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Kazakhstan



Kazakhstan, Russia and Belarus will unify veterinary requirements

On December 11, 2009 Intergovernmental Council of Eurasian Economic Community (the Supreme Body of the Customs Union) at the level of heads of governments has agreed and decided that the governments of the states - members of the Customs Union within the Eurasian Economic Community along with the Commission of the Customs Union are obliged by April 1, 2010 to prepare and coordinate drafts of:

- *Unified list of goods that are subject to veterinary control (supervision);*
- *Unified forms of veterinary certificates;*
- *Regulation on a uniform procedure for conducting joint inspections of facilities and sampling goods (products) that are subject to veterinary control (supervision) in the territories of states - participants of the Customs Union and third countries;*
- *Regulation on a uniform procedure for implementation of joint veterinary control at the customs border of the Customs Union and in the customs territory of the Customs Union;*
- *Unified veterinary (veterinary and sanitary) requirements applicable to the goods that are subject to veterinary control (supervision).*

Besides the Governments are obliged:

- To envisage in the mentioned documents procedures which exclude the possibility of reissuing by the authorized bodies of the Parties of documents issued by one of the Parties which confirm the safety of products (goods), and to envisage procedures which exclude conduction of repeated laboratory tests with this purpose.

- By July 1, 2010 to take measures on preparation of amendments to national legislations in order to bring them in conformity with the *Agreement of the Customs Union on veterinary and sanitary measures* (which was also adopted).

According to the Agreement of the Customs Union on veterinary and sanitary measures, each lot of goods that are subject to control will be imported into the customs territory of the Customs Union in accordance with the *Unified veterinary requirements* and if the following is available:

1. A permission issued by the authorized body of the country, to the territory of which the indicated goods are imported in accordance with the Regulation on a unified control order;
2. A veterinary certificate issued by the competent authority of the country of origin of the specified goods.

Also according to the Agreement, competent authorities, if necessary and by mutual agreement, will conduct joint inspecting of the facilities that are subject to veterinary control (supervision) in order to ensure compliance with the law of the Customs Union for Protection of customs territory of the Customs Union against import and distribution of pathogens of contagious animal diseases, including those common to humans and animals, and goods (products) that do not correspond to veterinary and sanitary requirements.

Joint inspecting of the facilities that are subject to veterinary control (supervision) will be carried out in accordance with the *Regulation on a uniform procedure for conducting joint inspections of facilities and sampling the goods (products) that are subject to veterinary control (supervision).*

Translated by: usapeec.kz

Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan will create common economic space by early 2012

The Presidents of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan have agreed to create a unified economic space by January 1, 2012, according to a joint statement adopted by the three countries' leaders after an informal summit in Almaty (Kazakhstan) held on December 19, 2009.

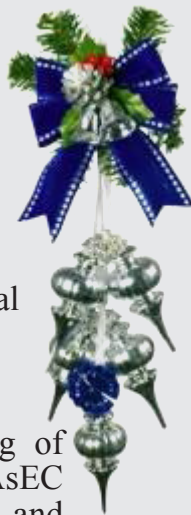
“We are committed to further deepening of integration processes in the EurAsEC (Eurasian Economic Community) territory, and confirm that our next goal will be to form a Unified Economic Space between Russia, Belarus, and Kazakhstan no later than January 1, 2012,” the document said.

The Customs Union will start functioning from January 1, 2010, D. Medvedev, A. Lukashenko and N. Nazarbayev said in their joint statement. “The Customs Union will facilitate trade between our countries, make our products more competitive and will open up new prospects for investment,” the three countries' leaders said.

“In our bid to reach an agreement we found balances of interests and settlements on most complicated issues. We agreed to take urgent steps to complete the formation of the unified customs territory by July 1, 2010. Mutual understanding based on the historical relations and fraternal friendship between our nations was very helpful,” the Presidents said in the statement.

“About 20 agreements need to be signed, - I. Shuvalov said. - The first basic package, the most difficult one, will take 12 months to prepare. It will involve the common principles of macroeconomic policy, common approaches to subsidizing products, common approaches to subsidizing agriculture, competition policy, government contracts”. “Concurrently, documents from the second package will be prepared. Also, deadlines must be brought forward for completing the regulatory framework during 2010,” he pointed out.

“In creating the Customs Union we are calling for its further expansion and admission of new members from among our other partners, as and when the union is ready,” the joint statement said.



