NB: Unofficial translation; legally binding texts are those in Finnish and Swedish

Ministry of Social Affairs and Health Decree on the packing and labelling of biocidal products

(422/2000)

Section 1

This Decree lays down provisions on special requirements concerning the packing and labelling of biocidal products. In addition, what is laid down elsewhere by virtue of the Chemicals Act (744/1989) shall also apply to the packing and labelling of biocidal products.

Section 2

If it is possible to mistake a biocidal product for food, drink or feedingstuff, it must be packed in such a way that these mistakes can be avoided. If such a biocidal product is intended for consumer use, it must contain compounds that discourage its consumption.

Section 3

(1) In addition to other required information, the following must be included on the packaging of biocidal products:

1) the names and concentrations of active substances;
2) the authorization or registration number issued for the biocidal product by the competent authority;
3) the state and type of the preparation;

4) authorized use;
5) instructions and dose rate for the intended use which meet the authorization conditions;
6) detailed information and first-aid instructions for any direct or indirect harmful effects;
7) if instructions on the use of the product are provided in a separate leaflet, the phrases ‘Erilliset ohjeet luettava ennen käyttöä’ – ‘Läs separata anvisningar före användning’ (Read separate instructions before use);
8) instructions on the safe disposal of the biocidal product and its package and, if necessary, a prohibition on the reuse of the package;
9) the batch number or batch marking of the product and its expiry date in normal storage conditions; and
10) the period of time needed for the biocidal effect, the interval to be observed between applications of the product or between an application of the product and the use of the item for which the product has been applied, or the interval to be observed before access by humans or animals to an area where a biocidal product has been used; and detailed information on the appropriate cleaning of equipment and on precautionary measures during use, storage and transport.

(2) When necessary, labelling must also indicate the authorized user categories for the biocidal product, and information on environmental dangers, especially on the protection of non-target organisms and the prevention of water contamination. This information on the environmental dangers can be entered in a separate instruction leaflet included with the package, or elsewhere on the package than the product packaging. Labelling concerning the protection of

workers from exposure to biological agents must be entered on the packaging of biological biocidal products.

Section 4

(1) The information referred to in section 3 above must be entered in Finnish and Swedish. Labelling must be clearly and indelibly marked on the packaging.

(2) The information referred to in section 3(1) under paragraphs 1, 2 and 4 and, if necessary, also the labelling referred to in paragraph 7, must always be entered on the product packaging. The information referred to in paragraphs 3, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 10 may be entered elsewhere on the package or on an instruction leaflet included with the package.

Section 5

Labelling on the packaging of a biocidal product may not be misleading nor may it give an exaggerated impression of the product. It may not contain statements referring to the product's harmlessness, such as 'vähäriskinen' ('low-risk'), 'myrkytön' ('non-toxic') or 'haitaton' ('harmless').

Section 6

(1) This Decree enters into force on May 13, 2000.

(2) This Decree shall, however, apply to biocidal products containing active substances on the market within the European Community at the time of this Decree entering into force only after a decision has been made under section 25 of the Chemicals Act

(744/1989), as it stands in Act 1198/1999, to authorize the product.