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(1) Text with EEA relevance.

Acts whose titles are printed in light type are those relating to day-to-day management of agricultural matters, and are generally valid for a limited period.
The titles of all other acts are printed in bold type and preceded by an asterisk.
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II

(Non-legislative acts)

REGULATIONS

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2019/370
of 7 March 2019

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 733/2008 of 15 July 2008 on the conditions governing imports of agricultural products originating in third countries following the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station (1), and in particular Article 4 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) On 29 March 2017, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (the ‘United Kingdom’) submitted the notification of its intention to withdraw from the Union pursuant to Article 50 of the Treaty on European Union. The Treaties will cease to apply to the United Kingdom from the date of entry into force of a withdrawal agreement or failing that, two years after that notification, that is to say from 30 March 2019, unless the European Council, in agreement with the United Kingdom, unanimously decides to extend that period. The United Kingdom will then become a third country.


(3) Since Regulation (EEC) No 737/90 has been amended several times, it was repealed by Regulation (EC) No 733/2008.

(4) Regulation (EC) No 733/2008 lays down maximum permitted levels of radioactivity in certain agricultural products originating in third countries. It also establishes that Member States are required to carry out checks on such agricultural products, in order to ensure their compliance with the levels of radioactivity set out in that Regulation, before the product is released for free circulation.

(5) Regulation (EC) No 1635/2006 requires Member States to ensure that the competent authorities of third countries affected by the Chernobyl accident issue export certificates which attest that the products that they accompany comply with the maximum permitted levels set out in Regulation (EC) No 733/2008. The specific third countries concerned are listed in Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 1635/2006.

The fallout of radiocaesium from the accident at the Chernobyl power station on 26 April 1986 affected a wide range of third countries. That fallout has affected some areas of the United Kingdom. Since caesium-137 has a half-life of about 30 years, contamination decreases slowly.

Certain agricultural products originating in the United Kingdom which have been affected by the Chernobyl accident could still show radioactive caesium contamination.

As soon as Union law ceases to apply to and in the United Kingdom, agricultural products originating in the United Kingdom will have to be checked in terms of radioactive contamination before they are allowed to enter the Union.

Therefore, Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 1635/2006 should be amended in order to include the United Kingdom.

Given the urgency entailed by the circumstances of the United Kingdom's departure from the European Union, it is necessary to allow for a prompt application of the measures provided for in this Regulation. Therefore, this Regulation should enter into force on the day of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.

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

In Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 1635/2006, the following entry is added:

‘United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland’.

Article 2

Entry into force and period of application

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

This Regulation shall apply from the day following that on which Union law ceases to apply to and in the United Kingdom pursuant to Article 50(3) of the Treaty on European Union.

However, this Regulation shall not apply in either of the following cases:

(a) a withdrawal agreement concluded with the United Kingdom in accordance with Article 50(2) of the Treaty on European Union has entered into force by that date;

(b) a decision has been taken to extend the two-year period referred to in Article 50(3) of the Treaty on European Union.

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

Done at Brussels, 7 March 2019.

For the Commission

The President

Jean-Claude JUNCKER
COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2019/371
of 7 March 2019
fixing the import duties applicable to certain types of husked rice from 8 March 2019

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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


Whereas:


(2) On the basis of the information provided by the competent authorities, the Commission notes that import licences for husked rice falling within CN code 1006 20, other than import licences for basmati rice, have been issued in respect of 265 824 tonnes for the period from 1 September 2018 to 28 February 2019. The import duty for husked rice falling within CN code 1006 20 other than basmati rice, fixed by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 191/2012 (3), should therefore be adjusted.

(3) Implementing Regulation (EU) No 191/2012 should therefore be repealed.

(4) The applicable duty must be fixed within 10 days of the end of the period mentioned above. This Regulation should therefore enter into force immediately,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The import duty for husked rice falling within CN code 1006 20 shall be EUR 65 per tonne.

Article 2

Implementing Regulation (EU) No 191/2012 is repealed.

Article 3

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day 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, 7 March 2019.

For the Commission,
On behalf of the President,
Jerzy PLEWA
Director-General
Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development
DECISIONS

COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2019/372
of 5 March 2019

authorising France to apply a reduced rate of taxation to unleaded petrol used as motor fuel and consumed in Corsican departments in accordance with Article 19 of Directive 2003/96/EC

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

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

Having regard to Council Directive 2003/96/EC of 27 October 2003 restructuring the Community framework for the taxation of energy products and electricity (1), and in particular Article 19(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

(1) By means of Council Decision 2007/880/EC (2) and Implementing Decision 2013/192/EU (3), France was authorised to apply a reduced rate of taxation to unleaded petrol used as motor fuel and consumed in Corsican departments in accordance with Article 19 of Directive 2003/96/EC.

