

# *Draft*



**Federal Republic of Nigeria Official Gazette**

## **STANDARDS ORGANISATION OF NIGERIA (MANDATORY ENERGY LABELLING SCHEME) REGULATIONS, 2026**

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 5(1)(h) and section 49(1) of the Standards Organisation of Nigeria Act, 2015 — which empower the Organisation to establish product conformity assessment schemes and the Council to make rules for the efficient performance of the Organisation's functions — and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, the Council of the Standards Organisation of Nigeria hereby makes the following Regulations:

### **ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS**

#### **PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS**

1. Citation and Commencement
2. Scope and Application
3. Purpose of the Regulations
4. Interpretation

#### **COMPLIANCE AND PRODUCT REQUIREMENTS**

5. Obligation to Meet MEPS and Labelling Requirements
6. Star Rating and Efficiency Classification
7. Energy Label Format and Display
8. Placement in Marketing and Advertising
9. Prohibition of Circumvention
10. Technical Documentation and Product Information
11. Registration of Products and Approval Certificate
12. Duties of Suppliers and Dealers
13. Powers of Inspection and Market Surveillance
14. Testing of Appliances for Compliance
15. Non-Compliance and Remedial Actions
16. Procedure for Detained and Corrected Products

17. Appeals and Review
18. Offences and Penalties
19. Interpretation of Regulations
20. Transitional Provisions
21. Relationship with Other Regulations
22. Citation of Schedules
23. Short Citation and Duration

**FIRST SCHEDULE — Regulated Products and Applicable Standards**

**SECOND SCHEDULE — Energy Efficiency Label and Product Information Requirements**

## **PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS**

### **Section 1: Citation and Commencement**

- (1) These Regulations may be cited as the Standards Organisation of Nigeria (Mandatory Energy Labelling Scheme) Regulations, 2026.
- (2) These Regulations are made pursuant to section 5(1)(a), (h) and (i) and section 26(2) of the Standards Organisation of Nigeria Act, 2015, and shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Federal Gazette.

### **Section 2: Scope and Application**

- (1) These Regulations apply to all electrical appliances for which Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) have been established in Nigeria by the Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON), including but not limited to—
  - (a) household refrigerators and freezers (NIS 942);
  - (b) room air conditioners (NIS 943);
  - (c) general lighting lamps (NIS 1209-1);
  - (d) luminaires (NIS 1209-2);
  - (e) comfort fans (NIS 919);
  - (f) television sets (NIS 957);
  - (g) electric water heaters (NIS 921); and
  - (h) electric motors (NIS 1236).
- (2) **Extension to future products.** These Regulations shall also apply automatically to any additional appliance or equipment category for which SON subsequently approves and publishes a Nigerian Industrial Standard (NIS) prescribing MEPS and labelling requirements under these Regulations. Such inclusion shall take effect upon publication by SON of a notice in at least two (2) national daily newspapers and on the official SON website, identifying the product category and the applicable NIS.
- (3) These Regulations govern all persons or entities that manufacture, assemble, import, offer for sale, distribute, install, or otherwise place such regulated products on the market in Nigeria.
- (4) These Regulations apply to all new appliances with established MEPS intended for use within Nigeria.

### **Section 3: Purpose of the Regulations**

- (1) These Regulations are made to—

- (a) promote the efficient use of energy and reduce energy consumption in Nigeria;
- (b) encourage the adoption of high-efficiency appliances;
- (c) implement Nigeria's National Energy Efficiency Policy and Action Plan (NEEAP) by promoting energy efficiency through mandatory Minimum Energy Performance Standards and energy labelling;
- (d) improve national energy security and reduce electricity consumption;
- (e) support sustainable economic development and protect consumers;
- (f) reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and
- (g) facilitate the transition towards energy-efficient products.

#### **Section 4: Interpretation**

(1) In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires—

**“Act”** means the Standards Organisation of Nigeria Act, 2015 (No. 14 of 2015);

**“Organisation”** means the Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON);

**“Council”** means the Standards Council of Nigeria;

**“regulated appliance” or “regulated product”** means any appliance in the categories listed in the First Schedule to these Regulations, and any other product for which a Nigerian Industrial Standard (NIS) prescribing minimum energy performance and labelling requirements has been approved; this initially includes refrigerators, air conditioners, lamps, luminaires, comfort fans, television sets, electric water heaters and electric motors (as specified in the First Schedule), and may be extended to other products as standards are established;

**“MEPS”** means Minimum Energy Performance Standard — the minimum level of energy efficiency, or maximum allowable energy consumption, for a product, as specified in the applicable Nigerian Industrial Standard for that product;

