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⁽¹⁾ Text with EEA relevance.

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⁽¹⁾ Text with EEA relevance.

II

(Non-legislative acts)

REGULATIONS

COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2018/53**of 12 January 2018****implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1509 concerning restrictive measures against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1509 of 30 August 2017 concerning restrictive measures against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and repealing Regulation (EC) No 329/2007 ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 47(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,

Whereas:

- (1) On 30 August 2017, the Council adopted Regulation (EU) 2017/1509.
- (2) On 28 December 2017, the United Nations Security Council ('UNSC') Committee established pursuant to UNSC Resolution ('UNSCR') 1718 (2006) designated four vessels pursuant to paragraph 6 of UNSCR 2375 (2017).
- (3) Annex XIV to Regulation (EU) 2017/1509 should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Annex XIV to Regulation (EU) 2017/1509 is amended as set out in the Annex to this Regulation.

*Article 2*This Regulation shall enter into force on the date of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 12 January 2018.

For the Council
The President
E. KRALEVA

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 224, 31.8.2017, p. 1.

ANNEX

The following vessels are added to the list of vessels subject to restrictive measures set out in Annex XIV to Regulation (EU) 2017/1509:

‘5. **Name:** BILLIONS NO. 18

Additional information

IMO: 9191773

6. **Name:** UL JI BONG 6

Additional information

IMO: 9114555

7. **Name:** RUNG RA 2

Additional information

IMO: 9020534

8. **Name:** RYE SONG GANG 1

Additional information

IMO: 7389704’.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2018/54**of 4 December 2017****establishing a prohibition of fishing for whiting in area VIII by vessels flying the flag of Belgium**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 establishing a Union control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 36(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Council Regulation (EU) 2017/127 ⁽²⁾ lays down quotas for 2017.
- (2) According to the information received by the Commission, catches of the stock referred to in the Annex to this Regulation by vessels flying the flag of or registered in the Member State referred to therein have exhausted the quota allocated for 2017.
- (3) It is therefore necessary to prohibit fishing activities for that stock,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1***Quota exhaustion**

The fishing quota allocated to the Member State referred to in the Annex to this Regulation for the stock referred to therein for 2017 shall be deemed to be exhausted from the date set out in that Annex.

*Article 2***Prohibitions**

Fishing activities for the stock referred to in the Annex to this Regulation by vessels flying the flag of or registered in the Member State referred to therein shall be prohibited from the date set out in that Annex. In particular it shall be prohibited to retain on board, relocate, tranship or land fish from that stock caught by those vessels after that date.

*Article 3***Entry into force**

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 4 December 2017.

*For the Commission,
On behalf of the President,
João AGUIAR MACHADO*

*Director-General
Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries*

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ Council Regulation (EU) 2017/127 of 20 January 2017 fixing for 2017 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, applicable in Union waters and, for Union fishing vessels, in certain non-Union waters (OJ L 24, 28.1.2017, p. 1).

ANNEX

No	28/TQ127
Member State	Belgium
Stock	WHG/08.
Species	Whiting (<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>)
Zone	VIII
Closing date	10.10.2017

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2018/55**of 9 January 2018****amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/1998 as regards adding the Republic of Singapore to the third countries recognised as applying security standards equivalent to the common basic standards on civil aviation security****(Text with EEA relevance)**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 300/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2008 on common rules in the field of civil aviation security and repealing Regulation (EC) No 2320/2002 ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 4(3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Annex to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/1998 ⁽²⁾ lists the third countries recognised as applying security standards equivalent to the common basic standards for safeguarding civil aviation against acts of unlawful interference that jeopardise the security of civil aviation.
- (2) The Commission has verified that also the Republic of Singapore satisfies the criteria for recognising the equivalence of security standards of third countries set out in Part E of the Annex to Commission Regulation (EC) No 272/2009 ⁽³⁾.
- (3) Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/1998 should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (4) An appropriate time before this Regulation applies should be provided for, considering that changes to operations or infrastructure at airports, or both, may be required.
- (5) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee on Civil Aviation Security,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The Annex to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/1998 is amended in accordance with the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It shall apply from 6 February 2018.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 97, 9.4.2008, p. 72.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 299, 14.11.2015, p. 1.