(2) By letter dated 26 September 2018, France requested authorisation to apply a reduced rate of energy tax to unleaded petrol used as motor fuel by way of extension of a practice followed under Decision 2007/880/EC and Implementing Decision 2013/192/EU. The reduction amounts to EUR 1 per hectolitre. The authorisation is requested for the period from 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2024. In Corsica the cost of supplying unleaded petrol to the forecourt is appreciably higher than in mainland France, final prices being over EUR 0.10 per litre higher than on the mainland.

(3) By reducing the tax on unleaded petrol borne by consumers in Corsica, the consumers concerned will be placed on a more equal footing with those on the mainland. The measure therefore meets regional and cohesion policy objectives.

(4) The tax reduction is no larger than what is necessary to allow for the additional transport and distribution costs borne by consumers in Corsica.

(5) The final level of taxation complies with the minimum rates laid down in Directive 2003/96/EC, currently EUR 359 per 1 000 litres (or EUR 35.90 per hectolitre).

(6) In view of the remote and insular nature of the departments to which it applies and the moderate reduction in the rate — which is, moreover, very high compared to the minimum level set out in Directive 2003/96/EC — the measure requested will not give rise to any movement specifically linked to the supplying of fuel.

(7) Consequently, the measure is acceptable in terms of the proper functioning of the internal market and of the need to ensure fair competition and is not incompatible with the health, environment, energy and transport policies of the Union.

(8) France should therefore be authorised, pursuant to Article 19(2) of Directive 2003/96/EC, to apply a reduced rate of taxation to unleaded petrol used as motor fuel and consumed in Corsica, until 31 December 2024.

(9) It follows from Article 19(2) of Directive 2003/96/EC that each authorisation granted under that Article must be strictly limited in time.

(10) In order to provide the departments concerned with a sufficient degree of certainty, the authorisation should be granted for a period of six years. However, in order not to undermine future general developments of the existing legal framework, it is appropriate to provide that, should the Council, acting on the basis of Article 113 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), introduce a modified general system for the taxation of energy products to which this authorisation would not be adapted, this Decision would expire on the day on which the rules on that modified general system became applicable.

(11) It should be ensured that France can apply the specific reduction to which this Decision relates from 1 January 2019, following seamlessly on from the prior arrangements under Implementing Decision 2013/192/EU. The authorisation requested should therefore be granted with effect from 1 January 2019.

(12) This Decision is without prejudice to the application of the Union rules regarding State aid,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

France is hereby authorised to apply a reduction in the rate of taxation not exceeding EUR 1 per hectolitre to unleaded petrol used as motor fuel and consumed in the Corsican departments.

In order to avoid any overcompensation, the reduction shall not go beyond the additional costs of transport, storage and distribution borne in the Corsican departments compared to mainland France.

The reduced rate shall comply with the obligations set out in Directive 2003/96/EC, in particular the minimum rates referred to in Article 7 thereof.

Article 2

This Decision shall take effect on the date of its notification.

It shall apply from 1 January 2019.

It shall expire on 31 December 2024.

However, should the Council, acting on the basis of Article 113 of TFEU, introduce a modified general system for the taxation of energy products to which the authorisation granted in Article 1 of this Decision would not be adapted, this Decision shall expire on the day on which the rules on that modified system become applicable.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the French Republic.

Done at Brussels, 5 March 2019.

For the Council

The President

G.L. GAVRILESCU
POLITICAL AND SECURITY COMMITTEE DECISION (CFSP) 2019/373
of 5 March 2019

on the appointment of the EU Force Commander for the European Union military operation to contribute to the deterrence, prevention and repression of acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast (Atalanta) and repealing Decision (CFSP) 2018/925 (ATALANTA/1/2019)

THE POLITICAL AND SECURITY COMMITTEE,

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

Having regard to Council Joint Action 2008/851/CFSP of 10 November 2008 on a European Union military operation to contribute to the deterrence, prevention and repression of acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast (1), and in particular Article 6(1) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Pursuant to Article 6(1) of Joint Action 2008/851/CFSP, the Council authorised the Political and Security Committee (PSC) to take the relevant decisions on the appointment of the EU Force Commander for European Union military operation to contribute to the deterrence, prevention and repression of acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast (EU Force Commander).

