

DECISION
No. 593, dated 22.7.2026

**ON DETERMINING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE TRACEABILITY OF THE
CANNABIS PLANT, ITS BY-PRODUCTS AND FINAL PRODUCTS FOR MEDICAL
AND INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES, THE RULES ON MARKING ELEMENTS AND
LABELS, THE PROCEDURES AND METHODS FOR MARKING AND
TRACEABILITY AND THE AUTHORIZED AUTHORITY RESPONSIBLE FOR
IMPLEMENTING THE MARKING AND TRACEABILITY SYSTEM**

Pursuant to article 100 of the Constitution and article 34, paragraph 5, of Law No. 61/2023, "On the control of the cultivation and processing of the *cannabis* plant and the production of its by-products for medical and industrial purposes," upon the proposal of the Minister of Health and Social Protection and the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Council of Ministers

DECIDED:

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. The purpose of this decision is to ensure the full traceability of marked *cannabis* plant materials intended for medical and industrial purposes, from the importation of planting and propagation material through export, confiscation or destruction, by establishing a system of marking (serialization), unique identification, real-time recording of events and documented chain of custody, in order to ensure regulatory compliance, protect public health and prevent unlawful diversion or infiltration.

2. The subject matter of this decision is to establish the requirements, elements and procedures for the marking and traceability of marked *cannabis* plant materials intended for medical and industrial purposes throughout all stages of the activity, including the importation of planting and propagation material, cultivation, processing, production, storage, transportation, export, destruction or confiscation, as well as the collection of samples for testing. This decision also establishes the rules and technical specifications governing marking elements and labels, the methods and procedures for marking and traceability and designates the authorized authority responsible for implementing the marking and traceability system.

3. For the purposes of Law No. 61/2023, "On the control of the cultivation and processing of the *cannabis* plant and the production of its by-products for medical and industrial purposes" (hereinafter referred to as "Law No. 61/2023"), the following additional definitions shall apply for the purposes of this decision:

a) **"Destruction of labels"**, refers to the physical destruction of labels, which results in irreversible damage to the label and renders it unusable;

b) **"Barcode"**, means a linear visual code (1D), consisting of black and white lines of varying thickness, which enables the identification and electronic processing of data through reading devices;

c) **“Label”**, means a marking and identification device equipped with RFID technology, manufactured and distributed by the company *“ALBTrace CO”* JSC, containing a barcode or QR code and other data, in accordance with the provisions of this decision and affixed to the marked material;

ç) **“Stage”**, means any stage of the activity defined in law no. 61/2023, including the importation, cultivation, processing, production, storage, transportation, export, confiscation and destruction of *cannabis* plant products and by-products for medical and industrial purposes;

d) **“Cultivation stages”**, means the development stages of the *cannabis* plant, including planting and propagation, the period of intensive plant growth (vegetative stage), flowering and harvesting;

dh) **“QR Code”**, means a two-dimensional (2D) matrix code that stores information and can be read by reading devices to access data in real time;

e) **“Access credentials”**, means the set of authorization data required for the use of the system, including the username and password;

ë) **“Batch”**, means a homogeneous unit of material obtained/produced under the same conditions (origin, process, shift, equipment and time interval), identified by a Unique Identification Number (NUI), which is used for traceability, sampling and compliance assessment;

f) **“Marked material”**, means *cannabis* seeds, mother plants, clones, seedlings, plants, waste, by-products or *cannabis* products, as well as their various forms of packaging (packages, containers, bags, etc.), which are equipped with a label;

g) **“Waste”**, means waste or parts of medical or industrial *cannabis* plants, including waste generated after production, processing or harvesting, waste located above the surface of the soil, as well as spontaneously grown plants and plants not used for commercial purposes;

gj) **“NUI”** (Unique Identification Number), means an individual identification code assigned to each marked material, which is unique and unchangeable, generated and issued by the company *“ALBTrace CO”* JSC.;

h) **“Reading device”**, means an electronic device used for automatically reading the barcode or QR code placed on the label and may be:

- i. a handheld device for manual use;
- ii. integrated into a drone or another monitoring platform;
- iii. part of another automated system for data collection and recording;

