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#### **First meeting of the Agro-industrial Association of Customs Union was held on December 16**

The first meeting of the Customs Union Agro-industrial Association was held on December 16 in Belarus. During the meeting participants have discussed the harmonization of legislation and government support to agribusiness in the Customs Union.

The meeting was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan, Board members, founders of the Association and experts.

The Constituent Assembly of Agro-industrial Association of the Customs Union was held on October 13, 2011 in Moscow. The founders of the Association are the leading industry unions and associations, as well as large agricultural companies of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan.

The Supervisory Board of Agro-industrial Association of Customs Union was headed by Minister of Agriculture of Russia E.Skrynnik. Chairman of the Association is A.Danilenko, the Chairman of Public Council under Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation.

It is expected that the association's activities will contribute to the harmonious and stable development of agricultural market of Customs Union, will increase mutual trade and the development of export capacity of Customs Union member countries.

*Source: IA TheNewsKz (www.thenews.kz)  
Translated by: USAPEEC Central Asia Eastern Europe Office (www.usapeec.kz)*

## Customs Union has approved meat import quotas for the year 2012

The Customs Union Commission of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan has approved meat import quotas for the year 2012.

Customs Union has set the following import quotas for Kazakhstan in 2012: chilled beef – 20 MT, frozen beef – 13,900 MT, pork - 9,400 MT, poultry meat – 110,000 MT.

For Russia: chilled beef – 30,000 MT (this amount will increase up to 40,000 MT after accession to the World Trade Organization), frozen beef – 530,000 MT, pork – 400,000 MT, pork trimming 30,000 MT (vs. 472,100 MT for pork and 27,900 for pork trimming in 2011), poultry MDM (frozen) -70,000 MT, poultry meat – 250,000 MT, turkey MDM (frozen) - 10,000 MT.

For Belarus: chilled and frozen beef - 2,500 MT, pork – 60,000 MT, poultry – 15,000 MT.

The Customs Union Commission decided that the quotas between the participants of foreign trade and third countries will be distributed by the competent authorities of Customs Union member states – Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan.

Source: *IA Kommersant* ([www.kommersant.ua](http://www.kommersant.ua))

Translated by: USAPEEC Central Asia Eastern Europe Office ([www.usapeec.kz](http://www.usapeec.kz))

## Customs Union Commission Decision # 865 as of November 18, 2011

“On the List of goods in respect of which starting January 1, 2012 tariff quotas are applied, as well as the volumes of tariff quotas on the import of these goods into the territory of the Customs Union”

The Customs Union Commission decided:

1. To approve the List of goods in respect of which starting January 1, 2012 tariff quotas are applied, as well as the volumes of tariff quotas on the import of these goods into the territory of the Customs Union (in accordance with the Annex to this Decision).

2. To determine that tariff quotas are applicable to the goods imported into the territory of Customs Union and that are placed under customs procedure of release for domestic consumption, except for goods originating in and imported from the CIS member states.

3. To ask the Sides:

- To distribute, if necessary, the volume of tariff quotas between third countries;

- In 2012 to distribute the volumes of the tariff quotas among the participants of foreign trade in accordance with the legislation of the CU member states

- To charge the authorized bodies of CU countries to issue licenses for the import of goods in respect of which tariff quotas are set. These bodies are to inform the CU Commission on the issued import licenses.

4. This Decision comes into force upon its official publication.

Source: *Official Website of Customs Union* ([www.tsoyuz.ru](http://www.tsoyuz.ru))

Translated and reported by: USAPEEC Central Asia Eastern Europe Office



**Annex to the CU Decision #865 as of November 18, 2011  
approved by Customs Union Commission**



The List of goods in respect of which starting January 1, 2012 tariff quotas are applied, as well as the volumes of tariff quotas on the import of these goods into the territory of the Customs Union