**“energy label”** means the official Nigerian energy efficiency label required by these Regulations to be affixed on each regulated appliance, indicating its energy performance information (including star rating, energy consumption, capacity or size, and other required particulars);

**“star rating”** means the number of stars (on a scale from one to five) assigned to a model of a regulated appliance based on its tested energy efficiency, where one star is the lowest acceptable efficiency (minimum standard) and five stars represent the highest efficiency; star ratings for each product category shall be determined in accordance with the metrics and threshold values specified in the applicable NIS (for example, the Energy

Efficiency Index (EEI) for refrigerators or the Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio for air conditioners);

**“manufacturer”** means any person or company that produces or assembles a regulated appliance in Nigeria;

**“importer”** means any person or company that brings a regulated appliance into Nigeria from another country for the purpose of distribution or sale;

**“supplier”** means a manufacturer or importer of a regulated appliance, that is, the entity first placing the product on the Nigerian market;

**“dealer”** means any person or entity that offers for sale, sells, or distributes a regulated appliance to consumers or other end-users, including wholesalers and retailers;

**“technical documentation”** means the documents containing technical and test information about a regulated product model, prepared by the supplier, that substantiate the product’s compliance with MEPS and the accuracy of the information on its energy label; this typically includes laboratory test reports, calculations of energy performance, product specifications, and the product information sheet as required by these Regulations;

**“Product Information Sheet”** means a summary document for a model of a regulated appliance, containing the key technical and performance parameters (such as rated power, capacity, annual energy consumption, and star rating) as specified in the Second Schedule or the relevant standard, which must be made available to consumers and enforcement authorities;

**“enforcement authority”** means the Standards Organisation of Nigeria and any officer or authorised agent of SON (including, where applicable, the Nigeria Customs Service or other government agencies duly empowered) responsible for monitoring and enforcing compliance with these Regulations;

**“Import Surveillance Scheme”** refers to the Import and Export Product Surveillance, Certification and Conformity Assessment Scheme of SON established under section 5(1)(h) of the Act, of which the energy labelling programme is a part; and

**“NEEAP”** means the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan.

## COMPLIANCE AND PRODUCT REQUIREMENTS

### Section 5: Obligation to Meet MEPS and Labelling Requirements

- (1) From the commencement of these Regulations, every supplier, manufacturer, importer, or dealer of a regulated appliance shall ensure that the appliance complies with the applicable Minimum Energy Performance Standards and labelling requirements. No person shall manufacture, import, display for sale, sell, install, or distribute any regulated appliance in Nigeria unless—
  - (a) **Compliance with MEPS.** the appliance meets or exceeds the minimum energy efficiency requirements specified in the relevant Nigerian Industrial Standard, and its tested performance attains at least the lowest permissible energy efficiency class, or one-star rating, defined for that product category (that is, it does not fall below the efficiency level corresponding to a one-star rating); appliances that do not meet the required MEPS are prohibited from being manufactured in, or imported into, Nigeria for sale; and
  - (b) **Energy labelling.** the appliance carries a valid energy efficiency label approved by the Organisation, affixed and displayed in the manner prescribed by these Regulations, which label accurately reflects the model's tested performance (including the correct star rating and other required information).
- (2) It is prohibited to supply or sell a regulated product without the official energy label properly affixed, or with a label that is falsified, misleading, or not issued or approved by the Organisation.

### Section 6: Star Rating and Efficiency Classification

- (1) All regulated appliances shall be assigned an energy efficiency star rating based on standardised testing and evaluation, in accordance with the criteria in the applicable NIS.
- (2) The star rating shall range from one (1) star (the lowest efficiency that is still compliant) up to five (5) stars (the highest efficiency). The threshold values for each star level are set out in the relevant standards and technical guidelines.
- (3) The Organisation shall publish, and update as necessary, the star rating scales for each product category to reflect technological advancements and changes in standards.
- (4) A higher star rating indicates that the appliance is more energy-efficient compared with lower-rated models of similar size or capacity. Manufacturers and importers shall ensure that the star rating claimed and displayed on the

label is derived from test results and calculations in accordance with the standard.

- (5) Any intentional overstatement of an appliance's star rating or efficiency shall be a violation of these Regulations.