“RFID” (Radio Frequency Identification), means an automatic identification technology that enables, through radio waves and electronic readers, the remote and simultaneous reading of data stored on an RFID circuit label, including the NUI. The RFID reader may read one or more labels simultaneously. The collected data shall be recorded in the system;

j) **“RFID_EPC” (Electronic Product Code)**, means the electronic code of the marked material stored in the EPC memory of the RFID label;

k) **“RFID_TID” (Tag Identifier)**, means the unique identifier of the RFID circuit stored in the TID memory by the manufacturer of the RFID circuit. It cannot be written or modified and

confirms the authenticity and permanent connection of the physical label with the marked material within the system;

l) **“Register”**, means the national register of licensed and authorized *cannabis* plant activities, pursuant to article 13 of law no. 61/2023;

ll) **“System”**, means the traceability system that ensures tracking in accordance with law no. 61/2023 and the applicable subordinate legislation;

m) **“Entity”**, means a licensed or authorized entity for the cultivation and processing of the *cannabis* plant and the production of its by-products and products for medical or industrial purposes;

n) **“Cultivation substrate”**, means a material or mixture of materials, whether natural or manufactured, that provides physical support and nutrient supply for plant growth, which may include natural soil, peat, perlite, vermiculite, coconut fibers or other substrates that create suitable conditions for plant growth in a cultivation environment, allowing regulation of moisture, aeration and nutrients.

4. The authorized authority responsible for implementing the marking and traceability system, pursuant to Law No. 61/2023, “On the control of the cultivation and processing of the *cannabis* plant and the production of its by-products for medical and industrial purposes,” shall be the company “ALBTrace Co” JSC.

II. TRACEABILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. The traceability requirements shall apply to every licensed and authorized entity, hereinafter referred to as the “entity”, in accordance with the applicable legislation and shall cover all stages of the activity.

2. Traceability shall ensure compliance with the applicable rules and legal framework, protection of public health and prevention of the unlawful diversion and infiltration of *cannabis* into the regulated chain, through regulatory and operational capacity to identify, track and verify in real time the origin, status and chain of custody of each plant, batch and package, from the seed, clone and seedling, mother plant, up to the stages of destruction, confiscation and export, by using unique identifiers and detailed records of events and data within the system.

3. Traceability shall be achieved through the system, which ensures the recording and presentation of data for each stage, enabling the complete tracking of the *cannabis* plant, its by-products and products from origin to export, destruction, or confiscation. The system shall also enable reverse traceability, from the final stage back to the preceding stages.

4. For every action performed within the system relating to access, modification, correction, and any other data processing operation, traceability shall be ensured to guarantee confidentiality, integrity, availability, the sustainability of the system and data processing services.

5. In cases where a new label is affixed to marked material, in accordance with the rules established by this decision, the NUI of the new label shall be linked in the system to the NUI of the previous label.

6. The rules governing the administration and operation of the system and the management of data shall be as follows:

a) The system data, including data entered into the system, generated by the system, or exchanged with other databases/systems, shall constitute state data;

b) The National *Cannabis* Control Agency, hereinafter referred to as the “Agency”:

i. shall be the sole administrator of the data maintained or generated by the system and shall have full access for approving actions within the system related to data management;

ii. shall determine the purposes and methods of data processing;

iii. shall exercise supervision, control and inspection functions regarding compliance with legal obligations related to marking and traceability, as well as the implementation of this decision;

iv. shall approve the technical manual of the system prepared by the company “*ALBTrace CO*” JSC

c) The company “*ALBTrace CO*” JSC:

i. shall enable marking and traceability, in accordance with Law No. 61/2023 and the provisions of this decision;

ii. shall act as the provider and technical administrator of the traceability system and shall be responsible for the technical and security aspects of the system;

iii. shall be responsible for taking technical and organizational measures to ensure system security, tracking access and changes within the system, maintaining logs and carrying out periodic system audits;

iv. shall guarantee and be responsible for the security and integrity of data and for the technical aspects related to their storage, as well as preventing any unauthorized access or loss of data;

v. shall ensure compliance with security, marking and traceability requirements in accordance with the deadlines and provisions established by the applicable legal framework;

vi. shall provide uninterrupted service to system users and the Agency, as well as immediate intervention to resolve issues;

vii. shall provide, free of charge, initial and periodic training for entities and the Agency regarding the marking method, use and operation of the system, as well as any updates performed;

viii. shall provide remote and on-site technical assistance services from 08:00 to 18:00. Assistance outside this timeframe shall be provided for critical cases, in accordance with the provisions of the technical manual of the system;

