

ANNEX 1: Product Specifications

Description: Supply of hygiene items- Single use/ disposable sanitary napkins with wings.

Product Specification:

The product shall consist of a top layer which comes in direct contact with the body, a transfer layer followed by an absorbent material which absorbs menstrual blood and other fluids, a leak proof layer at the bottom and an adhesive coating at the back of leak proof layer for fixing to the panties, which prevents dislocation when worn. The pad shall have wings so that it could be attached to the panties.

The upper layer (top layer) is a woven or non-woven material with sufficient porosity to meet the absorbency requirements. The materials for the top layer may include polyester, polyethylene or polypropylene or their blend, cotton, viscose/rayon etc. Middle absorbent layer made of cellulosic material and outer layers made of plastic. Optionally, the absorbent layer can be mixed with super absorbent polymers to enhance absorption and make the pad thin. The lower leak proof layer including the wings is made of plastic such as polyethylene/ polypropylene. The leak proof layer and the wings are coated with a synthetic resin adhesive/ glue, which is laminated with a silicone coated release paper liner or similar adhesive release liners. The adhesive shall provide sufficient tack to retain the mounted pad to the fabric surface of the crotch of the undergarment. Each pad may be folded and shall be provided with a pull away cover, preferably environment friendly, for disposal of pads after use.

The product shall be white in color for most of the areas and shall be free from unpleasant odor. It shall not contain any foreign matter such as dust and particulate matter. It shall be safe for skin contact and shall not cause any allergy or irritation and applicable standards shall be referred while selection of raw materials. Difference in color, size or odor shall not allowed among the products. The sanitary napkins shall be free from acids and alkali, shall have sufficient absorbency to manage normal to heavy flow, the adhesive layer is sufficiently strong so that no dislocation happens while use and the product shall not disintegrate within the recommended wear time. The adhesive layer shall not leave adhesive residues on the panties while removal of pads. Product shall be unscented only. Wear Time: Shall be able to wear for 4-6 hours. The total viable bacterial count, when determined in accordance with EN ISO 6887-1 or equivalent shall not exceed 1000 CFU per gram of sanitary pad/towel; and shall be free from Enterobacteriaceae, Staphylococcus aureus, candida albicans and Pseudomonas aeruginosa etc. Absorbency shall be tested using colored water or oxalated sheep or goat blood or test fluid when poured on to the center of the napkin (at the rate of 15 ml per minute) and it shall not show up at the bottom or sides of the sanitary napkin (test method is indicative only). Submit the absorbency values, weight of the pad and test method used during the submission.

The absorbency values shall be comparable to the same sample sizes that are available in the market or tested at an accredited lab as per ISO 17025. The pad shall have enough fluid retention capacity under pressure, details under size and absorbency capacity.

Size and absorbent capacity:

- Regular: Size and absorbent capacity must be suitable for normal flow. Regular size should have length 180mm to 220mm and width excluding wings shall be 60mm–100mm. Absorbency shall be 15-20ml when measured as per standard test method mentioned above.

- Large: Size and absorbent capacity must be suitable for moderate flow. Large size with length 220mm to 260mm and width excluding wings shall be 60mm–100mm. Absorbency shall be 20-30 ml when measured as per standard test method mentioned above.
- Extra Large: Size and absorbent capacity must be suitable for heavy flow. Extra-large size with length 260mm to 300mm and width excluding wings shall be 60mm–100mm. Absorbency shall be 30-40 ml when measured as per standard test method mentioned above.

Instructions for use: Greek

Regulation and Conformity Requirements: Applicable QMS standards ISO 9001 minimum.

Product Certification and Compliance: The sanitary pads must undergo dermatological testing, be anti-allergic, and adhere to the current EU Public Health Regulations (EU 2023/988 on general product safety). Evidence to be submitted declaration of compliance using EU template. Copy of the Oeko-Tex® Standard 100 certification is mandatory, confirming that the product is devoid of harmful chemicals.

Product Shelf Life: The products must have a minimum shelf life of 18 months from the date of delivery. Should the expiration date not be met upon inspection, UNICEF reserves the right to request a replacement.

Legal Compliance: All products must possess the necessary legal authorization for distribution within Greece.'

Safety and Product Standards: Must comply with the following standards:

Product comes in close contact with skin and mucosa hence, shall not harm vaginal flora or lead to reproductive tract infections (RTIs) through growth of harmful microbes. For any pad materials that are bleached during processing, the supplier should identify the bleaching process used, e.g., Elemental Chlorine-Free (ECF) or Totally Chlorine-Free (TCF) and shall provide safety data. Shall be free from formaldehyde, heavy metals, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) phthalates, dioxins, acrylic monomers, reproductive & developmental toxins and other carcinogens. Shall be compliant as per as per REACH regulations (preferable to have a REACH compliant certificate issued by the competent authority).

ISO 10993 Part-5&10: Evaluation and Testing to assess the safety.

ISO 6887-1:2017 Microbiology of the food chain — Preparation of test samples, initial suspension and decimal dilutions for microbiological examination or equivalent

ISO 6888-1:1999/AMD 2:2018 Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs — Horizontal method for the enumeration of coagulase-positive staphylococci (*Staphylococcus aureus* and other species) or equivalent.

ISO 17088:2008- Specifications for compostable plastics or equivalent.

Environmental Requirements: Sustainable, recycled, re-used or reusable materials for packaging and the manufacturer of the disposable pad preferably shall be in compliance with ISO 14001.

Quantity: 9,144,000 pcs of Sanitary pads.

Quantity per size: 3,048,000 pcs

a. Packaging:

Each sanitary pad must be individually packaged as a single unit within the pack, in a plastic type with good seal integrity to protect the item from moisture and contamination during storage and transportation. The instructions of use to be supplied in the primary packaging.

Primary packing: Pack of 10 pcs per size. Printing on primary packing shall have size of the pad, Lot/batch No, Date, month and year of manufacture, expiration date. The packaging should not include any commercial branding/label. If it does, there must be a reference stating "**free product distribution**" or "**not for sale.**"

Secondary packing: Packages with 3 packs of 10 pieces of sanitary pads, one of each size. Meaning that in total 304,800 packages will be delivered. The packaging (secondary) should not include any commercial branding/label. The branding on the secondary packaging will include the logo of the National Action for the Promotion of Family and Child Health, the logos of UNICEF and all implementing partners of the Program, as well as key messages related to the destigmatization of menstruation. The relevant design will be provided by UNICEF to the selected contractor to ensure that the secondary packaging is printed based on this design.

Additional requirements that may be considered as part of the secondary packing:

All the package material (primary and secondary) should be recyclable.

Palletized: Yes, on Euro pallet.

Height of pallets: 1.85m

All Packing Units must contain the same quantity of items.

All packing units /cartons should be palletized and indicate the number of cartons 1/3, 2/3, 3/3.

All cases, pallets, cartons, etc. must be clearly marked as following:

- a. Purchase Order Number (optional for inner boxes);
- a. UNICEF Material Number (If applicable);
- b. Description of contents;
- c. Quantity per carton;
- d. Batch Number Reference (if applicable);
- e. Manufacturing Date (if applicable);
- f. Expiry Date (if applicable).