

## Unofficial Translation

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**No:** 18454353-100.04.02[100.04.02]-44528

**Subject:** Announcement on Sales of Standard Silver in Granule Form

## To Whom It May Concern

As it is known, under subparagraph (j) of Article 2 titled “Definitions” of Decree No. 32 on the Protection of the Value of Turkish Currency, precious metals are defined as “gold, silver, platinum and palladium in any type and form,” and under subparagraph (iv) of the said provision, standard unprocessed silver is defined as “silver in bar, ingot or granule form with a minimum purity of 99.9%, the specifications of which are determined by the Ministry.”

Article 7 of the aforementioned Decree regulates the procedures and principles regarding the domestic trading, import into Türkiye, and export from Türkiye of precious metals, stones and goods of value. In subparagraph (a) of the fourth paragraph of Article 7, it is stipulated that: “Within the country, only standard unprocessed precious metals produced by the Mint, by refineries authorized by the Ministry, or by refineries resident abroad included in the Refineries List published by Borsa İstanbul A.Ş. may be traded.” Furthermore, subparagraph (b) of the same paragraph stipulates that: “Without prejudice to the provisions of their own legislation, standard unprocessed precious metals and minted precious metals may only be traded domestically by banks, refineries authorized by the Ministry, precious metals intermediary institutions and currency offices, as well as by jewelry enterprises defined in the Regulation on Jewelry Trade published in the Official Gazette dated 14/04/2021 and numbered 31454 and authorized by the Ministry of Trade under the said Regulation.”

On the other hand, subparagraph (e) of the fourth paragraph of Article 7 of the Decree provides that: “Persons resident in Türkiye are free to purchase standard unprocessed precious metals produced by refineries authorized by the Ministry, by refineries resident abroad included in the Refineries List published by Borsa İstanbul A.Ş., or by the Mint, from banks, refineries authorized by the Ministry, precious metals intermediary institutions, currency offices, and jewelry enterprises authorized by the Ministry of Trade, and to sell such metals to these entities.”

Pursuant to subparagraph (ç) of the seventh paragraph of Article 7 of the Decree, the Ministry is authorized to determine the characteristics of unprocessed precious metals that may be traded domestically, to define exceptions regarding the domestic trading of unprocessed and minted precious metals, and to take the measures it deems necessary.

Additionally, with the Communiqué on Precious Metal Standards and Refineries (Communiqué No: 2023/1), published in the Official Gazette dated 23.02.2023 and numbered 32113 and entered into force on the date of its publication, the standards of precious metals, the principles regarding the establishment, operation, supervision and inspection of precious metal refineries, as well as the standards of precious metals traded at Borsa İstanbul and the principles relating to refineries whose products are traded at Borsa İstanbul are regulated.

Under subparagraph (f) of the first paragraph of Article 3 titled “Definitions” of the said Communiqué, granules are defined as “very small spheres composed of gold, silver, platinum or palladium,” and under subparagraph (m) of the same paragraph, standard unprocessed precious metals are defined as gold, platinum and palladium in the form of unprocessed bars or ingots, and silver in bar, ingot or granule form, provided that they meet the minimum fineness specified in Article 4 of the Communiqué.

Moreover, under the first paragraph of Article 4 of the Communiqué, it is stipulated that the minimum fineness of standard unprocessed silver to be produced by refineries must be at least 99.9/100. Under the fourth paragraph of the same Article, it is stated that: “Granul silver produced by refineries must be in granule bags and sealed; the bag must bear the fineness, weight (excluding the bag weight), refinery name or emblem, one of the expressions ‘Granül Gümüş’ or ‘Silver Granules,’ and the production date. The production date may be indicated on the seal or on a separate label.”

Within this framework, based on notifications submitted by the Ministry of Treasury and Finance (Ministry) and the examination of advertisements and publications made on the internet, it has been understood that granul silver is being sold in a manner not compliant with the above-mentioned legislation, for example in small transparent pouches or plastic jars. Necessary actions are being taken by the Ministry regarding transactions that constitute violations of the foreign exchange legislation.

Accordingly, only standard unprocessed silver in granule form produced by refineries authorized by the Ministry to conduct silver refining activities, by resident legal entities in Türkiye stated in the current announcements published on the Ministry’s website as having applied for a refinery activity license under provisional Article 1 of the Communiqué and whose unprocessed and minted precious metals are indicated as eligible for trading, by refineries resident abroad included in the Refineries List published by Borsa İstanbul A.Ş., or by the Mint may be subject to trading.

Standard unprocessed silver in granule form offered for sale must be in granule bags and sealed, and the bag must include the fineness, weight (excluding bag weight), refinery name or emblem, one of the expressions “Granül Gümüş” or “Silver Granules,” and the production date; and granulated silver not meeting these conditions may not be traded.

In the event that transactions are carried out in violation of these provisions, legal action will be initiated by the Ministry within the scope of Law No. 1567 on the Protection of the Value of Turkish Currency.

Kindly submitted to your information.

Yours Sincerely,

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General Manager  
Board Of Director Member