ix. shall not modify or delete any data without the prior approval of the Agency;

x. shall provide reading devices for entities and the Agency, which must be technically compatible with the system and, in the event of defects, shall replace them within two (2) working days. Where replacement is required due to defects caused by negligence of the entity, the entity shall bear the cost of the new device. For the Agency, the devices, maintenance and replacement thereof shall be provided free of charge by “*ALBTrace CO*” JSC, ensuring their availability for no fewer than six (6) monitoring groups;

xi. shall create system access credentials for the Agency and entities, in accordance with the procedures established in Chapter IV of this decision;

xii. shall ensure real-time data exchange between the system and the Register and vice versa, guaranteeing bilateral synchronization of information;

xiii. upon request by the Agency, shall create reporting modules enabling their automatic and direct generation from the system;

xiv. shall prepare the technical manual of the system in accordance with the applicable legal framework and submit it to the Agency for approval;

xv. upon request by the Agency, shall provide readers compatible with technologies enabling simultaneous reading and deduplication of multiple labels at the same time, whether in open, protected, or closed environments, using technological means provided by the Agency according to its needs.

ç) The system shall ensure:

i. the registration and tracking of marked material, as well as access through mobile applications and API interfaces;

ii. the real-time reflection in the Register of the data administered by it;

iii. the registration and storage of RFID_EPC and RFID_TID identifiers for each label and their connection with the respective NUI;

iv. the storage of auditable and unmodifiable logs, access based on authorized roles, and the retention of all data in accordance with the applicable legal framework and the procedures detailed in the technical manual of the system;

v. automatic notification functionalities for “*ALBTrace CO*” JSC, and the Agency, identifying non-compliance with the applicable legal framework, upon request of the Agency;

vi. that data and records relating to user actions within the system shall be retained for audit purposes throughout the validity period of the license or authorization, including renewals, and for up to twenty (20) years after the termination of such license, authorization, or renewal;

vii. the automatic generation of reports and statistics according to formats requested by the Agency;

viii. the reporting and flagging of discrepancies and inventory status, as well as the real-time and automated exchange of data with the registry or other specific platforms, systems, or programs approved by the Agency.

7. The processing and exchange of personal data for purposes other than those established in this decision, as well as the processing of categories of data that are not necessary for the performance of the legal functions of the Agency and “*ALBTrace CO*” JSC, shall be prohibited.

8. The system shall contain the following categories of personal data:

a) General identification details of the representative of the entity;

b) Identification data of employees of the entities;

c) Identification data of authorized users of the system;

ç) General identification details of the driver of the vehicle transporting the products;

d) General identification details of the person signing for receipt of the transported material.

9. The company “*ALBTrace CO*” JSC, in its capacity as the technical administrator of the system, shall take the necessary technical and organizational measures to ensure the security, integrity and confidentiality of personal data, in accordance with the legislation on personal data protection.

10. The cybersecurity of the system shall be ensured in accordance with the provisions of Law No. 25/2024, “On Cybersecurity.”

11. The processing and protection of personal data shall be carried out in accordance with Law No. 124/2024, “On Personal Data Protection.”

12. In the event of force majeure, cessation of activity, bankruptcy, or the creation of conflict-of-interest situations that prevent the exercise of functions under this decision or Law No. 61/2023, the company “*ALBTrace CO*” JSC, shall be obliged to immediately notify the Agency in writing and fully cooperate to ensure, within ten (10) working days from the occurrence of such situation, the transfer of all data and documentation contained in the system. During the period in which such situation exists, “*ALBTrace CO*” JSC, shall be obliged to ensure continuity of service for as long as determined by the Agency and meanwhile enable full access, transfer of logs and backups to any new party designated by the competent authorities. In all cases of legally established conflicts of interest, the Agency shall have full authority to order the handover or transfer of the system, data, technical documentation and equipment related to the operation of the system.

