



24 April 2024

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

Addendum

The following communication, received on 23 April 2024, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of the United Kingdom.

United Kingdom Border Target Operating Model – Implementation of the April Milestone

In August 2023, the United Kingdom (UK) notified the WTO SPS Committee of the publication of the final version of the [Border Target Operating Model \(BTOM\)](#) [G/SPS/N/GBR/30/Add.2] that set out the new Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) regime for Great Britain (GB). The measures contained in the BTOM apply to imports of live animals, germinal products, animal products, plants and plant products and high-risk food of non-animal origin into Great Britain and set out the timeline for implementation from January 2024 onwards.

As set out in the BTOM, the UK government will be implementing legislation in two Statutory Instruments (SIs) to deliver the second stage of the BTOM from 30 April 2024. Full details of the legislation can be found via the following links: [The Official Controls \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2024](#); and [The Official Controls \(Extension of Transitional Periods\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2024](#).

- Documentary, physical and identity checks are being introduced for medium and high-risk animal products imported into Great Britain from the European Union (EU) and European Free Trade Agreement (EFTA) countries (excluding those goods being imported from Ireland). The frequency of identity and physical checks on animal products will be aligned with the new global risk-categorisation model as outlined in the BTOM.
- For plants and plant products, physical and identity checks of goods from the European Union, Switzerland and Liechtenstein move to Border Control Posts (BCPs) and Control Points (CPs). Medium and high-risk plants and plant products from the European Union must come through a point of entry with the relevant BCP (list of relevant BCPs are [here](#)). Inspections of high-risk plants/plant products from the European Union will move from Points of Destination (PoDs) to BCPs and CPs.
- The simplification of some import requirements from non-EU countries will also commence. This will include the removal of routine checks on low-risk animal products, plants, plant products from EU and non-EU countries; the reduction in physical and identity check levels on medium-risk animal products from non-EU countries; the removal of the default deep freezing condition for meat preparations from legislation, enabling this to be managed by health certification from 30 April 2024: [Import food and drink from the EU to Great Britain - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#). The list of re-categorised plants and plant products from third countries can be found [here](#).^[1]
- For a three-month period from 30 April 2024, a temporary easement will enable the full requirements of a documentary check to be satisfied when a scanned copy of an original Export Health Certificate (EHC) or Phytosanitary certificate (PC) is provided in an importer's prenotification. Where a scanned copy is provided, the original EHC or PC should be provided to competent authorities within five (EHC) or three (PC) business days of a consignment's arrival. The temporary easement will only apply to EHCs for animal products and by products from the

European Union – and to PCs for plants and plant products from the European Union, Liechtenstein, and Switzerland. Noting the easement's time limited nature, importers should continue to adopt fully digitised certification as soon as possible to reduce the requirement to undergo in person documentary checks at the border, following the easement's expiry.

^[1] Part A of Annex 11 lists high- and medium-risk plant goods posing a known threat, that require a phytosanitary certificate and are subject to 100% checks on import (except where reduced checks are applied). Part B of Annex 11 lists those medium-risk goods that require a phytosanitary certificate, as they pose a potential threat, but with insufficient evidence currently to categorise in Part A or Part C of Annex 11. Part C of Annex 11 includes a list of low-risk plant products which are not subject to plant health controls, such as fruits of banana and pineapple.

This addendum concerns a:

- ☐ Modification of final date for comments
- ☒ Notification of adoption, publication or entry into force of regulation
- ☐ Modification of content and/or scope of previously notified draft regulation
- ☐ Withdrawal of proposed regulation
- ☐ Change in proposed date of adoption, publication or date of entry into force
- ☐ Other:

Comment period: (If the addendum extends the scope of the previously notified measure in terms of products and/or potentially affected Members, a new deadline for receipt of comments should be provided, normally of at least 60 calendar days. Under other circumstances, such as extension of originally announced final date for comments, the comment period provided in the addendum may vary.)

- ☐ Sixty days from the date of circulation of the addendum to the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): Not applicable

Agency or authority designated to handle comments: ☒ National Notification Authority, ☒ National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

UK WTO SPS National Notification Authority and Enquiry Point
 Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
 Seacole Building
 2 Marsham St
 London SW1P 4DF
 E-mail: uksps@defra.gov.uk
 Website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs>

Text(s) available from: ☒ National Notification Authority, ☒ National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

UK WTO SPS National Notification Authority and Enquiry Point
 Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
 Seacole Building
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 E-mail: uksps@defra.gov.uk
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