Title	The volumes of tariff quotas for the year 2012, MT		
	Republic of Belarus	Republic of Kazakhstan	Russian Federation
Cattle meat (Fresh of chilled. Commodity Code of FEA 0201)	2,500	20	30,000
Cattle meat (Frozen. Commodity Code of FEA 0202)	2,500	13,900	530,000
Pork (Fresh, chilled or frozen. Commodity Code 0203)	60,000	9,400	400,000
Pork trimming			30,000
Poultry meat and edible poultry by-products (Commodity Code 0105)	15,000	110,000	----
Poultry (Fresh, chilled or frozen. Commodity Code 0207)			
Frozen Boneless chicken (Commodity Code 0207 14 100 1 )			70,000
Frozen poultry halves or quarters (Commodity Code 0207 14 200 1)			250,000
Frozen chicken legs and their parts (Commodity Code 0207 14 600 1)			
Turkey meat (Frozen. Commodity Code 0207 27 100 1)			10,000

Source: Official Website of Customs Union ([www.tsoyuz.ru](http://www.tsoyuz.ru))

Translated by: USAPEEC Central Asia Eastern Europe Office ([www.usapeec.kz](http://www.usapeec.kz))

## CU and EU Vet services negotiated in Warsaw

Three-day talks between representatives of the veterinary services of the European Commission and several EU countries with the veterinary services of Customs Union Commission, Russia and Belarus have passed in Warsaw. The Russian delegation included representatives of Rosselkhozadzor (The Russian Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance).

The Sides agreed that the earlier agreements fixed in protocols (signed by representatives of Rosselkhozadzor and the corresponding European Commission's Directorate General) remain valid and that these arrangements should be re-signed at the European Commission and the Customs Union Commission.

During the discussion on the monitoring the safety of imported products into the European market that are subject to state veterinary supervision, the Sides decided that the competent services of Rosselkhozadzor and the European Union should cooperate confidentially and inform each other on the productivity stimulants being used, especially the ones that are prohibited by the Customs Union and the EU.

In accordance with the decision of the European Commission, Russia has the right to introduce new company into the eligible list under the guarantees of Rosselkhozadzor. At the same time the Agency for Food and Veterinary Commission reserves the right to inspect the companies (if finds it necessary) that produce recycled animal protein. The Agency for Food and Veterinary Commission is charged to supervise the national veterinary services that officially guarantee the safety of the of raw materials, the compliance of the production process with regulations, etc.

During the negotiations the Sides continued coordination of the package of new veterinary certificates identifying the safety of products

of animal origin imported from the EU into the Customs Union.

*Source: Official Website of Rosselkhozadzor (www.fsvps.ru)*

*Translated by: USAPEEC Central Asia Eastern Europe Office (www.usapeec.kz)*

## The 33d meeting of Customs Union was held on December 9, 2011

Customs Union Commission (CUC) has held its 33d meeting on December 9. During the session 10 new technical regulations have been adopted.

CUC has accepted technical regulations on safety of grain, on safety of light industry products, on safety of food products and its marking, etc. During the meeting CUC has amended several regulations of the Customs Union. Amendments have been introduced to the Unified Register of certification bodies and testing laboratories (centers) of the Customs Union, unified epidemiological and hygienic requirements for goods subject to sanitary-epidemiological control (supervision), unified common veterinary (veterinary-sanitary) requirements for the goods subject to veterinary control (supervision).

The CUC has introduced changes to a Unified commodity nomenclature of foreign economic activity (FEA) and Common Customs Tariff, which will be used in the Customs Union in respect of certain goods. During the meeting the reports on export control of CU member states and on application of special protective, antidumping and compensatory measures during foreign trade activity.

As a reminder beginning January 1, 2012 the Common Economic Space (CES) of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan will start operating. On November 18 in Moscow the Presidents of three countries have signed a Declaration of the Eurasian Economic Integration, an Agreement on the Eurasian Economic Commission - the supreme body of the Customs Union and the



Eurasian Economic Union. They also offered to appoint the Minister of Industry Viktor Khristenko as the Head of the Eurasian Union Commission. In the future Customs Union Commission will be replaced by Eurasian Economic Commission.