13. The system access level typologies are defined as follows:

a) The technical administrator of the system shall be responsible for the technical and security aspects of the system and shall not have rights to register or modify data, except for cases involving the generation of non-activated NUIs by the system following an order placed, as well as cases necessary for platform configuration, network configuration, or other system-related interventions where authorization has been granted by the Agency;

b) The data administrator shall be responsible for the creation and administration of all users, supervision and the generation of reports and statistics. The administrator shall also have all rights assigned to other levels, including those of registrar and viewer;

c) The registrar shall be responsible for entering data and documentation and shall be accountable for the accuracy of the data entered. The registrar shall have the right to view existing data and generate analyses, statistics and reports from the system regarding the data accessible to them. The registrar may modify or delete incorrectly entered data, providing the relevant reasons, within twenty-four (24) hours from the time of entry. After this deadline, modification may only be carried out by the data administrator upon the request of the registrar. Failure to report errors within this timeframe shall be considered a violation by the entity;

ç) The viewer shall have access solely for reading data, without the right to intervene, generate reports, or modify data.

14. Access to the system shall be carried out through predefined user roles with differentiated access levels, in accordance with users’ functional responsibilities.

15. Data obtained from the Register may be viewed but may not be modified or deleted by users, system administrators, or data administrators.

16. System audit:

a) The traceability system shall be subject to periodic independent audits conducted by licensed information technology audit entities, other than “*ALBTrace CO*” JSC, and any other party having

a conflict of interest. Audits shall be conducted at least once a year, according to a plan approved by the Agency;

b) Audit reports shall be submitted to the Agency.

17. In the event of a change of the authorized authority responsible for marking and traceability, “ALBTrace CO” JSC, shall be obliged to transfer all system data, including logs and backups, to the new authority within ten (10) working days from the date of termination of the contract or receipt of official notification, providing all evidence regarding the integrity of logs and backups, accompanied by a transfer record signed by both parties, in accordance with international data security standards.

III. RULES FOR ELEMENTS AND MARKING LABELS

1. Marking shall be carried out through a label containing the elements specified in this decision and affixed to the marked material, in accordance with the rules established in the technical manual of the system.

2. The NUI shall be the basic element linking the barcode/QR code placed on the label with the relevant data in the system, enabling the label to reflect, in real time, complete information relating to the marked material recorded in the system.

3. The label:

a) shall serve for the unique identification and tracking of the marked material to which it is affixed, from its origin through to the final stage of export, confiscation, or destruction;

b) shall be unique, non-replicable, shall not be removable without being destroyed and shall not be capable of being reattached after removal;

c) shall enable reading without a direct line of sight and the retrieval of data through the integrated barcode/QR code and RFID technology. The label shall enable:

i. selective manual reading (a single label) by an employee;

ii. automated bulk reading of labels within a working area by authorized reading devices;

iii. RFID reading by unmanned aerial platforms at an appropriate distance for covering large areas;

ç) shall be electronically linked to preceding and subsequent labels through the NUI;

d) shall be constructed as follows:

i. In cases involving the marking of clones, seedlings, mother plants, and mature plants, it shall consist of two (2) elements: the label and the connecting band;

ii. In cases involving the marking of packages, packaged materials, and containers, it shall be affixed to the packaging and shall consist of two (2) parts, each bearing the same barcode/QR code, one of which shall be detachable;

dh) shall be customized with a distinguishable color according to the cultivation purpose:

i. medical;

ii. industrial for flower production;

iii. industrial for seed/fiber production;

e) shall be readable and appropriately sized according to the form and type of marked material, as determined in the technical manual of the system;

ë) shall meet the following technical characteristics:

i. It shall be made of durable material resistant to water/moisture, heat, and UV radiation, while maintaining the readability and integrity of marking elements under all environmental conditions;

ii. It shall contain anti-counterfeiting security features;

iii. It shall ensure compliance with applicable international standards and mandatory standards for implementation by the European Union;

f) In the system, the label may have the following status:

i. inactive;

ii. activated;

iii. deactivated.

4. The label shall contain the following visible and readable data:

a) Name of the entity;

b) The label order number;

c) License/authorization number;

ç) Location (administrative unit, city, and district of the production unit);

d) Barcode/QR code;

dh) NUI;

e) Cultivation purpose;

ë) Logo of the company “*ALBTrace CO*” JSC

5. The label shall enable real-time access, through the reading of the barcode and QR code, to data relating to the marked material to which it is affixed and which are recorded in the system, as follows:

a) General information, including the label, the type of marked material, the current stage of the material, and the subject's particulars;

b) Import stage data, including quantity, batch number, date, and expiry date;

c) Cultivation process data, including the vegetative stage and harvesting (reflecting the process date, additives used, batch numbers, quantities obtained, and waste generated);

ç) Processing process data, including quantities obtained and waste generated, chemicals used, date, and type of processing;

d) Packaging process data, including packaging date, type of packaging, quantity and weight of packaged products/by-products, and expiry date;

dh) Confiscation process data;

e) Destruction process data, including the number and date of the destruction confirmation document issued by the Agency, THC content of the material to be destroyed, date and time of destruction, quantity, and weight of the destroyed material;

ë) Export stage data, including the number and date of the export authorization, the customs exit point from the territory of Albania, date and time of arrival at the customs point, and destination;

f) Transfer data, including the transport document containing all data relating to the movements from which such document is generated.