#### **Section 7: Energy Label Format and Display**

- (1) Every regulated appliance offered for sale in Nigeria must bear the approved Nigeria Energy Efficiency Label, which shall be in the format specified by the Organisation.
- (2) The label shall be affixed to the front or top of the appliance in a conspicuous position such that it is visible to consumers without the need to unpack the product.
- (3) For products typically sold in packaging (e.g. light bulbs or air conditioners in cartons), the required label shall be printed on or attached to the exterior of the packaging and on the product itself (if practicable), or included as a leaflet visible through the packaging.
- (4) The label must remain attached to the product until the point of final sale to the consumer; any removal or obscuring of the label by any dealer prior to sale is prohibited.
- (5) The information on the label shall correspond exactly to the tested performance of that specific model as per its registration; any label not obtained through the official registration or approval process is invalid, and its use shall be an offence as provided in Section 18.
- (6) Modifying, altering, or misrepresenting the content of the official label shall be an offence as provided in Section 18.

#### **Section 8: Placement in Marketing and Advertising**

- (1) To ensure consumers receive consistent information, any advertisement, promotional material, or technical literature for a regulated appliance (including brochures, catalogues, online listings, and audiovisual commercials) must display the product's energy performance information.
- (2) If an energy label has been issued for the product, the advertisement must at least disclose the appliance's star rating and/or annual energy consumption as stated on the label. For printed or online displays, an image of the actual energy label or a legible reproduction of its key contents should be provided.
- (3) Distance-selling channels (e.g. online shopping websites or mail-order catalogues) are required to present the energy efficiency class and consumption figures of the product clearly alongside its price and other

specifications, so that a prospective buyer is informed of the energy rating before purchase.

- (4) Failure by a supplier or dealer to include the required energy information in marketing materials shall be considered a misleading omission under these Regulations, liable to a fine as provided in Section 18.
- (5) It shall be an offence for a person to make any statement or claim in advertising that contradicts or misrepresents the appliance's true energy performance, as provided in Section 18.

#### **Section 9: Prohibition of Circumvention**

- (1) No manufacturer or importer shall use or install any device or design (often called a "circumvention device") that artificially improves the energy efficiency of an appliance during testing only, or that can alter the appliance's performance under test conditions compared with normal use.
- (2) Appliances may be randomly tested under normal operating conditions as defined in the standards, without resorting to special modes that are not representative of normal usage.
- (3) Any technology or setting intended solely to deceive or bypass the testing protocols (thereby making the appliance appear more efficient than it actually is in everyday use) is prohibited.
- (4) If the Organisation determines that a model uses such prohibited techniques, the appliances shall be treated as non-compliant for the purposes of enforcement and penalties, and the model registration shall be withdrawn pending implementation of specified corrective action, in addition to other penalties as contained in Section 18.

#### **Section 10: Technical Documentation and Product Information**

- (1) Every supplier (manufacturer or importer) of a regulated appliance shall prepare and maintain technical documentation for each model of appliance that they place on the market.
- (2) This documentation must be sufficient to enable the Organisation to verify the accuracy of the information declared on the energy label and in the product information sheet. At a minimum, the technical documentation for each model shall—
  - (a) be in the English language (or be accompanied by an English translation if originally in another language);
  - (b) include a Product Information Sheet in the format specified by SON (see the Second Schedule or relevant standard), which lists the model's key



- parameters and test values (such as rated voltage, capacity, measured energy consumption, and efficiency index or rating);
- (c) include the full test reports and data from an ISO/IEC 17025 accredited laboratory, which shall reference the test methods prescribed in the applicable NIS and indicate compliance with those procedures;
  - (d) provide any additional technical justification, calculations, or simulations used to determine the values on the label (for instance, calculation of annual energy consumption from test measurements, or interpolation between tested sample units if applicable);
  - (e) identify the applicable standards (by number and year) used for testing and rating the product; and
  - (f) contain any other information as may be specified in the Schedules or by SON guidelines for that product category (e.g. for lamps: luminous flux, wattage, efficacy; for air conditioners: cooling seasonal performance factor).
- (3) The technical documentation shall be prepared for each distinct model (or family of models, if variants are covered under a single registration, but only where the differences do not affect energy performance).
  - (4) The supplier shall submit the technical documentation to the Organisation as part of the product registration application (Section 11) and, in any case, must provide it to the Organisation on demand at any time, such as during compliance verification or market surveillance.
  - (5) The Organisation may request a supplier to furnish the technical documentation for a particular model, and the supplier must comply by providing the documents within the time stipulated (not later than five (5) working days from the request, unless another period is specified by SON).
  - (6) If the technical documentation is not provided upon request within the required time, the Organisation may order the immediate suspension of sale of that model and may detain the products (see Section 18), as failure to produce documentation is a breach of these Regulations.
  - (7) All dealers (retailers or wholesalers) who stock or sell regulated appliances are also expected to maintain basic technical information. A dealer shall keep copies of the product information sheet or energy label for each model they offer, together with any other information provided by the supplier that might be needed for customer enquiries or enforcement checks.
  - (8) Dealers must, upon request by an authorised officer, produce any technical or label information in their possession for inspection. The primary

responsibility for detailed technical documentation lies with the supplier (manufacturer or importer).