*Source: IA Regnum (www.regnum.ru)*  
*Translated by: USAPEEC Central Asia Eastern Europe Office (www.usapeec.kz)*

### Trade turnover between Customs Union countries may exceed USD 110 billion



Mutual trade turnover between Customs Union countries in 2010 increased by 21 percent compared to 2009 and reached USD 88.4 billion.

In 2011 trade turnover of the Customs Union could exceed USD 110 billion, according to the Advisor to the Secretary of the Eurasian Economic Community Oleg Karpukhin.

Oleg Karpukhin noted that the Customs Union has created favorable conditions for development of trade and free competition in the three countries.

In mid-October, Presidential special representative for amending Agreement on Customs Union Commission Viktor Khristenko said that this year trade turnover between Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan will certainly exceed USD 100 billion.

*Source: IA BFM (www.bfm.ru)*  
*Translated by: USAPEEC Central Asia Eastern Europe Office (www.usapeec.kz)*

### Processing shop for production of poultry meat is opened in Kostanai

Processing shop for the production of poultry meat was opened in the poultry plant located in the Kostanai region last week. The plant with a production capacity of 12,000 MT

of poultry meat per year was constructed under the program of forced industrial innovative development of Kazakhstan by JSC "Komsomolskaya Poultry".

Earlier the plant was engaged in egg production only, but then managers of the company decided to modernize the production. New facilities for growing birds and a slaughterhouse were built on the territory of the plant. Now the company plans to provide Kostanai region with a high quality product. In addition the company intends to deliver poultry meats to neighboring regions.

According to the State Statistics Agency, since July 2011 egg production has dropped in the country. For comparison, Tajikistan produced 349 million eggs in July 2011 vs. 372 million in July 2010. In August, 329 million and 340 million eggs respectively, in September, 317 million and 339 million, in October – 269 million and 296 million eggs.

*Source: IA MeatInfo (www.meatinfo.ru)*  
*Translated by: USAPEEC Central Asia Eastern Europe Office (www.usapeec.kz)*

### Riots in Western Kazakhstan

Riots have been taking place in Western Kazakhstan since December 16, mainly in an oil town Zhanaozen.

Officially at least 13 people died in Zhanaozen when police fired on protesters. Independent sources have said the real death toll is higher. Oil workers have been protesting for higher wages.

Hundreds of workers at an oil facility controlled by the state-owned energy company KazMunaiGas in Zhanaozen have been protesting for better salaries and working conditions for more than six months. Almost 1,000 workers were fired in the summer for striking, but demonstrations have continued.

Kazakhstan is Central Asia's wealthiest

country and it has aspirations to become one of the world's top five oil exporters by 2020 but not everybody has benefited from this boom.

Although the western region of Mangistau is where most of the oil and gas is produced, most of the profit goes straight to central government. Opportunities are few, unemployment is high here and, to add to the frustration, the oil and gas boom has attracted better paid foreign workers.

There is also a suspicion that opponents of Mr. Nazarbayev may be funding and exploiting the oil workers, who had occupied the main square in Zhanaozen since mid-May, ahead of a parliamentary election scheduled for January 15, 2011.

The clashes appear to be some of the largest unrest to hit the former Soviet Republic since it gained independence in 1991.

Some sources say the Police officers were attacked as they sought to quell a disturbance in the city center and were forced to fire their weapons on protesters.

A team of Interior Ministry investigators has flown to the town to identify and punish the organizers of the unrest and restore order.

President Nursultan Nazarbayev has imposed a state of emergency in Zhanaozen. Authorities say that now the situation is under control.

Even if the death toll climbs towards 50, as some sources have suggested, people in Almaty, Kazakhstan's biggest city, and other cities may prefer to ignore the killings rather than jeopardize their improving lifestyles.