6. The entity shall be obliged to use only labels equipped with security and identification elements, produced and issued by the company “ALBTrace CO” JSC.

7. The use of labels issued for another entity, different from the entity for which such labels were produced, shall be prohibited.

IV. PROCEDURE AND METHOD FOR MARKING AND TRACEABILITY

1. The entity shall be granted the right of access to and use of the system, which shall be exercised in accordance with the rules established by the applicable legislation and the rules provided for in the technical manual of the system.

2. The following procedures shall apply for granting the right of access to and use of the system:

a) The entity shall submit a request for the creation of employee accounts, according to the roles assigned for each stage or process, who shall represent the entity in relation to the actions to be performed within the system;

b) The Agency shall review the request within two (2) working days and shall forward, through the Register, to the company “ALBTrace CO” JSC, the notification approving the request and the creation of credentials for the entity;

c) The company “ALBTrace CO” JSC shall activate access to the system according to the applicable access category within twenty-four (24) hours and shall provide the entity with the relevant credentials through the email address specified by the entity in its request.

3. The use of the system by employees of the entity shall be limited solely to the stage/process or actions for which they are authorized.

4. The entity shall be responsible for every action performed within the system by its authorized employees.

5. After being provided with system access credentials, the entity shall request the provision of labels.

6. After assessing the entity’s request, the Agency shall approve or reject the request for provision of labels within two (2) working days from the date of receipt and shall notify “ALBTrace CO” JSC of the approval of the request.

7. The company “ALBTrace CO” JSC shall issue the relevant invoice for the order placed and shall deliver the labels to the entity no later than two (2) working days following payment of the invoice.

8. The entity shall have the right to order reserve labels for each type of label. Reserve labels shall be kept by the entity in an inactive status, in a secure location within the production unit, and may only be used following approval by the Agency and their activation in the system, in accordance with the rules established by this decision.

9. The company “ALBTrace CO” JSC shall generate NUIs with the status “inactive”, print the relevant labels, and deliver the labels through one of the following methods:

a) By handing them over to an authorized representative of the entity who appears at the offices of “ALBTrace CO” JSC

b) By sending them to the entity through a postal service provider authorized for this purpose by the Electronic and Postal Communications Authority (AKEP).

10. The label shall be integrated into the system and shall enable each reading operation to be verified against the label status and its validity policies.

11. Upon receipt of the labels, the entity shall affix them to the material to be marked and shall activate them in the system immediately after application. Labels that have not been activated shall be considered reserve labels and shall be recorded with this status in the system.

12. The method of applying the label shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the technical manual of the system.

13. In the event of loss, theft, damage, or identification of defective labels, the entity or “ALBTrace CO” JSC, shall immediately notify the Agency, specifying the NUI of each label, RFID_EPC and RFID_TID where available, and shall change the status in the system to “deactivated”.

a) If a lost label is found by the entity, the entity shall immediately notify “ALBTrace CO” JSC and the Agency. In such case, the lost label shall be returned to “ALBTrace CO” JSC, no later than two (2) working days from the date of discovery. Transportation costs shall be borne by the entity.

b) In the event of identification of damaged or defective labels, the entity shall return them to “ALBTrace CO” JSC, no later than two (2) working days from notification. The return shall be carried out in the same manner as delivery. “ALBTrace CO” JSC, shall replace, free of charge, the quantity of labels where the damage or defect is attributable to “ALBTrace CO” JSC, Transportation costs in such cases shall be borne by “ALBTrace CO” JSC. Where the fault lies with the entity, the entity shall bear the cost of the replacement labels. For each replacement, the link between the previous EPC/TID and the new EPC/TID shall be recorded, together with the reason for the change.

