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## AMENDMENTS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL CODE ON PACKAGING LABELLING

The recent Legislative Decree n. 116/2020, in force in Italy since 26 September 2020, by implementing the "Waste and Packaging Directive", amends some provisions of the Environmental Code (Legislative Decree n. 152/2006) introducing both immediate obligations for the recipients of the legislation and implementing measures.

Of particular importance are the amendments to paragraph 5 of Article 129 of Legislative Decree 152/2006 with reference to the labelling of packaging. The previous wording of the provision, in establishing that all packaging must be appropriately labelled, referred to a ministerial decree to establish the methods and rules for marking. The new legislative decree No 116/2020, in force since 26 September 2020, places specific information and labelling obligations on producers. In particular, the text of the new provision reads as follows:

*"All packaging must be appropriately labelled in accordance with the methods established by the applicable UNI technical standards and in compliance with the determinations adopted by the Commission of the European Union, in order to*

*facilitate the collection, reuse, recovery and recycling of packaging, as well as to provide consumers with correct information on the final destination of the packaging. Producers are also obliged to indicate, for the purposes of identifying and classifying packaging, the nature of the packaging materials used, on the basis of Commission Decision 97/129/EC" (Decision 97/129/EC is attached)."*

A specific obligation is therefore introduced for producers who must properly label all packaging according to the methods established by the technical standards drawn up by a special private association of professionals and experts in the sector (Ente Nazionale Italiano di Unificazione).

Specifically, the minimum information that must be shown on the label concerns (i) the type of packaging, (ii) the identification of the material (by means of an alphanumeric code eventually accompanied by an icon), (iii) the family of the reference material and finally (iv) indications on the type of collection (whether differentiated or undifferentiated) and, in the case of differentiated collection, an indication of the reference material.



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