⁽³⁾ Commission Regulation (EC) No 272/2009 of 2 April 2009 supplementing the common basic standards on civil aviation security laid down in the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 300/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 91, 3.4.2009, p. 7).

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 9 January 2018.

*For the Commission,
On behalf of the President,
Violeta BULC
Member of the Commission*

ANNEX

The Annex to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/1998 is amended as follows:

(1) in Chapter 3, Attachment 3-B is replaced by the following:

'ATTACHMENT 3-B

AIRCRAFT SECURITY

THIRD COUNTRIES, AS WELL AS OTHER COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES TO WHICH, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 355 OF THE TREATY ON THE FUNCTIONING OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, TITLE VI OF PART THREE OF THAT TREATY DOES NOT APPLY, THAT ARE RECOGNISED AS APPLYING SECURITY STANDARDS EQUIVALENT TO THE COMMON BASIC STANDARDS ON CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY

As regards aircraft security, the following third countries, as well as other countries and territories to which, in accordance with Article 355 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Title VI of Part Three of that Treaty does not apply, have been recognised as applying security standards equivalent to the common basic standards on civil aviation security:

Canada

Faroe Islands, in regard to Vagar airport

Greenland, in regard to Kangerlussuaq airport

Guernsey

Isle of Man

Jersey

Montenegro

Republic of Singapore, in regard to Singapore Changi Airport

United States of America

The Commission shall immediately notify the appropriate authorities of the Member States if it has information indicating that security standards applied by the third country or other country or territory concerned with a significant impact on overall levels of aviation security in the Union are no longer equivalent to the common basic standards of the Union.

The appropriate authorities of the Member States shall be notified without delay when the Commission has information about actions, including compensatory measures, confirming that the equivalency of relevant security standards applied by the third country or other country or territory concerned is re-established.;

(2) in Chapter 4, Attachment 4-B is replaced by the following:

'ATTACHMENT 4-B

PASSENGERS AND CABIN BAGGAGE

THIRD COUNTRIES, AS WELL AS OTHER COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES TO WHICH, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 355 OF THE TREATY ON THE FUNCTIONING OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, TITLE VI OF PART THREE OF THAT TREATY DOES NOT APPLY, THAT ARE RECOGNISED AS APPLYING SECURITY STANDARDS EQUIVALENT TO THE COMMON BASIC STANDARDS ON CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY

As regards passengers and cabin baggage, the following third countries, as well as other countries and territories to which, in accordance with Article 355 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Title VI of Part Three of that Treaty does not apply, have been recognised as applying security standards equivalent to the common basic standards on civil aviation security:

Canada

Faroe Islands, in regard to Vagar airport

Greenland, in regard to Kangerlussuaq airport

Guernsey

Isle of Man

Jersey

Montenegro

Republic of Singapore, in regard to Singapore Changi Airport

United States of America

The Commission shall notify without delay the appropriate authorities of the Member States if it has information indicating that security standards applied by the third country or other country or territory concerned with a significant impact on overall levels of aviation security in the Union are no longer equivalent to the common basic standards of the Union.

The appropriate authorities of the Member States shall be notified without delay when the Commission has information about actions, including compensatory measures, confirming that the equivalency of relevant security standards applied by the third country or other country or territory concerned is re-established.;

- (3) in Chapter 5, Attachment 5-A is replaced by the following:

‘ATTACHMENT 5-A

HOLD BAGGAGE

THIRD COUNTRIES, AS WELL AS OTHER COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES TO WHICH, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 355 OF THE TREATY ON THE FUNCTIONING OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, TITLE VI OF PART THREE OF THAT TREATY DOES NOT APPLY, THAT ARE RECOGNISED AS APPLYING SECURITY STANDARDS EQUIVALENT TO THE COMMON BASIC STANDARDS ON CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY

As regards hold baggage, the following third countries, as well as other countries and territories to which, in accordance with Article 355 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Title VI of Part Three of that Treaty does not apply, have been recognised as applying security standards equivalent to the common basic standards on civil aviation security:

Canada

Faroe Islands, in regard to Vagar airport

Greenland, in regard to Kangerlussuaq airport

Guernsey

Isle of Man

Jersey

Montenegro

Republic of Singapore, in regard to Singapore Changi Airport

United States of America

The Commission shall notify without delay the appropriate authorities of the Member States if it has information indicating that security standards applied by the third country or other country or territory concerned with a significant impact on overall levels of aviation security in the Union are no longer equivalent to the common basic standards of the Union.