- (9) The supplier shall ensure that its dealers are provided with the correct energy labels and product information sheets for the models being sold.
- (10) The supplier must maintain the technical documentation for a period of at least five (5) years after the last unit of the model has been manufactured or imported.

#### **Section 11: Registration of Products and Approval Certificate**

- (1) An official SON Mandatory Energy Labelling Scheme Appliance Register shall be established and maintained by the Organisation. The Register (which may be an electronic database) will contain a list of all models of regulated appliances approved for importation, manufacture, sale, or distribution in Nigeria under this scheme, together with their key energy performance details (including at least their assigned star rating and energy consumption).
- (2) **Requirement for registration.** Every model of a regulated appliance must be registered with, and approved by, SON prior to its sale or distribution in Nigeria. It is an offence punishable by fine to import, market, or sell any model unless that model has been tested and certified to meet the applicable MEPS and registered in the SON appliance efficiency database with an assigned energy label.
- (3) **Application for registration.** A manufacturer or importer seeking to register a model shall submit an application in the prescribed form, accompanied by—
  - (a) the technical documentation (per Section 10), including complete accredited-laboratory test reports;
  - (b) a draft or sample of the proposed energy label showing the calculated star rating;
  - (c) the product information sheet;
  - (d) evidence of compliance with other relevant standard(s) and scheme(s) (e.g. SONCAP, MANCAP, if applicable); and
  - (e) payment of any prescribed fees.
- (4) **Evaluation of application.** The Organisation shall review the application and documentation to determine whether the model meets the required MEPS and labelling criteria, including verifying that the test results meet the minimum one-star level or better and that the label accurately reflects those results. SON may conduct or require additional testing as needed, and the applicant shall be expected to co-operate fully.

- (5) **Grant of approval and certificate.** If satisfied that the model complies, SON shall register it in the Appliance Energy Efficiency Register and issue a Certificate of Approval for energy efficiency labelling. The certificate will include an assigned star rating, and SON may assign a unique registration code for traceability. Once approved, the supplier is authorised to affix the official energy labels and commence importation or sale.
- (6) **Validity and updates.** A model's registration remains valid unless changes to the model affect energy performance, the applicable standard is revised so as to make the model non-compliant, or a specified expiration date is reached. If a model is modified in a way that could alter its energy consumption or efficiency, the supplier must inform SON and, if required, apply for updated approval. Where a standard is made more stringent, SON may require re-validation of previously approved models.
- (7) **Denial or revocation of approval.** If a model fails to meet the required criteria, SON shall deny registration and inform the applicant of the reasons. The model shall not be sold or imported unless the deficiencies are corrected and a new application is approved. If SON later discovers that approval was based on false information or that the model no longer complies, SON may revoke the approval, remove the model from the Register, and require the supplier to withdraw the product.
- (8) **Public access to Register.** The Organisation shall make available to the public a list or database of approved models and their energy performance information, which may include a searchable online database where consumers can look up a product's star rating and verify the authenticity of labels.

## **Section 12: Duties of Suppliers and Dealers**

- (1) **Accuracy of information.** Every supplier must ensure that all information provided in connection with these Regulations — technical documentation, product information sheets, and label details — is truthful and accurate, exercising due diligence in verifying performance claims. On discovering any error, the supplier shall immediately notify the Organisation and take corrective action (e.g. rectifying labels with SON's approval, or halting sales). Supplying products with incorrect labels, or withholding known non-compliance information, shall be an offence.
- (2) **Record-keeping.** Suppliers shall keep records of all models manufactured, imported, or sold (including quantities and distribution) for at least five (5) years, and keep copies of technical documentation and approvals accessible. Dealers shall keep copies of energy labels and basic product information for each model they carry, for at least two (2) years after the last unit is sold.

- (3) **Provision of information for statistical purposes.** Upon request, suppliers shall provide sales data or other relevant information to help assess the penetration of energy-efficient appliances and the impact of the labelling programme. The Organisation shall treat proprietary sales data as confidential and use it only in aggregate form for policy purposes.
- (4) **Dealer responsibilities.** Every dealer must ensure that any regulated appliance on display or sold has the correct energy label affixed and visible; must not remove, hide, or alter labels; must report missing or damaged labels to the supplier or SON; must convey accurate efficiency information; must make the product information sheet available on request; and must co-operate with SON officers during compliance visits.

