

Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection

Press Release

In our ongoing commitment to safeguard consumers' interests and ensure the highest standards of safety, the Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection **reminds** all importers, distributors and retailers in the toy industry that it is **mandatory** to adhere to the **Toys (Safety) Regulations 2021** when importing and selling toys.

Key Regulatory Requirements:

- **Compliance with Existing Regulations:**
All toys should strictly conform to safety and security standards and with established Regulations prior to importation. Importers, distributors and retailers are required to ensure strict compliance with the regulatory framework governing the importation and sale of toys.
- **Affixation of Warning Signs:**
Imported toys should mandatorily bear warning signs which should already be affixed at the manufacturing stage, before importation. These warning signs, in either the English or the French language, should include critical information such as **age recommendations, choking hazards, usage instructions where applicable, and other pertinent safety guidelines.**
- **Conformity Certificates Verification:**
Toys accompanied by Conformity Certificates are subject to verification by the Mauritius Standard Bureau (MSB) to ensure their accuracy and authenticity.
- **Sampling Exercise for Toys without Certificates of Conformity:**
In the absence of a Certificate of Conformity, toys will be subjected to a sampling exercise conducted by the Consumer Affairs Unit (CAU) of the Ministry to assess and verify compliance with safety standards.
- **Prohibition on Labels for Toys without Warning Signs:**
Importers are hereby strongly reminded that after arrival in the country no labelling or affixing of warning signs on toys will be allowed. Toys **with no label will not be sampled for testing.**

This measure is taken to reinforce the importance of upfront adherence to international safety guidelines.

The Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection appreciates the cooperation of all in upholding these standards for the benefit of consumer safety and security.

The Public is requested not to purchase any toy which do not have any warning signs and to report immediately such cases to the Ministry on hotline 185 or phone number 460 2500.

13 December 2023