*Sources: IA Seattlepi (www.seattlepi.com);  
IA Telegraph (www.telegraph.co.uk)*

*Translated and edited by: USAPEEC Central  
Asia Eastern Europe Office (www.usapeec.kz)*

## Kyrgyzstan



### **Kyrgyzstan produced 313,300 MT of meat during the first eleven months of 2011**

Kyrgyzstan produced 313,300 MT of meat (in live weight) during the first eleven months of 2011, which is 3,078 MT more compared to the same period of 2010, the Ministry of Agriculture reports.

According to the Ministry the increase took place mainly due to the growth of livestock population, in particular, cattle by 20,700 heads, sheep and goats - by 222,100 heads, horses - by 5,500 heads and poultry - by 214,100 heads.

Ministry of Agriculture informs that almost all regions of the country have produced the same volumes of meat as last year. The decrease took place only in several regions: by 411 MT in Tyup area of Issyk-Kul region and by 196 MT in Lyailyak area of Batken region.

During this period Kyrgyzstan produced 368 million eggs, which is 21 million eggs compared to the same period of 2010. Production of eggs has dropped only in the Batken and Talas regions, mainly due to a decrease in poultry stock.

*Source: IA FoodNews  
(www.foodnewsweek.ru)*

*Translated by: USAPEEC Central Asia  
Eastern Europe Office (www.usapeec.kz)*

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## Tajikistan



### Tajikistan and Turkey signed Protocol on Tajikistan's accession to WTO

Tajikistan and Turkey signed a protocol on bilateral coordination on the accession of Dushanbe to the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Tajik Foreign Ministry reports.

Tajik Ambassador to Austria, Permanent Representative of the Republic in the UN's Geneva Office Salohiddin Nasriddinov and Permanent Representative of Turkey in the WTO Bozkurt Aran signed this document during the 8th meeting of the Council of Ministers of Economy and Trade of the WTO member countries.

Currently a working group of the Republic of Tajikistan is holding talks with other WTO members. It is assumed that several more countries will give their consent for Tajikistan's accession to the organization.

The signing of similar protocols with other WTO members is expected in the near future. At the same time the country is considering the entry into Customs Union of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan.

WTO was established in 1995 to liberalize international trade and regulation of trade and political relations between the Member States. It includes more than 150 countries, which accounts for over 90 percent of world trade. Out of all Central Asian countries only Kyrgyzstan is a WTO member.

*Source: IA TheNewsKz (www.thenews.kz)*

*Translated by: USAPEEC Central Asia Eastern Europe Office (www.usapeec.kz)*

### *Kazakhstan poultry import statistics, January-October 2011\**

Partner Country	2010		2011		% Change Value	% Change Quantity
	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity		
<b>World</b>	102,840	114,262	117,651	114,136	+114	- 1
<b>United States</b>	76,002	96,114	80,630	92,968	+106	- 4
Ukraine	21,628	13,969	35,442	19,446	+163	+139
Poland	1,107	1,448	1,030	1,185	-7	- 19
Brazil	554	570	438	462	-21	- 19
Russia	3,194	1,743	0	0	----	----
Other countries	355	418	111	75	- 69	- 83

**Value Unit:** Thousands of USD; **Volume Unit:** MT

\*Source: State Customs Control Committee under the Ministry of Finance of Kazakhstan

The Share of U.S. in total volume of poultry imports into Kazakhstan in January-October 2011 made up 81 percent

*Dear USAPEEC Members and Colleagues!*

*Please accept our warmest and most sincere congratulations with a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*

*Wishing you prosperity, abundant success and Good Luck in your business!  
May New Year bring all this and more*

*Making each day eventful and prosperous than previous  
May the holidays refresh your spirit and bring you inspiration for implementing  
new successful projects.*

*May the coming year bring your families good health and a lot of happiness.  
And may our common home at USAPEEC be comfortable and filled with  
love and understanding.*

*I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*

*Sincerely,  
Bella Ablava  
and USAPEEC CAEE Office*