### **Section 13: Powers of Inspection and Market Surveillance**

- (1) The Organisation shall carry out market surveillance activities to ensure compliance, and authorised officers have the power to—
  - (a) enter any premises where regulated appliances are made, stored, or sold, to inspect products and records (inspections may be unannounced and may occur at import points or sales outlets);
  - (b) inspect regulated appliances to verify energy labels, check label information, and confirm model numbers against the approved Register;
  - (c) copy or extract information provided by owners or managers upon request, and collect samples for independent laboratory testing to verify compliance with declared energy ratings;
  - (d) seal or detain products suspected to be non-compliant, unlabelled, falsely labelled, or unregistered (a detention notice will be issued and the products securely held pending investigation); and
  - (e) seize and detain, for the purpose of prosecution, documents, labels, or promotional materials suspected to show non-compliance, as provided in sections 29 and 30(1)(c) of the SON Act, No. 14 of 2015.

### **Section 14: Testing of Appliances for Compliance**

- (1) In order to verify conformity with MEPS and labelling requirements, SON shall conduct testing of regulated appliances in the following circumstances—
  - (a) **Pre-market conformity testing.** SON may, as part of the registration process under Section 11, test samples of any model submitted by an applicant to confirm the accuracy of the declared performance parameters;
  - (b) **Pre-shipment verification.** prior to importation, SON may, in collaboration with relevant authorities, conduct pre-shipment

verification of consignments to ensure each model has obtained the requisite SON approval and that energy labels and performance declarations conform with prescribed standards; and

- (c) **Market surveillance testing.** SON shall periodically purchase or sample regulated appliances from the open market to ensure that products available to consumers continue to conform with the approved standards and declared performance ratings.
- (2) All testing shall be carried out in ISO/IEC 17025 accredited laboratories and SON's laboratories, following the relevant Nigerian Industrial Standards (NIS).
- (3) Where a product fails a compliance test, SON shall notify the supplier and afford an opportunity to make representations or request confirmatory testing (which may be conducted in the presence of all parties).
- (4) Upon confirmation of non-compliance, enforcement measures shall apply and the cost of confirmatory testing shall be borne by the supplier.

#### **Section 15: Non-Compliance and Remedial Actions**

- (1) Where SON determines that any regulated appliance or model fails to comply with these Regulations, the Organisation shall take such remedial measures as it deems appropriate, which may include one or more of the following—
  - (a) **Notice to remedy.** SON may issue a written notice to the supplier or dealer specifying the non-compliance and directing corrective action within a prescribed period (re-labelling, withdrawal of affected stock, re-testing, submission of missing documentation, or other steps); failure to comply shall attract further enforcement action;
  - (b) **Product detention or suspension of sales.** SON may continue or extend the detention of non-compliant products and suspend approval for the affected model, as provided in section 29 of the SON Act, No. 14 of 2015, and detained or suspended products shall not be sold, distributed, or moved without prior written authorisation from SON, and may be quarantined until compliance is demonstrated;
  - (c) **Withdrawal from market (recall).** where non-compliant products have been distributed or sold, SON may direct the supplier to withdraw or recall them, and the supplier shall bear responsibility for all recall logistics, including communication with distributors or consumers and replacement, retrofitting, or correction where applicable;
  - (d) **Re-export or destruction.** SON may order the re-export of non-compliant imported products, within a specified timeframe and under SON or Customs supervision, at the importer's expense, and where re-export is impracticable or the goods pose environmental or safety risks, SON may

direct forfeiture, destruction, or environmentally sound recycling under official supervision, with costs borne by the responsible party; and

- (e) **Legal prosecution.** in cases of wilful violation, fraud, or repeated non-compliance, SON shall initiate criminal prosecution under Section 18, in addition to any administrative measures imposed.
- (2) Any expenses incurred by SON in the course of enforcement, including testing, storage, recall, re-export, destruction, or disposal, shall be recoverable from the supplier or responsible party through direct invoicing or by order of a court of competent jurisdiction, as provided in sections 7 and 31(5) of the SON Act, No. 14 of 2015.

#### **Section 16: Procedure for Detained and Corrected Products**

- (1) A supplier whose products have been detained or suspended may apply to the Organisation for release after correcting the non-compliance.
- (2) SON shall verify the corrective action and, if satisfied, issue a release order; otherwise, the detention shall continue and further measures such as re-export or destruction may follow for appliances below the specification of the applicable MEPS.
- (3) Where re-export or destruction is ordered, proof of shipment or destruction must be provided. Destruction shall be supervised and certified by SON. Once verified, SON shall close the case, without prejudice to any further sanctions.

