Technical Guidelines for Cosmetics Personal Care & Perfumes Lab Tests
1. The purpose of the guidelines

To ensure the compliance of the cosmetics, personal care products, and perfumes to the endorsed conditions and specifications of the implemented standards, and free of harmful substances.

2. Segment of application

All importers, manufacturers and traders of cosmetics, personal care products, and perfumes or who want to import, manufacture, and trade these products.

3. Definitions

3-1 Cosmetic, personal care, or perfume product: is any substance or preparation intended to be placed in contact with the various external parts of the human body (epidermis, hair system, nails, lips and external genital organs) or with the teeth and the mucous membranes of the oral cavity with an intention of exclusively or mainly to clean, perfume, change appearance, correct body odors, protect and/or keep these parts in good condition

3-2 Cosmetic, personal care, and/or perfume companies: are trading companies licensed in the UAE and have an activity which is related to importing and/or manufacturing of cosmetics, personal care, or perfumes.

4. Inputs

4-1 Consumer products

4-2 Test application form signed by the consumer products safety section and directed to an accredited lab to produce the required test.

5. Cosmetics, Personal Care & Perfumes Tests

5-1 General Cosmetics, Personal Care & Perfumes Tests
5-1.1 Heavy metal test

5-1.2 Microbiology test to detect any microbial contamination like bacteria, yeast, and molds which is required for all handmade products

5-1.3 Preservative test

- Benzoic Acid
- Methyl 4-Hydroxybenzoate,
- Ethyl 4-Hydroxybenzoate
- n-Propyl 4- Hydroxybenzoate
- n-Butyl 4- Hydroxybenzoate

5-1.4 Chemical & specification test to detect the composition of the product

5-1.5 Stability test to check the shelf life of the product and its validity

5-2 Lab test for Each Class of Cosmetics, Personal Care and Perfumes

(Note: Percentages and concentrations of the ingredients found in the product composition depend on the EU Regulation 1223/2009EC)

5-2.1 Products for care of the mouth and the teeth: Tests to detect levels of diethylene glycol, fluoride, and chloroform

5-2.2 Whitening products: Test to detect the levels of hydroquinone and mercury

5-2.3 Shampoos and foaming products: Test to detect levels of 1,4 dioxane

5-2.4 Hair care products: Test to detect hydrogen peroxide, formaldehyde, ammonia, and phenol (resorcinol)

5-2.5 Hair dyes: Test to detect paraphenylenediamine, hydrogen peroxide, and phenol (resorcinol)

5-2.6 Anti-perspirants: Test to detect levels of zirconium, aluminum, and chloride

5-2.7 Perfumes: Test to detect levels of allergens, ethanol, pitrex, diethyl phthalate, and quantity and types of essential oils
6. References

6-1 Local Circular No. (11/2003) for the year 2003
6-2 Cosmetics, Personal Care, and Perfumes circular 15/02/2010
6-3 Cosmetics, Personal Care, and Perfumes technical guidelines (European regulation (EC) 1223)