The three nations are also “open to cooperation with other integration organizations,” the statement said. “We confirm all three nations' desire to quick accession to the World Trade Organization,” the document said.

“The creation of the Customs Union and the formation of the Unified Economic Space will be followed by the unification of the Customs Union and Unified Economic Space member states into the Eurasian Union,” Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev said.

“We know that it took 57 years for the European Union to overcome this distance. We have an opportunity to do the same within a shorter period of time,” the Kazakh leader said.

Source: The times of Central Asia (www.timesca.com)

Kyrgyzstan



Kyrgyzstan considers introduction to Customs Union

The Government of Kyrgyzstan is considering (a question of) an introduction to the Customs Union created by Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russia, according to the Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan, Daniyar Usenov.

D. Usenov said that the Government by the assignment of the President of Kyrgyzstan is creating a working group on “synchronization” of custom duties of Kyrgyzstan with the participants of the Customs Union.

“Kyrgyzstan is a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the conditions of accession to WTO assume that Kyrgyzstan, being a member of WTO, can become a member of any other regional unions. The Government of Kyrgyzstan considers that participation of Kyrgyzstan in the Customs Union will meet the interests of the country”, - Prime Minister said.

Source: Gazeta.kz News Agency (www.gazeta.kz)

Kyrgyzstan: 11 years in WTO

Kyrgyzstan has been a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) since December 20, 1998.

As a WTO member, Kyrgyzstan has advantages in comparison with countries that want to enter the WTO. In particular, in bilateral negotiations on access to markets for goods and services, Kyrgyzstan can demand concessions from entering countries for its own goods.

Also, the issue of Ukraine's USD 27 million debt to Kyrgyzstan had been settled, as its payment was a condition for Kyrgyzstan's consent for Ukraine's entry to the WTO.

The Research and Consulting Agency, SIAR, presented the results of studies on the impact of WTO membership on the development of some sectors of the Kyrgyz economy, such as planting fruits and vegetables, banking, telecommunications, and light industry sectors.

Over the years, dramatic changes have occurred both in the geographical trade distribution and in the foreign trade regime. This was reported at a round table discussion on the results of studies on trade policy. The event was held at the Ministry of Economic Regulation on December 18 in Bishkek.

Kyrgyzstan opened opportunities for the development of production and access to foreign markets, and opened access to its market by creating a competitive environment for manufacturers.

Kyrgyz exports enjoy most-favored-nation (MFN) treatment in all member countries of WTO. Under the WTO agreements, countries cannot normally discriminate between their trading partners. Grant some country a special favor (such as a lower customs duty rate for one of their products) and the same has to be done for all other WTO members. The principle of MFN treatment is so important that it is the first article of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which governs trade in goods.

The geography of trade was extended due to MFN in all WTO member countries.

In the total volume of Kyrgyzstan's foreign trade, WTO member countries occupy 37.3 percent, including more than 38.6 percent in exports and 36.8 percent in imports.

The share of assets of Kyrgyz banks with foreign capital of WTO member countries is more than half of the total assets of the country's banks. According to the SIAR, liberalization of the local financial market helped attract foreign investment in the banking system of Kyrgyzstan from the WTO countries.

Banks with foreign capital from the WTO countries provide their clients with loans at lower rates than most of other financial institutions. Harmonization of Kyrgyz legislation in accordance with WTO international rules was necessary to establish regimes that promote trade and attract investment in the country's economy.

Trade legislation is directly related to the investment regime in the country. In comparison with the year 1998, the volume of foreign investments has increased by 3.2 times and reached USD 436.82 million in the year 2007. The collection of customs duties has increased by 2.9 times.

According to the Ministry of Economic Regulation, the procedures related to export or import of goods create a lot of barriers. The costs of export or import procedures ranging from 2 to 15 percent of the goods value is an especially hard burden for small and medium businesses.

The Kyrgyz Government has already taken a number of measures to simplify customs clearance of goods, and has reduced the number of documents required for obtaining various certificates. The Government has also approved a list of perishable goods in respect to which a simplified procedure of registration and priority will be applied.

Kyrgyzstan has significantly liberalized the trade regime by reducing tariffs and eliminating non-tariff barriers. In the year 2009, the average rate on imported goods was much lower than the country's obligations to the WTO. Thus, the average rate for agricultural products should be 12.2 percent, and Kyrgyzstan applies 8.1 percent.

