

February 28, 2009

### Ukraine



#### **President of Ukraine signed a law on 13% extra charge on meat imported to Ukraine**

President of Ukraine signed a Law # 923-VI “On making changes to some laws of Ukraine with the purpose of improvement of the state of payment balance of Ukraine in connection with world financial crisis”.

The document was posted on the president’s official website on February 20, 2009.

According to the Law a number of goods imported to Ukraine, in particular, frozen beef, fresh, cooled, and frozen pork, poultry and poultry by-products, meat by-products and lard, sausages, canned meat products, finished or canned fish and crab, caviar, wine, liqueur, vermouth and strong alcoholic drinks, and spirit, will be a subject to an additional 13% import duty.

The list also includes coal, carpets, knitted fabric, clothes, linen, footwear and hats, furnaces, water heaters, pumps, ventilators and funnels, refrigerators and freezers, electrical water heaters, and household electrical goods.

The Law will come into force 10 days after it has been published. On February 24, 2009 it was posted on official website of Ukrainian central bodies of executive power (“Uryadoviy kur’er” newspaper). Accordingly it will come into force on March 7, 2009.

Temporary implementing of 13% extra charge to the current import duties of Ukraine is introduced for a term of six months following the month in which the Law comes into force.

- Source: *Interfax-Ukraine news agency (interfax.com.ua)*; Edited by: *usapeec.kz*

#### **Ukraine counts on EU inspection of its poultry enterprises**

Ukraine hopes for inspection of its poultry enterprises by European specialists this year with the aim of possible granting a right for poultry meat exports to European Union countries.

“We want our poultry producing plants to be inspected this year”, Chairman of the State Veterinary Medicine Committee Peter Verbitsky said.

According to him, the State Veterinary Medicine Committee conducts relevant negotiations with its European counterparts.

“If everything goes well, in 2010 we will start to export poultry meat to EU. We are competitive by a price”, he said.

Presently, Ukraine has a right to supply to the EU live horses, fish, powdered eggs and honey.

- Source: *ForUm news agency (for-ua.com)*

#### **Ukrainian Veterinary Service is intended to implement obligatory inspection of enterprises importing products to Ukraine**

Ukrainian Veterinary Service is intended to introduce obligatory inspection of all the enterprises that import food products to Ukraine, according to the Chairman of Ukrainian State Veterinary Medicine Committee Peter Verbitsky.

“We want to strengthen state control over the imported products...to make changes in the acting legislation and to carry out prior inspections of those enterprises that are delivering their products to Ukraine regardless of whether they are European or not”, - Verbitsky said.

According to him changes should be made in the nearest future.

“Preliminary we should come to an agreement on these norms with ministries and departments especially with the State Committee on Regulatory Policy and to justify its necessity,” the Chairman added.

“Moreover according to the current legislation Ukraine has simple and expanded control of import. Simple control includes checking of documents and visual estimation of products, when expanded control includes serious laboratory tests. We are going to widen the list of goods for which these serious laboratory tests are required. Enterprise that is intended to import food products to Ukraine will pay for all the tests as it is in its own interests”, Verbitsky pointed out.

According to Ukrainian legislation, producer is responsible for safety and quality of foodstuff manufactured by him. These norms and requirements are written in the Law “On safety and quality of foodstuffs”. The Law is harmonized with international requirements and carries out main principals of international legislation.

- Source: *APK-Inform news agency* (*apk-inform.com*); Translated by: *usapeec.kz*

### **Ukraine’s hryvnia may fall 19% in six months**

Ukraine’s hryvnia may tumble 19% against the US Dollar in the next six months as a deteriorating economy and dearth of foreign investment forces the country to abandon its management of the currency, according to five analysts surveyed by *Bloomberg*.

The hryvnia may slide to 10 UAH per 1 USD by the end of August. The hryvnia plunged 43% since August to 8.15 UAH per 1 USD as the economy spiraled toward recession and the International Monetary Fund pledged \$16.4 billion in emergency loans.

“Ukraine is really facing an uphill battle,” said Lars Rasmussen, an emerging-markets strategist at *Danske Bank A/S* in Copenhagen, who forecasts the hryvnia will be at 10 UAH per 1 USD in six months. “They need to be less focused on holding their currency and concentrate their money on other problems in their economy.”

Ukraine’s economy may shrink 9% this year, as the worst global financial crisis since the Great Depression damps demand for its exports and leaves the former Soviet republic struggling to fund deficits in its current account and budget, according to *HSBC Holdings Plc*, Europe’s biggest bank.

The nation’s reserves slid almost 9% to \$29 billion in January, 2009 as the Central Bank “regularly” bought and sold foreign currency to control the hryvnia, according to its Head of external relations, Serhiy Kruhlik.

- Source: *Unian news agency* (*unian.net*)

## **Moldova**



### **Moldova may ban poultry meat imports until July**

Following the request of the Moldavian Poultry Producers Council, the Moldavian Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry may ban all poultry meat imports until July, 2009.

An inquiry to ban poultry meat imports is motivated by the fact that huge volumes of poultry meat are currently stuck in the storages of both local poultry importers and local poultry producers. According to the representative of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry- Ion Buzu currently poultry meat reserves amount to 6,000 MT. This amount of poultry meat is enough to satisfy a Moldavian market demand until July, 2009.

- Source: *meatinfo.ru*; Translated by: *usapeec.kz*

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