#### **Section 17: Appeals and Review**

- (1) Any person aggrieved by a SON decision may, within fourteen (14) days, submit a written appeal to the Director-General stating the grounds of grievance. Such right of appeal shall be communicated to the aggrieved person upon communication of the decision of the Organisation.
- (2) SON shall review the matter and may hold a hearing or request further submissions, after which the decision (confirming, varying, or reversing the original) shall be communicated in writing.
- (3) An appeal does not automatically suspend enforcement, but SON may grant a stay where appropriate. This internal appeal does not preclude judicial review before a competent court.

#### **Section 18: Offences and Penalties**

- (1) A person commits an offence where he or she—

- (a) manufactures, imports, distributes, displays, installs, or sells a regulated appliance that does not comply with the prescribed Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) or energy labelling requirements;
  - (b) offers for sale or sells an unregistered or unapproved regulated appliance;
  - (c) removes, obscures, alters, falsifies, or unlawfully uses an energy label, the SON logo, or any approved label template;
  - (d) knowingly provides false or misleading information or documents in connection with the registration, testing, approval, or sale of a regulated appliance;
  - (e) manipulates or circumvents prescribed testing procedures or performance results;
  - (f) fails to comply with a lawful notice, directive, or order issued by the Organisation under these Regulations; or
  - (g) obstructs or interferes with an authorised officer of the Organisation in the lawful performance of his or her duties.
- (2) A person convicted of an offence under subsection (1) is liable—
- (a) for an offence under subsection (1)(b) or (f), to a fine of ₦500,000;
  - (b) for an offence under subsection (1)(a) or (c), to a fine of ₦1,000,000; and
  - (c) for an offence under subsection (1)(d), (e), or (g), to a fine of ₦2,000,000, or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six (6) months, or both.
- (3) Without prejudice to criminal proceedings under these Regulations, the Organisation may impose one or more of the following administrative sanctions—
- (a) issue a warning or compliance notice;
  - (b) impose an administrative fine consistent with subsection (2) above;
  - (c) suspend or cancel the registration or approval of a regulated appliance;
  - (d) suspend or withdraw the authority to use an approved energy label;
  - (e) order the stop-sale, recall, seizure, or withdrawal of a regulated appliance from the market; and
  - (f) take any other administrative measure necessary to secure compliance with these Regulations.
- (4) Where the offender is a body corporate, it shall be liable to a fine within the applicable range above, doubled for corporate entities. Every director or officer who knowingly authorised, permitted, or acquiesced in the offence shall be personally liable to a fine within the prescribed range, or to imprisonment within the prescribed terms, unless he or she proves that the

offence occurred without his or her knowledge or despite the exercise of due diligence to prevent it.

- (5) Upon conviction, the court may, in addition, order—
  - (a) the forfeiture and disposal of any non-compliant products;
  - (b) reimbursement to SON for costs incurred in investigation or enforcement; and
  - (c) compensation to any consumer or person who suffered loss or damage as a result of the offence.
- (6) Each day a prohibited act continues shall constitute a separate offence. In determining penalties, the court shall consider the number of products involved, the degree of harm or economic benefit obtained, and the offender's co-operation with the authorities.
- (7) The penalties prescribed under this section are made pursuant to section 5(1)(i) of the Standards Organisation of Nigeria Act and are consistent with the general penalty provisions thereof.

#### **Section 19: Interpretation of Regulations**

- (1) In the event of any ambiguity or conflict in the interpretation of these Regulations, reference shall be made to the intent and purpose described in Section 3, and to the provisions of the Standards Organisation of Nigeria Act, 2015.
- (2) Terms used but not defined in these Regulations shall have the meaning assigned to them in the Act or in the context of the applicable Nigerian Industrial Standards.
- (3) For technical matters, the definitions and testing methodologies in the NIS listed in the First Schedule, and other standards subsequently elaborated, may be used as authoritative guidance.
- (4) The headings and section titles in these Regulations are for convenience and reference only, and shall not affect the construction of the provisions.

#### **Section 20: Transitional Provisions**

- (1) Any person who, before the coming into force of these Regulations, has manufactured or imported into Nigeria any regulated appliance that does not comply with these Regulations shall, within twenty-four (24) months from the date these Regulations come into force, sell, distribute, or otherwise dispose of all such appliances. After the expiration of this twenty-four (24) month transitional period, it shall be unlawful to sell or distribute any



remaining non-compliant appliances, and the provisions of these Regulations shall fully apply to them.