Source: The times of Central Asia (www.timesca.com)

USAPEEC PR article in Kazakhstan

USAPEEC article under the title “US chicken leg quarters: Enjoy healthy eating!” promoting US poultry was published in December (#4(36)) 2009 issue of Gurman magazine.

The article highlights participation of USAPEEC Central Asia Office and USAPEEC members at “WorldFood Kazakhstan 2009” international trade show and contains an interview of Bella Ablaeva, USAPEEC Regional Consultant for Ukraine/Moldova/Central Asia. An interview specifies that it is important for USAPEEC Central Asia Office and USAPEEC members to participate at the exhibition as it is the best place to establish new business contacts and to find new importers of the US CLQs and other poultry products to Central Asian region.

The article also talks about the US being a country with the strict state control over the poultry meat production and that accordingly only high quality frozen poultry is being exported from the country.

The article provides an information on health aspects of consuming poultry meats and provides contacts of USAPEEC CA office for those who are interested in importing US CLQs and other poultry products into the Central Asian region.

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Гурман | СОБЫТИЯ



АМЕРИКАНСКИЕ ОКОРОЧКА: ЕДИМ ПОЛЕЗНОЕ С УДОВОЛЬСТВИЕМ!

Белла Аблаева Региональный Консультант Совета США по Экспорту Мясa Птицы и Яиц (USAPEEC) по Восточной Европе и странам Центральной Азии
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С давних времен, мясо птицы является одним из главных продуктов питания, употребляемых людьми. Ведь это ценный диетический продукт, полезный всем без исключения. В мясе домашней птицы по питательной ценности различают белое мясо (грудку) и темное мясо (любимые многими ножки, в особенности, американские). Оба эти вида мяса полезны: белое мясо содержит меньше жира, тогда как в темном мясе больше железа и других важных минеральных веществ. Поэтому диетологи рекомендуют включать куриное мясо в ежедневный рацион и взрослых и детей. На рынке Казахстана мясо птицы представлено как в охлажденном, так и в замороженном виде. И уверяем Вас,

что замороженное мясо столь же полезно, как и «свежее» охлажденное мясо. Например, в США, а это страна со столетней историей производства мяса птицы, используется метод моментальной заморозки продукции при температуре -18 градусов по Цельсию, что позволяет сохранить все питательные вещества. Также, в США действует одна из самых жестких в мире систем оценки качества мяса птицы. Интересы птицеводческой индустрии США во многих странах мира, включая и страны Средней Азии, представляет Совет США по Экспорту Мясa Птицы и Яиц (USAPEEC).

Данная некоммерческая организация объединяет американские компании, на долю которых приходится до 90% всего американского производства и экспорта мяса птицы и яиц. В Казахстане Совет США по Экспорту Мясa Птицы и Яиц ежегодно принимает участие в выставках HOREX и World Food Kazakhstan. Ведь именно здесь напрямую можно пообщаться как с непосредственными потребителями (этому способствует популярность Кулинарного Конгресса, который проводится совместно с компанией ПЕСА в рамках выставки HOREX, генеральным спонсором которого является Совет США по Экспорту Мясa Птицы и Яиц, так и с трейдерами мяса птицы (как на выставке World Food Kazakhstan).

По словам Беллы Аблаевой, Регионального Консультанта Совета США по Экспорту Мясa Птицы и Яиц на Среднюю Азию, Украину, Молдову, это прекрасная возможность установления наиболее тесных и плодотворных контактов со всеми участниками местного рынка и, со-



ответственно, увеличение объемов сбыта американских куриных окорочков. «Каждый год на выставке World Food Kazakhstan мы приобретаем три-четыре новых надежных партнера, поэтому участие в ней для нас очень важно» – говорит Региональный Консультант. Мы надеемся, что американские окорочка, будут достойным блюдом на Вашем столе, ведь главная цель американских производителей мяса птицы – доставить качественный продукт его конечным потребителям!

По вопросам импорта американских окорочков, пожалуйста, обращайтесь, мы будем рады Вам помочь!



Совет США по Экспорту Мясa Птицы и Яиц поздравляет всех читателей журнала «Гурман» с наступающим Новым Годом и желает всем успехов, процветания и благополучия!

*We Wish You
a Very Enjoyable
Holiday Season and
a Happy
New Year!*

*May this new year bring
you much
Success, Happiness
and Joy!*

*As the New Year
blossoms, may the
journey of your life be
fragrant with new
opportunities, your days
be bright with new hopes
and your heart be happy
with love!*