The appropriate authorities of the Member States shall be notified without delay when the Commission has information about actions, including compensatory measures, confirming that the equivalency of relevant security standards applied by the third country or other country or territory concerned is re-established.’.

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2018/56**of 12 January 2018****amending Implementing Regulation (EU) No 908/2014 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to paying agencies and other bodies, financial management, clearance of accounts, rules on checks, securities and transparency**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the financing, management and monitoring of the common agricultural policy and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 352/78, (EC) No 165/94, (EC) No 2799/98, (EC) No 814/2000, (EC) No 1290/2005 and (EC) No 485/2008 ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Articles 9(2), 36(6), 53(1) and 57(2) and Articles 104 and 114 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In accordance with Article 7(3) of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 908/2014 ⁽²⁾, the certification body may use an integrated sampling approach when performing substantive testing of expenditure. Following the experience with the application of that Article in the first two years, it is appropriate to clarify what it is meant by an integrated sampling approach when pursuing the different audit objectives as referred to in Article 9 of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013.
- (2) Article 41 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽³⁾ sets the limit for each declaration of expenditure of the paying agencies containing payment requests related to financial instruments at maximum of 25 % of the total amount of programme contributions committed to the financial instrument. Article 22(1)(a) of Implementing Regulation (EU) No 908/2014 provides that the quarterly declaration is to specify the amount of eligible public expenditure actually paid by the paying agency during each quarter in accordance with paragraph 2 of that Article. The amounts paid by the paying agency in the framework of financial instruments should be declared to the Commission respecting the limit of 25 % and provided that the corresponding implementation milestone has been achieved. The first declaration to the Commission within the 25 % limit is to be initiated by the signature of the funding agreement and the subsequent payment to the financial instrument. Subsequent tranches are to be declared to the Commission upon achievement of the corresponding disbursement rate, in accordance with Article 41 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013. In the case of the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development ('EAFRD') that means that the paying agency can only declare 25 % of the total planned contribution per quarter. It therefore appears that the rules laid down in Article 22(1) and (2) of Implementing Regulation (EU) No 908/2014 are not suitable for the way the financial instruments are to be managed between the Member States and the Commission in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and need to be amended accordingly.
- (3) In order to alleviate the administrative burden of the Member States when pursuing recoveries, experience shows that a threshold for not recovering interest should be established.
- (4) Article 30(2) of Implementing Regulation (EU) No 908/2014 provides that the documents and accounting information used for the purpose of the clearance of accounts are to be sent to the Commission both in hard copy together with an electronic copy. In order to ease the administrative burden for the Member States and the Commission, to streamline the analysis of the documents and to mitigate the risk of inconsistencies in the data used, Member States should be required to submit electronic documents only, with the use of the electronic signature. That requirement should be also reflected in the text of the management declaration set out in Annex I to that Implementing Regulation. In order to avoid any delays in the transmission of the documents in case of

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 549.

⁽²⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 908/2014 of 6 August 2014 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to paying agencies and other bodies, financial management, clearance of accounts, rules on checks, securities and transparency (OJ L 255, 28.8.2014, p. 59).

⁽³⁾ Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 320).

technical difficulties related to the implementation of the electronic signature, it should be possible, for the first year of application of the new requirement, to allow the possibility to submit signed documents transmitted in electronic form.