- (2) **Existing stock.** Appliances already in the country prior to commencement that do not have energy labels or do not meet the new MEPS may continue to be sold for up to two (2) years, to allow businesses to clear old inventory and prevent undue economic loss. Suppliers are strongly encouraged to voluntarily label such products within this period if they meet the standards, or to retrofit or upgrade them where possible.
- (3) **Imports in transit.** For regulated appliances ordered or shipped to Nigeria before commencement but arriving shortly thereafter, the Organisation may allow release without the full labelling requirements, provided they were manufactured before commencement. Such cases should be documented, and the importer must notify SON to obtain a waiver. This leniency also ends after the twenty-four (24) month transition.
- (4) Any regulated appliance manufactured or imported during the transitional period must, if it complies with the standards, be labelled in accordance with these Regulations. The transitional allowance is intended only for depletion of legacy stock, not to introduce new inefficient products; manufacturers and importers are expected to comply immediately for new production or orders made after commencement.
- (5) After the two-year transitional window, any person in possession of non-compliant appliances must refrain from selling them in Nigeria; such appliances should be exported, or they will otherwise become subject to seizure and penalties if found in the market. The Organisation may conduct special market checks around and after the deadline to ensure the phase-out of non-compliant products.
- (6) Transitional provisions specific to certain product categories may be provided in the Schedules or in guidance documents. Stakeholders will be informed of any such specific arrangements through official communication.

#### **Section 21: Relationship with Other Regulations**

- (1) These Regulations are made pursuant to the SON Act, 2015, and shall be read in harmony with any other existing regulations or guidelines on energy efficiency and standards.
- (2) In the event of any inconsistency between these Regulations and any other subsidiary legislation on product standards administered by SON, the provisions of these Regulations shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency, provided that nothing herein shall be interpreted to permit a

violation of any requirement under the Act or any environmental or safety regulation.

#### **Section 22: Citation of Schedules**

- (1) The Schedules to these Regulations form an integral part of the Regulations and are enforceable as such.
- (2) The Organisation may, with the approval of the Council and publication in the Gazette, amend the Schedules from time to time to update the list of regulated products, standards, label designs, or other technical details, in response to technological progress or policy changes.

#### **Section 23: Short Citation and Duration**

- (1) These Regulations may be cited in short as the “SON Mandatory Energy Labelling Regulations, 2026”.
- (2) These Regulations shall remain in force until amended or revoked by competent authority.

### **FIRST SCHEDULE — Regulated Products and Applicable Standards**

*(Sections 2, 5, 6, 11 and 21)*

#### **1. Scope and Incorporation by Reference**

1.1 This Schedule lists the product categories subject to the Mandatory Energy Labelling Scheme (SONMELS) and identifies, for each category, the applicable Nigerian Industrial Standard (NIS) prescribing MEPS, test methods, and labelling requirements.

1.2 Automatic coverage of subsequent standards. Without further amendment, this Schedule shall be deemed to include any additional product category for which SON approves an NIS prescribing MEPS and labelling, and shall apply the most recent edition of any NIS listed herein, as amended, revised, or superseded from time to time.

1.3 Publication requirement. Automatic inclusion under paragraph 1.2 takes effect upon SON’s publication of a notice identifying the product category and the applicable NIS in at least two (2) national daily newspapers and on the official SON website.

1.4 Compliance obligations commence from the effective date stated in the SON notice; where no date is stated, on the date of publication of the notice.

## **2. Regulated Product Categories (as at Commencement)**

2.1 Household Refrigerating Appliances (Refrigerators and Freezers): NIS 942:2017 specifies efficiency classes and labelling for household refrigerators and freezers; it is based on the ISO/IEC 62552 series and defines Energy Efficiency Index (EEI) thresholds for star ratings.

2.2 Room Air Conditioners (single-phase, up to 20 kW cooling capacity): NIS 943:2024 covers non-ducted air-to-air units (e.g. split and window types) and introduces the Nigerian Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (NSEER), with MEPS (one-star) and higher star thresholds; scope exclusions apply as defined in the standard.

2.3 General Lighting Lamps (Light Bulbs and Tubes): NIS 1209-1:2024 sets efficacy-based MEPS and labelling for incandescent, CFL, linear fluorescent, and LED lamps for general service.

2.4 Luminaires (Lighting Fixtures): NIS 1209-2:2024 prescribes performance criteria and labelling for indoor and outdoor luminaires, including compatibility with efficient lamp and driver technologies.