(2) On 26 June 2018, the PSC adopted Decision (CFSP) 2018/925 (2) appointing Rear Admiral Alfonso PÉREZ DE NANCLARES Y PÉREZ DE ACEVEDO as EU Force Commander.

(3) The EU Operation Commander has recommended the appointment of Rear Admiral Ricardo A. HERNÁNDEZ as the new EU Force Commander as from 10 March 2019.

(4) On 8 January 2019, the EU Military Committee supported that recommendation.

(5) Decision (CFSP) 2018/925 should therefore be repealed.

(6) In accordance with Article 5 of Protocol No 22 on the position of Denmark, annexed to the Treaty on European Union and to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Denmark does not participate in the elaboration and the implementation of decisions and actions of the Union which have defence implications,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Rear Admiral Ricardo A. HERNÁNDEZ is hereby appointed EU Force Commander for the European Union military operation to contribute to the deterrence, prevention and repression of acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast (Atalanta) as from 10 March 2019.

Article 2

Decision (CFSP) 2018/925 is repealed.

Article 3

This Decision shall enter into force on 10 March 2019.

Done at Brussels, 5 March 2019.

For the Political and Security Committee
The Chairperson
S. FROM-EMMESBERGER
Council Decision (EU) 2019/374
of 5 March 2019
appointing a member and six alternate members, proposed by the Kingdom of Sweden, of the Committee of the Regions

The Council of the European Union,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 305 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal of the Swedish Government,

Whereas:

(1) On 26 January 2015, 5 February 2015 and 23 June 2015, the Council adopted Decisions (EU) 2015/116 (1), (EU) 2015/190 (2) and (EU) 2015/994 (3) appointing the members and alternate members of the Committee of the Regions for the period from 26 January 2015 to 25 January 2020. On 20 July 2015, by Council Decision (EU) 2015/1203 (4) Ms Carola GUNNARSSON, Ms Agneta LIPKIN and Mr Anders ROSEN were replaced by Mr Jonny LUNDIN, Mr Erik PELLING and Mr Glenn NORDLUND as alternate members.

(2) A member’s seat on the Committee of the Regions has become vacant following the end of the term of office of Mr Paul LINDQUIST.

(3) Two alternate members’ seats on the Committee of the Regions have become vacant following the end of the terms of office of Mr Carl Fredrik GRAF and Mr Erik PELLING.

(4) Four alternate members’ seats on the Committee of the Regions have become vacant following the end of the mandates on the basis of which Ms Åsa ÄGREN WIKSTROM (Ledamot i kommunfullmäktige, Uméå kommun), Ms Marie SALLSTROM (Ledamot i landstingsfullmäktige, Blekinge läns landsting), Mr Jonny LUNDIN (Härnösands kommunk) and Mr Glenn NORDLUND (Örnsköldsviks kommun) were proposed,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The following are hereby appointed to the Committee of the Regions for the remainder of the current term of office, which runs until 25 January 2020:

(a) as a member:
   — Mr Pehr GRANFALK, Ledamot i kommunfullmäktige, Solna kommun,

(b) as alternate members:
   — Ms Suzanne FRANK, Ersättare i landstingsfullmäktige, Kronobergs läns landsting,
   — Ms Caroline HOFFSTEDT, Ledamot i kommunfullmäktige, Uppsala kommun,
   — Ms Marie SALLSTROM, Ledamot i kommunfullmäktige, Karlshamns kommun (change of mandate),
   — Ms Åsa ÄGREN WIKSTROM, Ledamot i landstingsfullmäktige, Västerbottens läns landsting (change of mandate),
   — Mr Jonny LUNDIN, Ledamot i landstingsfullmäktige, Västernorrlands läns landsting (change of mandate),
   — Mr Glenn NORDLUND, Ledamot i landstingsfullmäktige, Västernorrlands läns landsting (change of mandate).

Article 2

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

Done at Brussels, 5 March 2019.