- (5) In accordance with Article 31(1) of Implementing Regulation (EU) No 908/2014, the form and content of the accounting information referred to in Article 30(1)(c) of that Implementing Regulation and the way it is to be forwarded to the Commission are to be those provided in accordance with Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1758 ⁽¹⁾. Experience shows that the form and content of the accounting information need to be amended every year with the related administrative burden and risk of delays. For reasons of simplification and in order to allow for the timely fixing of the related technical specifications, it is therefore appropriate to allow that, as of financial year 2019, the models and related technical specifications for the accounting information should be made available, and updated by the Commission, after having informed the Committee on the Agricultural Funds prior to the beginning of each financial year. It is also appropriate to lay down the general requirements for those technical specifications.
- (6) Article 34(2) of Implementing Regulation (EU) No 908/2014 provides that, when the Commission considers that expenditure was not effected in accordance with the Union rules, it is to communicate the findings to the Member State concerned and the communication schedules also a bilateral meeting within four months after expiry of the period for reply by the Member State. During this time period certain administrative steps are necessary, such as translation of the reply from the Member State, Commission analysis of the elements put forward by the Member State, preparation of the invitation to the bilateral meeting in the national language of the Member State and preparation of the meeting. Experience of the last two years shows that the four-month period is in most cases insufficient to lead to effective meetings. In order to allow for a better preparation of the bilateral meeting, the time period within which the meeting should be held should be prolonged to five months. Such prolongation will be applicable only to enquiries for which the communication pursuant to that Article 34(2) has not yet been sent at the moment of entry into force of this Regulation to avoid any disruption to on-going enquiries.
- (7) The third subparagraph of Article 34(3) of Implementing Regulation (EU) No 908/2014 requires the Commission to communicate its conclusions to the Member State within six months after sending the minutes of the bilateral meeting. The deadline is specified only in relation to the minutes of the bilateral meeting meaning that a bilateral meeting has taken place. That Implementing Regulation does not explicitly define a deadline for sending the communication in case a Member State considered that a bilateral meeting is not required. That provision should therefore be clarified in this regard and fix a starting point for the six-month period when no bilateral meeting was required.
- (8) Article 34(9) of Implementing Regulation (EU) No 908/2014 provides that in duly justified cases the time period referred to in paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of that Article may be extended. Article 34(2) of that Implementing Regulation provides for a time period for the bilateral meeting to take place and it may happen that in duly justified cases, a need exists to extend that time period. Article 34(9) of that Implementing Regulation should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (9) Pursuant to Article 111(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013, Member States are to publish information on the beneficiaries of the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund ('EAGF') and EAFRD, including, inter alia, the amount of the payment received for each measure financed by those funds in the financial year concerned and the nature and the description of each measure. Article 57 of Implementing Regulation (EU) No 908/2014 specifies the details that are to be published in relation to those measures and refers to Annex XIII to that Implementing Regulation, which contains a list of the measures concerned.
- (10) Annex XIII to Implementing Regulation (EU) No 908/2014 should be amended in order to take into consideration that also the exceptional measures necessary to address the market situation on the basis of Articles 220(1) and 221(1) and (2) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽²⁾ should be included among the measures listed in that Annex. Those exceptional measures are considered as measures supporting agricultural markets in accordance with Article 4(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013. Therefore, it is appropriate to amend point 10 of Annex XIII to Implementing Regulation (EU) No 908/2014. Moreover,

⁽¹⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1758 of 27 September 2017 laying down form and content of the accounting information to be submitted to the Commission for the purpose of the clearance of the accounts of the EAGF and the EAFRD as well as for monitoring and forecasting purposes (OJ L 250, 28.9.2017, p. 1).

⁽²⁾ Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 922/72, (EEC) No 234/79, (EC) No 1037/2001 and (EC) No 1234/2007 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 671).

the aid to the silkworm sector mentioned in point 3 in the list of that Annex is no longer applicable taking into consideration that Article 111 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 ⁽¹⁾ has been repealed by Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 with effect from 1 January 2014 and that all related financial commitments and payments to beneficiaries have now ended. The reference to the aid to the silkworm sector should be therefore deleted from that list.

- (11) Implementing Regulation (EU) No 908/2014 should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (12) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee on the Agricultural Funds,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Implementing Regulation (EU) No 908/2014 is amended as follows:

- (1) in Article 7(3), the fourth sentence is replaced by the following:

‘As regards substantive testing, including the sampling methods, the certification bodies may apply dual-purpose testing between audit objectives.’;

- (2) in Article 22(2), the following third subparagraph is added:

‘As regards financial instruments set up in accordance with Article 38(1)(b) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, the expenditure shall be declared in respect of the reference periods referred to in the first subparagraph once the conditions for each subsequent application for interim payment as laid down in Article 41(1) of that Regulation are met.’;

- (3) in Article 27(1), the following sentence is added:

‘Member States may decide not to recover the interest when the amount of interest does not exceed EUR 5.’;

- (4) in Article 30, paragraph 2 is replaced by the following:

‘2. The documents and the accounting information referred to in paragraph 1 shall be sent to the Commission by 15 February at the latest of the year following the end of the financial year to which they relate. The documents referred to in points (a), (b) and (d) of that paragraph shall be submitted electronically in accordance with the format and under the conditions established by the Commission pursuant to Article 24.

