

FRENCH REPUBLIC

Ministry of Health, Families, Autonomy
and Persons with Disabilities

Order of XXX amending the Order of 20 December 2018 adopted pursuant to Articles R. 22213-25 and R. 2213-25-1 of the French General Code of Local and Regional Authorities, defining the characteristics applicable to coffins and setting out the procedures for verifying those characteristics

NOR:

The Minister for Labour, Health, Solidarity and Families, and the Minister for Ecological Transition, Biodiversity, the Sea and Fisheries,

Having regard to Directive (EU) 2015/1535 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 December 2015 laying down a procedure for the provision of information in the field of technical regulations and of rules on Information Society services;

Having regard to the French General Code of Local and Regional Authorities, in particular Articles R. 2213-25 and R. 2213-25-1;

Having regard to the Order of 20 December 2018 adopted pursuant to Articles R. 22213-25 and R. 2213-25-1 of the French General Code of Local and Regional Authorities, defining the characteristics applicable to coffins and laying down the procedures for verifying those characteristics;

Having regard to the opinion of the National Council for Funeral Services dated 26 November 2025;

Having regard to the opinion of the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety, dated 16 December 2025;

Having regard to notification no. XXX addressed to the European Commission on XXX;

Hereby order:

Article 1

In the sixth subparagraph of Article 3 of the above-mentioned Order of 20 December 2018, the words: 'September 2008.' are replaced by the words: 'DATE To be updated when the standard is published'.

Article 2

Annex 4 of the document: 'Annexes' to the same Order shall be replaced by Annex 4 worded as follows:

'Annex 4. - COMBUSTIBILITY CHARACTERISTICS

The combustibility tests shall be carried out in a crematorium authorised by the State representative in the department in accordance with Article L. 2223-23 of the French General Code of Local and Regional Authorities. The authorisation issued by the State representative in the department

establishes a presumption that the cremation equipment complies with the requirements of Article D. 2223-102 of that Code.

1. Flammability

No material composing the coffin shall ignite during its placement and introduction into the cremation apparatus until the door of the cremation apparatus is closed.

2. Ash content

The total volume of ashes and any unburned material from the bare coffin intended for cremation must not exceed 0.6 litres. If this requirement cannot be met, the total mass of ash and any unburned material from the bare coffin must not exceed 2% of the mass of the bare coffin.

3. Ash quality

The materials must not produce fly ash that cannot be recovered after cremation.

4. Assembly hardware

The total mass of the crate hardware and lid shall not exceed 750 grams. The total dimensions of each piece of hardware must be less than 200 mm in order to be compatible with the technical post-cremation crushing and ash recovery constraints. Hardware must be capable of being sorted magnetically or must be combustible. '

Article 3

This Order will be published in the Official Journal of the French Republic.

For and on behalf of the Minister and by delegation,
The Director-General for Risk Prevention,
Cédric Bourillet

For and on behalf of the Minister and by delegation,
The Director-General for Health,
Prof. Didier Lepelletier