14. The system immediately signals when it detects readings of tags with a “deactivated” status, as well as any discrepancy between the RFID_EPC, RFID_TID, and NUI/barcode/QR code for the same tagged item.

15. In cases where a new label is affixed, the system shall record the link between the new NUI and the preceding NUI, as well as the reason for the placement of the new label.

16. Upon completion of each stage, as well as after each process that changes cultivation conditions, the entity shall record in the system the relevant status of the marked material and the corresponding changes. Where a new label is affixed, the label from the preceding stage shall be immediately deactivated by the entity.

17. The procedure for applying labels for the purpose of continuous and uninterrupted traceability throughout the stages, as well as updating the status in the system, shall be carried out by the entity according to the following rules:

a) During the import process, a label shall be applied depending on the type of imported product, and the status and data related to the label shall be updated in the system:

- i.** For seeds, the label shall be placed on the packaging that is in direct contact with the seeds;

- ii. Each seedling, mother plant, and clone shall be assigned a separate identification label;
- iii. For clones, the label shall be placed in the growing medium, ensuring identification from the early growth stage;
- iv. For mother plants and seedlings, the label shall be attached to the last branching point of the main stem, at the base of the plant, avoiding contact with the growing medium.

b) During the cultivation phases, the status and data related to the label shall be updated in the system. The method of applying the label to marked materials shall be carried out as follows:

i. During planting and propagation:

i.1. For planted seeds, the entity shall place one label on the growing medium intended for the cultivation of a maximum number of 100 (one hundred) plants, with the NUI linked to that of the imported seed package. The label shall accompany this lot until the germination stage and transition into seedlings. Each new plant shall be provided with an individual label placed in the growing medium, which shall be linked to the NUI of the label of the preceding cultivation lot;

i.2. When imported clones and seedlings are transferred to the cultivation area, they shall be provided with an individual label. In the case of clones, the label shall be placed in the growing medium. In the case of seedlings, the label shall be placed on the plant stem. The clone or seedling label shall be linked to the imported lot label;

i.3. If a clone obtained from a cultivated mother plant is used to create clones through vegetative propagation within the production unit, the entity shall apply an individual label placed in the growing medium, whose NUI shall be linked to the NUI of the mother plant label;

ii. During the intensive growth stage of the plant (vegetative phase), once the germinated or imported clone or seedling reaches a height exceeding 20 cm, the label shall be attached to the last branching point of the main stem at the base of each plant, avoiding contact with the growing medium in order to support the weight of the label. The label shall be positioned so that it remains clearly visible, free from dirt and residues, and readable always by reading devices. This label shall remain with the plant until harvesting, destruction, or confiscation, without being removed or relocated. The entity shall update the plant status in the system, including the location of the plant within the production unit;

iii. In the case of medical *cannabis* and industrial *cannabis* intended for flower production, the entity shall update the status in the system upon the beginning of flowering;

iv. In the case of industrial *cannabis* intended for seed production, the entity shall update the status in the system upon the beginning of seed formation;

v. When plants are harvested, the entity shall apply a new label for the harvested lot, whose NUI shall be linked in the system to the NUIs of the harvested plants.

c) During the processing phase, the status and data related to the lot label shall be updated in the system. When waste intended for destruction is generated from cleaning and processing, it shall be labelled with a label whose NUI is linked to the NUI of the marked material from which it originates, as follows:

i. If the material is medical *cannabis* or industrial *cannabis* intended for flower production, after harvesting, the harvested plants shall be placed in drying rooms and the status change shall

be recorded in the system. After drying, the material shall be cleaned, processed, and separated into dried flowers and waste for destruction, where each lot shall receive a new label linked to the preceding NUI and shall be recorded in the system with its respective weight, specifying the status and destination (further processing, testing, storage, or destruction);

ii. If the material is industrial *cannabis* intended for fiber production, it shall undergo cleaning and separation before drying, being divided into material for processing and waste for destruction. Each lot shall receive a new label linked to the preceding NUI and shall be recorded in the system with its respective weight, specifying the status and destination (further processing, testing, storage, or destruction). After cleaning and separation from other parts, if the plant stem undergoes a processing procedure, the new status shall be updated in the system;

iii. If the material is industrial *cannabis* intended for seed production, it shall undergo cleaning and separation after drying, being divided into seeds and waste for destruction. Each lot shall receive a new label linked to the NUI of the preceding material. Each lot shall be recorded in the system with its respective weight, specifying the current status and destination (further processing, testing, storage, or destruction);

iv. Processed materials shall enter production processes as lots equipped with existing labels, for which the status and data in the system shall be updated when no separation, merging, or transformation occurs. Any process resulting in the separation, merging, or transformation of material shall be recorded in the system as a new lot with the relevant status, equipped with an NUI linked to the NUI of the preceding lot(s).