Those documents shall bear a compulsory electronic signature within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council (*). For the documents related to financial year 2017, the Commission may accept signed documents transmitted in electronic form.

(*) Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 2014 on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the internal market and repealing Directive 1999/93/EC (OJ L 257, 28.8.2014, p. 73).’;

- (5) in Article 31, paragraph 1 is replaced by the following:

‘1. The form and content of the accounting information referred to in Article 30(1)(c) shall be made available by the Commission to Member States by way of models through information systems.

The models and the related technical specifications for the accounting information shall be made available, and updated by the Commission, after having informed the Committee on the Agricultural Funds, prior to the beginning of each financial year.

The technical specifications shall include:

- (a) the yearly data requirements for the individual accounting information (X Table);
- (b) the specification for the transfer of the computer files concerning EAGF and EAFRD expenditure;
- (c) the data field descriptions (aide-memoire);
- (d) the structure of the EAFRD budget codes.’;

⁽¹⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 of 22 October 2007 establishing a common organisation of agricultural markets and on specific provisions for certain agricultural products (Single CMO Regulation) (OJ L 299, 16.11.2007, p. 1).

(6) Article 34 is amended as follows:

(a) In paragraph 2, the first subparagraph is replaced by the following:

‘When, as a result of any inquiry, the Commission considers that expenditure was not effected in compliance with Union rules, it shall communicate its findings to the Member State concerned, specifying the corrective measures needed to ensure future compliance with those rules, and indicating the provisional level of financial correction which at that stage of the procedure it considers corresponds to its findings. That communication shall also schedule a bilateral meeting within five months after expiry of the period for reply by the Member State. The communication shall make reference to this Article.’;

(b) in paragraph 3, the following fourth subparagraph is added:

‘If a Member State notifies the Commission that a bilateral meeting is not required, the six-month period starts from the date of receipt by the Commission of the notification.’;

(c) paragraph 9 is replaced by the following:

‘9. In duly justified cases to be notified to the Member State concerned, the Commission may extend the time periods set out in paragraphs 2 to 5.’;

(7) Annex I is replaced by the text of the Annex to this Regulation;

(8) Annex XIII is amended as follows:

(a) point 3 is deleted;

(b) point 10 is replaced by the following:

‘10. The measures granted under Articles 219(1), 220(1) and 221(1) and (2) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 as measures supporting agricultural markets in accordance with Article 4(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013.’

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the seventh day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 12 January 2018.

For the Commission
The President
Jean-Claude JUNCKER

ANNEX

‘ANNEX I

MANAGEMENT DECLARATION

(Article 3)

I, ..., Director of the ... Paying Agency, present the accounts for this Paying Agency for the financial year 16.10.xx to 15.10.xx+1.

I declare, based on my own judgement and on the information at my disposal, including, inter alia, the results of work of the internal audit service, that:

- the accounts presented and submitted in electronic format give, to the best of my knowledge, a true, complete and accurate view of the expenditure and receipts for the financial year referred to above. In particular, all debts, advances, guarantees and stocks known to me have been recorded in the accounts, and all receipts collected relating to the EAGF and the EAFRD have been properly credited to the appropriate funds,
- I have put in place a system which provides reasonable assurance on the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions, including that the eligibility of demands and, for rural development, the procedure for attributing aid, are managed, controlled and documented in conformity with Union rules.

The expenditure entered in the accounts was used for its intended purpose, as defined in Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013.

Furthermore, I confirm that effective and proportionate anti-fraud measures under Article 58 of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 are in place and take account of the risks identified.

That assurance is, however, subject to the following reservations:

Finally, I confirm that I am not aware of any undisclosed matter which could be damaging to the financial interest of the Union.

