Official Journal
of the European Union

EN
L series

2026/2503

13.11.2026

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2026/2503

of 12 November 2026

amending Annexes XIV and XV to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 as regards the entries for Japan in the lists of third countries authorised for the entry into the Union of consignments of fresh meat of poultry and meat products from poultry

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on transmissible animal diseases and amending and repealing certain acts in the area of animal health ('Animal Health Law') ([1]), and in particular Article 230(1) and Article 232(3), point (b) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Regulation (EU) 2016/429 provides that consignments of animals, germinal products and products of animal origin from third countries or territories are only to be allowed to enter into the Union if the third countries or territories concerned are listed in accordance with Article 230(1) of that Regulation.

(2) Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692 ([2]) lays down the animal health requirements that consignments of certain species and categories of animals, germinal products and products of animal origin, from third countries, territories, or zones thereof, or compartments thereof in the case of aquaculture animals, must comply with in order to enter the Union.

(3) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 ([3]) lays down the lists of third countries, territories, or zones thereof, from which the entry into the Union of the species and categories of animals, germinal products and products of animal origin, falling within the scope of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692, is permitted. Those lists and certain general rules concerning those lists are set out in Annexes I to XXII to that Implementing Regulation.

(4) More particularly, Annexes XIV and XV to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 set out the lists of third countries, territories, or zones thereof, authorised for the entry into the Union, respectively, of consignments of fresh meat of poultry and game birds, and of meat products from ungulates, poultry and game birds.

(5) Japan is listed in Annex XIV to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 as a third country from which entry into the Union of consignments of fresh poultry meat is authorised from the whole of its territory. However, due to the confirmation of an outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), the entry of such consignments from Japan is currently suspended, with a closing date of 5 November 2020 indicated in column 6 of the table in Part 1, Section B, of that Annex. In addition, the table in Part 1, Section A, of Annex XV to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 provides that consignments of meat products of poultry from Japan may enter the Union only if those products have undergone the specific risk-mitigating treatment 'D', in accordance with Annex XXVI to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692.

([1]) OJ L 84, 31.3.2016, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2016/429/oj.

([2]) Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692 of 30 January 2020 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards rules for entry into the Union, and the movement and handling after entry of consignments of certain animals, germinal products and products of animal origin (OJ L 174, 3.6.2020, p. 379, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2020/692/oj).

([3]) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 of 24 March 2021 laying down the lists of third countries, territories or zones thereof from which the entry into the Union of animals, germinal products and products of animal origin is permitted in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 114, 31.3.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2021/404/oj).

(6) On 6 July 2026, Japan has submitted updated information on the epidemiological situation on its territory in relation to HPAI in poultry and the measures it has taken to prevent the further spread of that disease. In particular, following outbreaks of HPAI, Japan has implemented a stamping out policy in order to control and limit the spread of that disease, and it has also completed the requisite cleaning and disinfection following the implementation of the stamping out policy on the infected poultry establishments on its territory.

(7) The Commission has evaluated the information submitted by Japan and concluded that it has provided appropriate guarantees that the animal health situation in relation to HPAI no longer represents a threat to animal or public health in the Union, and that, consequently, the entry into the Union of consignments of fresh meat of poultry from Japan may be re-authorised, by adding an opening date in column 7 of the table in Section B of Part 1 of Annex XIV to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404. In addition, the entry into the Union of consignments of meat products from poultry from Japan should be subject to an assigned non-specific treatment 'A', and this requirement should be set out in column 10 of the table in Part 1, Section A of Annex XV to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404.

(8) Annexes XIV and XV to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 should, therefore, be amended accordingly.

(9) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Annexes XIV and XV to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 are 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*.

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

Done at Brussels, 12 November 2026.

For the Commission
The President
Ursula VON DER LEYEN

Annexes XIV and XV to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 are amended as follows:

(1) in Annex XIV, Part 1, Section B, the entry for Japan is replaced by the following:

'**JP** Japan	JP-0	POU	P1		5.11.2020	3.12.2026'

(2) in Annex XV, Part 1, Section A, the entry for Japan is replaced by the following:

'**JP** Japan	JP-0	A	Not authorised	B	A	B	Not authorised	Not authorised	A	Not authorised	Not authorised	**MPNT** (**) **MPST**'	