ç) During storage and internal transport phases, if there is no change in quantity or form, no new label shall be generated and only the status and data in the system shall be updated, including the location of the marked material. Any action/process resulting in the separation or merging of material shall be recorded in the system as a new lot with the relevant label.

d) During the destruction phase, the following procedure shall be followed:

- i. The entity shall identify the materials intended for destruction and, after receiving approval from the Agency, update the status and data related to the label in the system;
- ii. Transportation of materials intended for destruction to the relevant destination (landfill or incinerator) shall be carried out according to the provisions of point “e” of this section;
- iii. The label shall be destroyed together with the marked material and deactivated in the system immediately after destruction, thereby closing the traceability cycle.

dh) During the confiscation phase of marked materials, the status and data related to the label shall be updated in the system, following the procedure below:

- i. The Agency shall record in the system the new status of the confiscated material (if such material is registered in the system), the number and date of the confiscation order, as well as the description of the material and its current condition;
- ii. For confiscated materials intended for destruction, the procedure established under point “d” shall be followed.

e) For material to be transported, after obtaining authorization from the Agency, the entity shall change the status in the system and complete the transport document.

ë) For material to be exported, after obtaining authorization, the entity shall update the data related to the label in the system.

18. The procedure for the destruction of damaged labels (physically or functionally) shall be as follows:

a) For the quantity of labels requiring physical destruction, the entity shall submit a request to the Agency, specifying the relevant reasons for the request. The request shall be accompanied by photographs or video footage;

b) The Agency shall review the entity's request for the destruction of labels and, within 5 (five) working days from the date of receipt, approve or reject the request, notifying the entity accordingly. If the request is approved, the Agency shall notify "*ALBTrace CO*" JSC. The entity shall arrange delivery to "*ALBTrace CO*" JSC, within 2 (two) working days from receipt of confirmation from the Agency for the labels approved for destruction. The delivery of labels shall be carried out according to the methods defined in point 9 of this chapter;

c) "*ALBTrace CO*" JSC shall carry out the destruction procedure, document it through an official record, which shall be uploaded to the register, and notify the Agency upon completion of the process. Deactivated labels shall be retained in the system with this status, including the reason for destruction. This process shall be completed within 2 (two) working days from receipt of the labels for destruction.

19. Entities shall be responsible for entering all data into the system, in accordance with Law No. 61/2023 and applicable secondary legislation, as well as the provisions of this decision. Failure to enter data in a timely manner and/or failure to ensure that such data corresponds to the actual situation shall constitute a violation by the entity. Where the Agency determines that data entered or modified by the entity are inaccurate, it shall record such findings through the relevant official record, which shall be uploaded to the register. The system shall enable correction of the relevant data subject to authorization by the Agency.

20. All processes, identification devices, labels (barcode, QR code, RFID), data systems, as well as information security and data retention procedures of the system shall be implemented and verified in full compliance with applicable international standards and any mandatory European Union standards in the fields of identification, security, encryption, and traceability. Devices, applications, and processes must be certified, or their compliance with these standards must be verifiable prior to implementation and during system operation.

V. FINAL PROVISIONS

1. Additional data in the system, beyond those defined in this decision, shall be implemented by the responsible authority authorized for marking and traceability, based on a justified request from the responsible entities, and following approval by the Agency of the request and the method of implementation. The financial costs for implementing the requested changes shall be borne by the budget of the requesting entity, except where such changes are carried out within the framework of participation in national or international projects.

2. The company "*ALBTrace CO*" JSC shall undertake all necessary steps for the finalization and approval of the technical manual of the system.

3. Decision No. 393, dated 10.7.2025, of the Council of Ministers, “On determining the authorized authority for the implementation of marking and traceability”, is repealed.

4. The company “*ALBTrace CO*” JSC the National *Cannabis* Control Agency, as well as licensed and authorized entities, are charged with the implementation of this decision.

This decision shall enter into force upon publication in the Official Gazette.

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER

Albana Koçiu