Signature'

DECISIONS

POLITICAL AND SECURITY COMMITTEE DECISION (CFSP) 2018/57

of 9 January 2018

extending the mandate of the Head of Mission of the European Union CSDP mission in Mali (EUCAP Sahel Mali) (EUCAP Sahel Mali/1/2018)

THE POLITICAL AND SECURITY COMMITTEE,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular the third paragraph of Article 38 thereof,

Having regard to Council Decision 2014/219/CFSP of 15 April 2014 on the European Union CSDP mission in Mali (EUCAP Sahel Mali) ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 7(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to Decision 2014/219/CFSP, the Political and Security Committee (PSC) is authorised, in accordance with Article 38 of the Treaty, to take the relevant decisions for the purpose of exercising the political control and strategic direction of the EUCAP Sahel Mali mission, including the decision to appoint a Head of Mission.
- (2) On 18 September 2017, the PSC adopted Decision EUCAP Sahel Mali/1/2017 ⁽²⁾, appointing Mr Philippe RIO as Head of Mission of EUCAP Sahel Mali from 1 October 2017 to 14 January 2018.
- (3) On 13 December 2017, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy proposed the extension of the mandate of Mr Philippe RIO as Head of Mission of EUCAP Sahel Mali from 15 January 2018 to 14 January 2019,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The mandate of Mr Philippe RIO as Head of Mission of EUCAP Sahel Mali is hereby extended until 14 January 2019.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels, 9 January 2018.

For the Political and Security Committee

The Chairperson

W. STEVENS

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 113, 16.4.2014, p. 21.

⁽²⁾ Political and Security Committee Decision (CFSP) 2017/1780 of 18 September 2017 on the appointment of the Head of Mission of the European Union CSDP mission in Mali (EUCAP Sahel Mali) (EUCAP Sahel Mali/1/2017) (OJ L 253, 30.9.2017, p. 37).

COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION (CFSP) 2018/58
of 12 January 2018
implementing Decision (CFSP) 2016/849 concerning restrictive measures against the Democratic
People's Republic of Korea

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Article 31(2) thereof,

Having regard to Council Decision (CFSP) 2016/849 of 27 May 2016 concerning restrictive measures against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and repealing Decision 2013/183/CFSP ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 33(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,

Whereas:

- (1) On 27 May 2016, the Council adopted Decision (CFSP) 2016/849.
- (2) On 28 December 2017, the United Nations Security Council ('UNSC') Committee established pursuant to UNSC Resolution ('UNSCR') 1718 (2006) designated four vessels pursuant to paragraph 6 of UNSCR 2375 (2017).
- (3) Annex IV to Decision (CFSP) 2016/849 should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Annex IV to Decision (CFSP) 2016/849 is amended as set out in the Annex to this Decision.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at Brussels, 12 January 2018.

For the Council
The President
E. KRALEVA

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 141, 28.5.2016, p. 79.

ANNEX

The following vessels are added to the list of vessels subject to restrictive measures set out in Annex IV to Decision (CFSP) 2016/849:

‘5. **Name:** BILLIONS NO. 18

Additional information

IMO: 9191773

6. **Name:** UL JI BONG 6

Additional information

IMO: 9114555

7. **Name:** RUNG RA 2

Additional information

IMO: 9020534

8. **Name:** RYE SONG GANG 1

Additional information

IMO: 7389704’.

COMMISSION DECISION (EU) 2018/59**of 11 January 2018****amending Decision 2009/300/EC as regards the content, and period of validity, of the ecological criteria for the award of the EU Eco-label to televisions***(notified under document C(2018) 6)***(Text with EEA relevance)**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 66/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2009 on the EU Ecolabel ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 8(2) and (3) thereof,

After consulting the European Union Ecolabelling Board,

Whereas:

- (1) Commission Decision 2009/300/EC ⁽²⁾ establishes specific ecological criteria and assessment and verification requirements for the 'televisions' product group.
- (2) The validity of the current ecological criteria and related assessment and verification requirements set out in Decision 2009/300/EC expires on 31 December 2017.
- (3) The first criterion set out in Decision 2009/300/EC, which concerns energy savings, is based on the existing energy labelling and eco-design requirements for televisions set by Commission Regulation (EC) No 642/2009 ⁽³⁾. As a consequence, the EU Ecolabel is currently awarded to televisions that are labelled with Energy Class B under the energy labelling scheme for televisions set out in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1062/2010 ⁽⁴⁾ ('the Energy Labelling Scheme'). However, Energy Class B is not the most efficient class sold on the market in the Union. The first criterion in Decision 2009/300/EC therefore needs to be updated to ensure that the EU Ecolabel is awarded to products that are energy efficient.
- (4) A proposal has been made to replace the existing energy labelling and eco-design requirements for televisions with a new set of requirements by latest in 2019 ⁽⁵⁾, but the proposal has not yet been adopted. Pending adoption of that proposal, the 'energy savings' criterion in Decision 2009/300/EC should be amended to refer to the higher energy classes in the current version of the Energy Labelling Scheme.
- (5) An assessment has been carried out confirming the relevance and appropriateness of the proposed amendment to the 'energy savings' criterion, and also confirming the relevance and appropriateness of all the other existing ecological criteria for televisions and related assessment and verification requirements established by Decision 2009/300/EC. A revision of the ecolabel criteria is envisaged once the proposed new energy labelling and eco-design requirements for televisions are adopted.
- (6) For the reasons set out in recitals 4 and 5, and in order to allow enough time for revision of the current ecological criteria once the proposed new energy labelling and eco-design requirements are adopted, the period of validity of the existing criteria and related assessment and verification requirements, as amended by this Decision, should be prolonged until 31 December 2019.
- (7) Decision 2009/300/EC should therefore be amended accordingly.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 27, 30.1.2010, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ Commission Decision 2009/300/EC of 12 March 2009 establishing the revised ecological criteria for the award of the Community Eco-label to televisions (OJ L 82, 28.3.2009, p. 3).

⁽³⁾ Commission Regulation (EC) No 642/2009 of 22 July 2009 implementing Directive 2005/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to eco-design requirements for televisions (OJ L 191, 23.7.2009, p. 42).

⁽⁴⁾ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1062/2010 of 28 September 2010 supplementing Directive 2010/30/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to energy labelling of televisions (OJ L 314, 30.11.2010, p. 64).

⁽⁵⁾ COM(2016) 773 final. <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TEXT/?qid=1490877945963&uri=CELEX:52016DC0773>

- (8) A transitional period should be granted for applications and licences falling under the criteria set out in Decision 2009/300/EC in order to allow licence-holders and applicants sufficient time to adapt to the changes made to the 'energy savings' criterion.
- (9) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established by Article 16 of Regulation (EC) No 66/2010,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Article 3 of Decision 2009/300/EC is replaced by the following:

'Article 3

The ecological criteria for the product group "televisions" and the related assessment and verification requirements shall be valid until 31 December 2019.'

Article 2

The Annex to Decision 2009/300/EC is amended as set out in the Annex to this Decision.

Article 3

1. Applications for the EU Ecolabel for products falling within the product group 'televisions' submitted before the date of adoption of this Decision shall be evaluated in accordance with the conditions laid down in the version of Decision 2009/300/EC in force on the day immediately preceding the date of adoption of this Decision ('the old version of Decision 2009/300/EC').
2. Applications for the EU Ecolabel for products falling within the product group 'televisions' submitted within one month from the date of adoption of this Decision may be based either on the criteria set out in the old version of Decision 2009/300/EC or on the criteria set out in the version of that Decision as amended by this Decision.
3. EU Ecolabel licences awarded in accordance with the criteria set out in the old version of Decision 2009/300/EC may be used for 6 months from the date of adoption of this Decision.

Article 4

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 11 January 2018.

For the Commission
Karmenu VELLA
Member of the Commission

ANNEX

In the Annex to Decision 2009/300/EC, criterion 1 (Energy savings) is amended as follows:

- (1) in point b) (Maximum energy consumption), '≤ 200 W' is replaced by '≤ 100 W';
- (2) all four paragraphs in point c) (Energy Efficiency) are replaced by the following:

'Televisions shall meet the specifications of the Energy Efficiency Index set out in Annex I to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1062/2010 (*) for the energy efficiency class specified as follows or, alternatively, for a more efficient energy efficiency class:

- i. energy efficiency class A for appliances with a visible screen diagonal ≤ 90 cm (or 35,4 inches);
- ii. energy efficiency class A+ (A for UHD) for appliances with a visible screen diagonal > 90 cm (or 35,4 inches) and < 120 cm (or 47,2 inches);
- iii. energy efficiency class A++ (A+ for UHD) for appliances with a visible screen diagonal ≥ 120 cm (or 47,2 inches).

In this point, 'UHD' means Ultra High Definition, which is standardised (**) with two resolutions of 3 840 × 2 160 (UHD-4K) pixels or 7 680 × 4 320 (UHD-8K) pixels.