For the Council
The President
G.L. GAVRILESCU
COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2019/375
of 5 March 2019
appointing a member, proposed by the Italian Republic, of the Committee of the Regions

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 305 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal of the Italian Government,

Whereas:

(1) On 26 January 2015, 5 February 2015 and 23 June 2015, the Council adopted Decisions (EU) 2015/116 (1), (EU) 2015/190 (2) and (EU) 2015/994 (3) appointing the members and alternate members of the Committee of the Regions for the period from 26 January 2015 to 25 January 2020. On 11 July 2017, by Council Decision (EU) 2017/1334 (4), Mr Augusto ROLLANDIN was replaced by Mr Pierluigi MARQUIS as a member. On 29 January 2018, by Council Decision (EU) 2018/157 (5), Mr Pierluigi MARQUIS was replaced by Mr Laurent VIERIN as a member. On 8 October 2018, by Council Decision (EU) 2018/1510 (6), Mr Laurent VIERIN was replaced by Ms Nicoletta SPELGATTI as a member.

(2) A member’s seat on the Committee of the Regions has become vacant following the end of the term of office of Ms Nicoletta SPELGATTI,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The following is hereby appointed as a member of the Committee of the Regions for the remainder of the current term of office, which runs until 25 January 2020:
— Mr Pierluigi MARQUIS, Consigliere della Regione Autonoma Valle d’Aosta.

Article 2

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

Done at Brussels, 5 March 2019.

For the Council
The President
G.L. GAVRILESCU

COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2019/376
of 5 March 2019
appointing three members and four alternate members, proposed by the Republic of Croatia, of the Committee of the Regions

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 305 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal of the Croatian Government,

Whereas:


(2) Two members’ seats on the Committee of the Regions have become vacant following the end of the terms of office of Ms Snježana BUŽINEC and Mr Predrag ŠTROMAR.

(3) A member’s seat on the Committee of the Regions has become vacant following the end of the mandate on the basis of which Ms Jelena PAVIČIĆ VUKIČEVIĆ (Councillor in the City of Zagreb Assembly) was proposed.

(4) Four alternate members’ seats on the Committee of the Regions have become vacant following the end of the terms of office of Ms Josipa RIMAC, Ms Viviana BENUSSI, Mr Tulio DEMELIKA and Mr Ivan VuČIĆ.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The following are hereby appointed to the Committee of the Regions for the remainder of the current term of office, which runs until 25 January 2020:

(a) as members:

— Mr Ivan GULAM, Mayor of the Municipality of Pirovac,
— Mr Goran PAUK, Prefect of Šibenik-Knin County,
— Ms Jelena PAVIČIĆ VUKIČEVIĆ, Vice-Mayor of City of Zagreb (change of mandate),

and

(b) as alternate members:

— Ms Antonija JOZIĆ, Mayor of City of Pleternica,
— Mr Darko KOREN, Prefect of Koprivnica-Križevci County,
— Mr Anteo MILOŠ, Mayor of City of Novigrad,
— Mr Matija POSAVEC, Prefect of Međimurje County.

Article 2

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

Done at Brussels, 5 March 2019.

For the Council
The President
G.L. GAVRILESCU
COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2019/377
of 5 March 2019
appointing a member and an alternate member, proposed by Hungary, of the Committee of the Regions

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 305 thereof,
Having regard to the proposal of the Hungarian Government,

Whereas:
(2) A member's seat on the Committee of the Regions has become vacant following the end of the term of office of Mr László Lóránt DR. KERESZTES.
(3) An alternate member's seat has become vacant following the end of the term of office of Mr Sándor KOVÁCS,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The following are hereby appointed to the Committee of the Regions for the remainder of the current term of office, which runs until 25 January 2020:
(a) as a member:
— Mr József KÓBOR, Representative of Local Government of Pécs with county rights;
and
(b) as an alternate member:
— Mr Nándor SKUCZI, Chair of the Municipality of Nógrád County.

Article 2

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

Done at Brussels, 5 March 2019.

For the Council
The President
G.L. GAVRILESCU

COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2019/378  
of 5 March 2019  

appointing a member, proposed by the Republic of Austria, of the Committee of the Regions

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 305 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal of the Austrian Government,

Whereas:


(2) A member’s seat on the Committee of the Regions has become vacant following the end of the term of office of Mr Michael STRUGL.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The following is hereby appointed as a member of the Committee of the Regions for the remainder of the current term of office, which runs until 25 January 2020:

— Mr Markus ACHLEITNER, Mitglied der oberösterreichischen Landesregierung.

Article 2

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

Done at Brussels, 5 March 2019.

For the Council
The President
G.L. GAVRILESCU


