemicals are used for these purposes, the container should be rinsed as prescribed under A.5.2.3. Containers should be well drained after rinsing. Used and, when necessary, unused containers should be inspected immediately before filling.

A.7.5 Filling and sealing of containers

A.7.5.1 Packaging should be done under conditions that preclude the introduction of contaminants into the product.

A.7.5.2 The methods, equipment and material used for sealing should guarantee a tight and impervious sealing and should not damage the containers nor deteriorate the chemical bacteriological and organoleptic qualities of natural mineral water.

A.7.6 Packaging of containers

The packaging of containers should protect the latter from contamination and damage and allow appropriate handling and storing.

A.7.7 Lot identification

Each container shall be permanently marked in code or in clear to identify the producing factory and the lot. A lot is quantity of natural mineral water produced under identical conditions, all packages of which should bear a lot number that identifies the production during a particular time, interval, and usually from a particular "line" or other critical processing unit.

A.7.8 Processing and production records

Permanent, legible and dated records of pertinent processing and production details should be kept concerning each lot. These records should be retained for a period that exceeds the shelf life of the product. Records should also be kept of the initial distribution by lot.

A.7.9 Storage and transport of the end product

The end-product should be stored and transported under such conditions as will preclude contamination with and/or proliferation of micro-organisms and protect against deterioration of the product or damage to the container. During storage, periodic inspection of the end product should take place to ensure that only natural
mineral water, which is fit for human consumption, is dispatched and that end-product specifications should be complied with.
Annex B
(normative)

Sampling plan for natural mineral water

B.1 General requirements of sampling

B.1.1 In drawing, preparing, storing and handling samples, the following precautions and directions shall be observed as far as possible:

a) Sample shall be drawn in original sealed bottle/container and kept in protected place not exposed to damp air, dust or soot; and

b) Each bottle/container in original shall be sealed and marked with full details of sampling.

B.1.2 Scale of sampling

B.1.2.1 Lot

The quantity of packed mineral water of the same type belonging to the same batch of manufacture and packed in a day, shall constitute a lot.

B.1.2.2 For ascertaining the conformity of the material to the requirements of the specification, samples shall be tested from each lot separately.

B.1.2.3 The number of containers to be selected from a lot shall depend on the size of the lot and shall be according to Table B.1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of containers in the lot (L)</th>
<th>Sample size (2)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>L ≤ 5000</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5000 &lt; L ≤ 10000</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10000 &lt; L ≤ 15000</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L &gt; 15000</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B.1.2.3.1 The containers shall be chosen at random from the lot. In order to ensure the randomness of selection, procedure given in ISO 24153;” Random sampling and randomization procedures shall be followed.

B.1.2.4 Initially the number of cartons equal to the number of containers to be taken from the lot (according to column 2 of Table B.1) shall be chosen at random. These cartons thus selected shall be opened and the containers in these cartons examined visually for the condition of packing, external appearance and the fill. The lot shall be considered satisfactory for inspection of other characteristics given in the specification, if all the containers in the cartons opened are found satisfactory for these characteristics.

B.1.2.5 In case of any defective container is found according to B.1.2.4, twice the number of cartons shall be opened and the container examined for these characteristics. If no defective container is found, the lot shall be considered satisfactory of inspection of other characteristics given in the specification.
B.1.3 Preparation of test samples

B.1.3.1 From each of the cartons opened according to B.1.2.4, three containers shall be taken from its different layers so as to obtain three times the required number of containers in the sample (see col. 2 of Table B.1).

B.1.3.2 In case the number of cartons to be opened is according to B.1.2.4, the number of cartons equal to the number of containers in the sample shall be taken at random from these cartons and then the required number of containers picked up according to B.1.3.1.

B.1.3.3 The sample bottles selected as in B.1.3.1 or B.1.3.2 shall be divided at random into three equal sets and labeled with all the particulars of sampling. One of these sets of sampled containers shall be for the purchaser, another for vendor and the third for referee.

B.1.3.4 Referee sample

Referee sample shall consist of a set of sample containers marked for this purpose and shall bear the deals of the purchaser and the supplier. These shall be kept at a place agreeable to the purchaser and the supplier so as to be used in case of a dispute between the two.

B.1.4 Criteria for conformity

The lot shall be declared as conforming to the requirements of the relevant specification if all the parameters are satisfied.
Annex C
(normative)

Water safety plans

C.1 Packaged natural mineral water operators shall develop, implement and maintain a water safety plan taking into consideration the potential risks to the safety of the water from the supply catchment area to the consumer.

C.2 A water safety plan shall consist of three key components:

a) system assessment to determine whether the drinking-water supply chain (up to the point of consumption) as a whole, can deliver water of a quality that meets health-based targets;

b) identifying control measures in a drinking water system that will collectively control identified risks and ensure that the health-based targets are met; and

c) management plans describing actions to be taken during normal operation or incident conditions, documenting the system assessment (including upgrade and improvement), monitoring, communication plans and supporting programmes.

C.3 A water safety plan shall include measures to protect the source of drinking water from risks of pollution.

a) measures to ensure all installations intended for the production of drinking water exclude any possibility of contamination. For this purpose and in particular:

• the installation for collection, the pipes and the reservoirs shall be made from materials suited to the water and in such a way as to prevent the introduction of foreign substances in water; and

• the equipment and its use for production shall meet hygienic requirements;

b) measures to ensure an appropriate treatment such as pre-treatment processes, coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, filtration and disinfection are undertaken to assure the safety of water for the consumers; and

c) appropriate operational monitoring system including monitoring parameters that can be measured and for which limits have been set to define the operational effectiveness of the activity; frequency of monitoring and procedures for corrective action that can be implemented in response to deviation from limits. If, during production it is found that the water is polluted, the producer shall stop all operations until the cause of pollution is eliminated; and a verification plan to ensure that individual components of a drinking-water system, and system as a whole is operating safely.
Annex D
(normative)

Surveillance

D.1 General surveillance requirements

Drinking-water producers should ensure, at all times, the quality and safety of the water that they produce. Public health surveillance (that is, surveillance of health status and trends) contributes to verifying drinking-water safety.

Adequate infrastructure, proper monitoring and effective planning and management; and a system of independent surveillance are basic and essential requirements to ensure the safety of drinking-water.

Surveillance shall cover the total supply network from the source of untreated water to the consumer delivery points.

A sampling programme that takes into consideration appropriate international recommendations shall be established and implemented. The sampling shall be regular and its frequency shall mainly depend on the following factors:

a) quality of water harnessed including effects on the water from climatic, human and industrial activities;

b) type of treatment for drinking worthiness;

c) volume of water processed;

d) risks of contamination;

e) background of public water supply network;

f) population served; and

g) capabilities of the analytical facility (both in terms of capacity and in terms of analytical performance).
Bibliography

