

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: June 11,2020

Report Number: RS2020-0029

Report Name: Draft Amendments to Veterinary Regulations Notified to WTO

Country: Russian Federation

Post: Moscow

Report Category: WTO Notifications, Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety, FAIRS Subject Report

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Report Highlights:

On May 26, 2020, Russia notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) of draft amendments to the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) regulation on veterinary control at the border and inside the EAEU via G/SPS/N/RUS/192. The draft measure, initiated by the Russian veterinary watchdog, would introduce a risk-based approach already implemented in Russia, into the EAEU Regulation. The public comment period for the draft will close on July 25, 2020. Interested U.S. parties are encouraged to share their comments and/or concerns with USDA's enquiry point (us.spsenquiry@fas.usda.gov). For potential inclusion in the U.S. official position, please send your comments by July 10, 2020.

General Information

The Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC), which is the regulatory body of the Armenia-Belarus-Kazakhstan-Kyrgyzstan-Russia Eurasian Economic Union¹ (EAEU), published the following draft document on its website:

- [On Amending the Regulation on the Unified Procedure of Veterinary Control \(Surveillance\) at the Customs Border of the Eurasian Economic Union and in the Customs Territory of the Eurasian Economic Union](#)

On May 26, 2020, Russia notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) of the draft document via [G/SPS/N/RUS/192](#). The public comment period for the draft will close on July 25, 2020. Interested U.S. parties are encouraged to share their comments and/or concerns with USDA's enquiry point (us.spsenquirypoint@fas.usda.gov). For potential inclusion in the U.S. official position, please send your comments by July 10, 2020.

According to the EEC, the measure was initiated by the Russian Federal Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance Service (VPSS) which shared its experience with using a risk-based approach for veterinary control and proposed introducing a similar approach in the EAEU regulations. Thus, the proposed measure introduces the notion of a risk-based approach into the EAEU Regulation on Veterinary Control.

An unofficial English translation of the proposed amendments can be found below. The current version of the EAEU Regulation on Veterinary Control is available here [in Russian](#) and [translated into English](#) via automated translation.

¹ For details, please see 2016 GAIN report [RS1611 Eurasian Economic Union One Year On](#).

BEGIN UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION:

**EURASIAN ECONOMIC COMMISSION
COUNCIL**

DECISION

_____ 20____ No. _____ city

On Amending the Regulation on the Unified Procedure of Veterinary Control (Surveillance) at the Customs Border of the Eurasian Economic Union and in the Customs Territory of the Eurasian Economic Union

In accordance with paragraph 9 of the Protocol on the Application of Sanitary, Veterinary and Sanitary and Quarantine Phytosanitary Measures (Annex No. 12 to the Treaty on the Eurasian Economic Union of May 29, 2014) and paragraph 49 of Annex No. 1 to the Rules of Procedure of the Eurasian Economic Commission approved by Decision of the Supreme Eurasian Economic Council No. 98 of December 23, 2014, the Council of the Eurasian Economic Commission **has resolved:**

1. To amend the Regulation on the Unified Procedure of Veterinary Control (Surveillance) at the Customs Border of the Eurasian Economic Union and in the Customs Territory of the Eurasian Economic Union approved by Decision of the Customs Union Commission No. 317 of June 18, 2010, in accordance with the attachment.

2. The present Decision shall come into effect after 180 calendar days from its official publication.

Members of the Council of the Eurasian Economic Commission:

From the Republic of Armenia	From the Republic of Belarus	From the Republic of Kazakhstan	From the Kyrgyz Republic	From the Russian Federation
M. Grigoryan	I. Petrishenko	A. Smailov	E. Asrandiev	A. Overchuk

ATTACHMENT
to Decision of the Council
of the Eurasian Economic Commission
No. _____ dated _____ 20__

AMENDMENTS

to the Regulation on the Unified Procedure of Veterinary Control (Surveillance) at the Customs Border of the Eurasian Economic Union and in the Customs Territory of the Eurasian Economic Union

1. Section I shall be supplemented with item 1.5. as follows:

“1.5. Control (supervision) specified in item 1.2. of the Regulation may be carried out using a risk-based approach. The application of a risk-based approach to the organization and implementation of the state veterinary control (supervision) is carried out in accordance with the national legislation of the Member States.

In the absence of a risk-based approach in the national legislation of the Member States, the unified requirements of the Regulation shall apply.”

2. Paragraph 2.1. shall be supplemented with sub-item 2.1.14. as follows:

“2.1.14. “Risk-based approach” - the procedure for organizing and implementing state control (supervision), in which the choice of intensity (form, duration, frequency) of control measures, measures to prevent violations of the unified veterinary requirements is determined by the classification of the controlled goods as a specific risk category or a specific hazard class (category).”

3. Item 3.6. shall read as follows:

“3.6. Border veterinary control point (PKVP) officials at checkpoints across the customs border of the Union shall carry out veterinary control (supervision) when importing controlled goods regardless of the Member State of destination, including using a risk-based approach, if this approach is provided for by the national legislation of the Member State.

In the absence of a risk-based approach in the national legislation of the Member States, the unified requirements of the Regulation shall apply.”

4. Item 6.1. shall be supplemented as follows:

When importing controlled goods into the customs territory of the Union, which, in accordance with the Unified Veterinary Requirements, must be accompanied by veterinary certificates, in agreement with the competent authority of the exporting country, a mechanism for prior notification of an issued veterinary certificate for relevant cargo, in the form according to Annex No. 8a may be applied. Prior notification is sent by the competent authority of the exporting country to the authorized bodies of the Member States by e-mail, by filling out an appropriate web form or otherwise as agreed between the competent authority of the exporting country and the authorized body of the Member State. In case of importation of controlled goods accompanied by a veterinary certificate issued in electronic form by the competent authority of the exporting country, no prior notification mechanism is used.”

5. The first paragraph of item 6.5. shall read as follows:

“6.5. Upon completion of documentary control, an inspection (examination) of controlled goods is carried out using a risk-based approach, if this approach is provided for by the national legislation of a Member State. In other cases, when the risk-based approach is not provided for by the national legislation of the Member States, the inspection of controlled goods moved through the checkpoint is carried out: not more often than one batch of controlled goods (products) subject to inspection from ten lots of meat or fish, and from twenty lots of other controlled goods for a single country, and when

animals are imported, inspection is carried out for each batch. In this case, the identification numbers of animals (tattoos, chips, ear tags, ear marks, etc.) are verified with those indicated in the veterinary certificate.”

6. Item 6.10. shall read as follows:

“6.10. Controlled goods after the completion of control at the checkpoints are sent to the destination (delivery), where veterinary control of the controlled goods is carried out using a risk-based approach, if this approach is provided for by the national legislation of the Member State. In other cases, when the risk-based approach is not provided for by the national legislation of the Member States, veterinary control is carried out with a full examination of the controlled goods. After the veterinary control is completed, the veterinary certificate of the exporting country is replaced with the veterinary certificate of the Union and the accompanying documents are stamped in the form according to Annex No. 3: “Release is permitted” or “Release is prohibited.”

7. Supplement with Appendix No. 8a as follows:

“Appendix No. 8a

Preliminary notification on the issuance of veterinary certificates for controlled goods supplied to the territory of the Eurasian Economic Union

No.	veterinary certificate No.	No. and name of producer of controlled goods	Name of consignee in the Eurasian Economic Union	Means of transport	Seal No.	Type of products	Net weight (tons)	Address of consignor (loading of goods)	Address of consignee (unloading of goods)

”

END UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION.

Attachments:

No Attachments.