(*) Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1062/2010 of 28 September 2010 supplementing Directive 2010/30/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to energy labelling of televisions (OJ L 314, 30.11.2010, p. 64).

(**) International Telecommunications Union Recommendation (ITU-R) BT.2020.;

- (3) in the section headed 'Assessment and verification (points a) to c)':

- (a) the first paragraph is replaced by the following:

'The applicant shall submit a test report for the television model(s) covering the test carried out according to EN 50564 standards for meeting the conditions set out in point a) and the tests carried out using the measurement procedures and methods referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Annex VII to Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1062/2010 for meeting the conditions set out in points b) and c). In addition, the energy efficiency class and the visible screen diagonal shall be indicated in the report.';

- (b) the third paragraph is deleted.
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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2018/60
of 12 January 2018
concerning certain interim protective measures relating to African swine fever in Romania
(notified under document C(2018) 219)
(Only the Romanian text is authentic)
(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Directive 89/662/EEC of 11 December 1989 concerning veterinary checks in intra-Community trade with a view to the completion of the internal market ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 9(3) thereof,

Having regard to Council Directive 90/425/EEC of 26 June 1990 concerning veterinary and zootechnical checks applicable in intra-Community trade in certain live animals and products with a view to the completion of the internal market ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 10(3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) African swine fever is an infectious viral disease affecting domestic and feral pig populations and can have a severe impact on the profitability of pig farming causing disturbance to trade within the Union and exports to third countries.
- (2) In the event of an outbreak of African swine fever, there is a risk that the disease agent might spread to other pig holdings and to feral pigs. As a result, it may spread from one Member State to another Member State and to third countries through trade in live pigs or their products.
- (3) Council Directive 2002/60/EC ⁽³⁾ lays down minimum measures to be applied within the Union for the control of African swine fever. Article 9 of Directive 2002/60/EC provides for the establishment of protection and surveillance zones in the event of outbreaks of that disease where the measures laid down in Articles 10 and 11 of that Directive are to apply.
- (4) Romania has informed the Commission of the current African swine fever situation on its territory, and in accordance with Article 9 of Directive 2002/60/EC, it has established protection and surveillance zones where the measures referred to in Articles 10 and 11 of that Directive are applied.
- (5) In order to prevent any unnecessary disturbance to trade within the Union and to avoid unjustified barriers to trade by third countries, it is necessary to describe at Union level the areas established as protection and surveillance zones for African swine fever in Romania in collaboration with that Member State.
- (6) Accordingly, pending the next meeting of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed, the areas identified as protection and surveillance zones in Romania should be set out in the Annex to this Decision and the duration of that regionalisation fixed.
- (7) This Decision is to be reviewed at the next meeting of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Romania shall ensure that the protection and surveillance zones established in accordance with Article 9 of Directive 2002/60/EC comprise at least the areas listed as the protection and surveillance zones in the Annex to this Decision.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 395, 30.12.1989, p. 13.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 224, 18.8.1990, p. 29.

⁽³⁾ Council Directive 2002/60/EC of 27 June 2002 laying down specific provisions for the control of African swine fever and amending Directive 92/119/EEC as regards Teschen disease and African swine fever (OJ L 192, 20.7.2002, p. 27).

Article 2

This Decision shall apply until 31 March 2018.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to Romania.

Done at Brussels, 12 January 2018.

For the Commission
Vytenis ANDRIUKAITIS
Member of the Commission

ANNEX

Romania	Areas as referred to in Article 1	Date until applicable
Protection zone	Micula locality, Micula commune Micula Noua locality, Micula commune	31 March 2018
Surveillance zone	Cidreag locality, Halmeu commune Porumbesti locality, Halmeu commune Halmeu locality Dorobolt locality, Halmeu commune Mesteacan locality, Halmeu commune Turulung locality, Turulung commune Draguseni locality, Turulung commune Agris locality, Agris commune Ciuperceni locality, Agris commune Dumbrava locality, Livada commune Vanatoresti locality, Odoreu commune Botiz locality, Odoreu commune Lazuri locality, Lazuri commune Noroieni locality, Lazuri commune Peles locality, Lazuri commune Pelisor locality, Lazuri commune Nisipeni locality, Lazuri commune Bercu locality, Lazuri commune Bercu Nou locality, Micula commune	31 March 2018