2.5 Reserved for additional products. Additional appliances (e.g. clothes washing machines, televisions, electric motors, and fans, in line with ECOWAS initiatives) shall be covered automatically upon SON approval of the relevant NIS and publication of a notice under paragraph 1.3.

## **3. Use of Latest Editions**

3.1 The latest approved edition of each referenced NIS, including corrigenda and amendments approved by SON, shall apply, and this Schedule shall be read as referring to such latest edition without further regulatory amendment.

3.2 Manufacturers, importers, and other regulated persons shall apply the current standard and monitor SON notices for updates. The most recent versions of the listed standards shall apply.

## **4. Technical Definitions and Test Methods**

4.1 Detailed technical definitions, test conditions, calculations (including EEI and NSEER), tolerances, and labelling specifications shall be as set out in the applicable NIS for each product category. SON may issue guidance to support implementation.

## **5. Stakeholder Notification**

5.1 SON shall notify stakeholders of any additions or revisions via publication under paragraph 1.3, and may supplement such notice with circulars, workshops, or advisories; however, publication under paragraph 1.3 is sufficient to trigger applicability.

## **SECOND SCHEDULE — Energy Efficiency Label and Product Information Requirements**

*(Sections 7, 8, 9 and 12)*

### **1. Energy Efficiency Label**

1.1 Every regulated appliance placed on the Nigerian market shall bear an energy efficiency label conforming to the format, layout, and dimensions approved by SON.

1.2 The label shall clearly and legibly display—

- (a) the energy-efficiency rating (number of stars or equivalent scale approved by SON);
- (b) the product type, brand name, and model identifier;
- (c) the key performance parameters relevant to the category (capacity, wattage, light output, storage volume, voltage, and the like);
- (d) the energy consumption value in kWh for the period defined in the relevant NIS;
- (e) the official SON logo and, where applicable, the Nigerian Coat of Arms, flag colours, or other authorised insignia;
- (f) any QR code or electronic verification mark required by SON; and
- (g) all text in English, in metric units, printed in the approved colour gradient from red (least efficient) to green (most efficient).

1.3 The label shall—

- (a) be printed on durable adhesive material capable of remaining affixed during normal showroom handling and removable by the consumer without surface damage; and
- (b) adhere to the official colour, size, and layout template issued by SON to ensure national uniformity.

1.4 For lighting products and other small appliances where the full-sized label cannot be applied, the information required under paragraph 1.2 may be printed in simplified form on the packaging, provided the consumer can readily identify the star rating and energy consumption before purchase.

1.5 Tampering with, altering, obscuring, or reproducing the energy label without SON's prior approval is prohibited.

1.6 Labels shall be legibly printed at high resolution; any product carrying a label that is incomplete, unclear, or inconsistent with the approved format shall be deemed mislabelled and in violation of these Regulations.

## **2. Product Information Sheet**

2.1 Every supplier or manufacturer shall prepare a Product Information Sheet for each model.

2.2 It shall include—

- (a) the name or trademark of the supplier;
- (b) the model identifier corresponding to the label;
- (c) the appliance type and category;
- (d) the applicable energy efficiency rating or star class;
- (e) the energy consumption value as stated on the label;
- (f) the key performance characteristics prescribed in the applicable NIS;
- (g) reference to the test standards used;
- (h) the year of manufacture or model year; and
- (i) a declaration of conformity with the relevant NIS and these Regulations.

2.3 The Product Information Sheet shall be—

- (a) included in the user manual, attached as a separate insert, or made electronically available on the supplier's website; and
- (b) made available to dealers and consumers upon request.

2.4 The information shall be accurate and consistent with the technical documentation submitted to SON; any material discrepancy shall constitute a breach of these Regulations.

## **3. Templates, Design Updates and Implementation**

3.1 SON shall issue and update, from time to time, the official templates, layout specifications, colour standards, and graphical designs for energy efficiency labels and product information sheets.

3.2 SON may revise the label format to incorporate additional metrics, such as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions or digital verification features, and shall provide adequate notice of any such changes.

3.3 All suppliers shall obtain the official label artwork and design template from SON, and may be required to submit proof samples of printed labels during product registration for verification.

3.4 Labels and sheets not conforming to SON's official templates shall be rejected and may attract enforcement action under these Regulations.

#### **4. Multi-Model Labelling**

4.1 A single label may be used for multiple models only if those models have identical energy performance characteristics and are each identified in the supplier's technical documentation.

4.2 Where models differ in performance, each model shall bear its own distinct label reflecting its actual efficiency and consumption data.

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