

## **Amendment to the Specifications and Standards for Foods, Food Additives, Etc.**

The government of Japan will amend the specifications for synthetic resin used for food apparatus, containers, and packaging (ACP).

### **Outline of the amendments**

- Under Article 18, Paragraph (1) of the Food Sanitation Act, the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare may establish specifications for apparatus, containers, packaging, or the raw materials thereof, or may establish standards for the production methods thereof, by hearing the opinions of the Pharmaceutical Affairs and Food Sanitation Council. The specifications and standards are stipulated in the Specifications and Standards for Foods, Food Additives, Etc. (Public Notice of Ministry of Health and Welfare No. 370 of 1959; "the Public Notice").

The Public Notice indicates that, for substances as raw materials of material specified by Article 1 of the Order for Enforcement of the Food Sanitation Act (synthetic resin), the quantity allowed to be contained in ACP produced using the substances or the quantity allowed to be eluted or seep out into food from the ACP is shown by substance in Appended Table 1 (the Positive List) in the Public Notice. This Positive List came into effect on June 1, 2020.

This time, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) drafted a new Positive List and will amend the existing Positive List in the Public Notice.

- The new draft of the Positive List is available at the MHLW website:  
[https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\\_33383.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_33383.html)
- The amendment of the Positive List will be enforced in the June 1, 2025.