Official Journal of the European Union



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* Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/998 of 12 July 2018 amending Annex I to Decision 2009/177/EC as regards the status of Croatia for koi herpes virus (KHV) disease, of Finland for infectious haematopoietic necrosis (IHN), the list of areas in Ireland free of Bonamia ostreae, the list of areas in the United Kingdom free of Marteilia refringens and amending Annex I to Decision 2010/221/EU as regards the list of areas in the United Kingdom free of Ostreid herpesvirus 1 µvar (OsHV-1 µVar) (notified under document C(2018) 4381)(¹)

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⁽¹⁾ Text with EEA relevance.

I

(Legislative acts)

DECISIONS

COUNCIL DECISION (EU, Euratom) 2018/994

of 13 July 2018

amending the Act concerning the election of the members of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage, annexed to Council Decision 76/787/ECSC, EEC, Euratom of 20 September 1976

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 223(1) thereof,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community, and in particular Article 106a(1) thereof.

Having regard to the proposal from the European Parliament,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Having regard to the consent of the European Parliament (1),

Acting in accordance with a special legislative procedure,

Whereas:

- The Act concerning the election of the members of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage (2) ('the (1)Electoral Act'), annexed to Council Decision 76/787/ECSC, EEC, Euratom (3), entered into force on 1 July 1978 and was subsequently amended by Decision 2002/772/EC, Euratom (4).
- (2) A number of amendments are to be made to the Electoral Act.
- As a consequence of the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon on 1 December 2009, the Council has to lay (3) down the provisions necessary for the election of the members of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage in accordance with a special legislative procedure.
- Transparency of the electoral process and access to reliable information are important for raising European (4) political awareness and for securing a solid election turnout, and it is desirable that citizens of the Union be informed well in advance of elections to the European Parliament about the candidates standing in those elections and about the affiliation of national political parties to a European political party.
- In order to encourage voter participation in elections to the European Parliament and to fully take advantage of (5) the possibilities offered by technological developments, Member States could provide for the possibilities of, inter alia, advance voting, postal voting, and electronic and internet voting, while ensuring, in particular, the reliability of the result, the secrecy of the vote and the protection of personal data, in accordance with applicable Union law.
- Citizens of the Union have the right to participate in its democratic life, in particular, by voting or standing as (6) candidates in elections to the European Parliament.

⁽¹⁾ Consent of 4 July 2018 (not yet published in the Official Journal).

⁽²⁾ OJ L 278, 8.10.1976, p. 5.

 ⁽⁴⁾ Council Decision 76/787/ECSC, EEC, Euratom of 20 September 1976 (OJ L 278, 8.10.1976, p. 1).
 (4) Council Decision 2002/772/EC, Euratom of 25 June and 23 September 2002 amending the Act concerning the election of the representatives of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage, annexed to Decision 76/787/ECSC, EEC, Euratom (OJ L 283, 21.10.2002, p. 1).

- (7) Member States are encouraged to take the measures necessary to allow those of their citizens residing in third countries to vote in elections to the European Parliament.
- (8) The Electoral Act should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The Electoral Act is amended as follows:

(1) Article 1 is replaced by the following:

'Article 1

1. In each Member State, members of the European Parliament shall be elected as representatives of the citizens of the Union on the basis of proportional representation, using the list system or the single transferable vote.

2. Member States may authorise voting based on a preferential list system in accordance with the procedure they adopt.

3. Elections shall be by direct universal suffrage and shall be free and secret.';

(2) Article 3 is replaced by the following:

'Article 3

1. Member States may set a minimum threshold for the allocation of seats. At national level, this threshold may not exceed 5 per cent of valid votes cast.

2. Member States in which the list system is used shall set a minimum threshold for the allocation of seats for constituencies which comprise more than 35 seats. This threshold shall not be lower than 2 per cent, and shall not exceed 5 per cent, of the valid votes cast in the constituency concerned, including a single-constituency Member State.

3. Member States shall take the measures necessary to comply with the obligation set out in paragraph 2 no later than in time for the elections to the European Parliament which follow the first ones taking place after the entry into force of Council Decision (EU, Euratom) 2018/994 (*).

- (*) Council Decision (EU, Euratom) 2018/994 of 13 July 2018 amending the Act concerning the election of the members of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage, annexed to Decision 76/787/ECSC, EEC, Euratom of 20 September 1976 (OJ L 178, 16.7.2018, p. 1).';
- (3) The following Articles are inserted:

'Article 3a

Where national provisions set a deadline for the submission of candidacies for election to the European Parliament, that deadline shall be at least three weeks before the date fixed by the relevant Member State, in accordance with Article 10(1), for holding the elections to the European Parliament.

Article 3b

Member States may allow for the display, on ballot papers, of the name or logo of the European political party to which the national political party or individual candidate is affiliated.';

(4) The following Article is inserted:

'Article 4a

Member States may provide for the possibilities of advance voting, postal voting, and electronic and internet voting, in elections to the European Parliament. Where they do so, they shall adopt measures sufficient to ensure in particular the reliability of the result, the secrecy of the vote, and the protection of personal data in accordance with applicable Union law.';

(5) Article 9 is replaced by the following:

'Article 9

1. No one may vote more than once in any election of members of the European Parliament.

2. Member States shall take measures necessary to ensure that double voting in elections to the European Parliament is subject to effective, proportionate and dissuasive penalties.';

(6) The following Articles are inserted:

'Article 9a

In accordance with their national electoral procedures, Member States may take the measures necessary to allow those of their citizens residing in third countries to vote in elections to the European Parliament.

Article 9b

1. Each Member State shall designate a contact authority responsible for exchanging data on voters and candidates with its counterparts in the other Member States.

2. Without prejudice to national provisions on the entry of voters on the electoral roll and the submission of candidacies, the authority referred to in paragraph 1 shall, in accordance with the applicable Union law concerning the protection of personal data, begin transmitting to those counterparts, no later than six weeks before the first day of the electoral period referred to in Article 10(1), the data indicated in Council Directive 93/109/EC (*) concerning Union citizens who, in a Member State of which they are not nationals, have been entered on the electoral roll or are standing as candidates.

(*) Council Directive 93/109/EC of 6 December 1993 laying down detailed arrangements for the exercise of the right to vote and stand as a candidate in elections to the European Parliament for citizens of the Union residing in a Member State of which they are not nationals (OJ L 329, 30.12.1993, p. 34).'

Article 2

1. This Decision shall be subject to approval by the Member States in accordance with their respective constitutional requirements. Member States shall notify the General Secretariat of the Council of the completion of the procedures necessary for that purpose.

2. This Decision shall enter into force on the first day after the last notification referred to in paragraph 1 has been received $(^{1})$.

Done at Brussels, 13 July 2018.

For the Council The President H. LÖGER

^{(&}lt;sup>1</sup>) The date of entry into force of the Decision will be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* by the General Secretariat of the Council.

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Π

(Non-legislative acts)

REGULATIONS

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2018/995

of 12 July 2018

amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/2080 as regards the periods for the submission of tenders

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to 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 (1),

Having regard to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/1240 of 18 May 2016 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to public intervention and aid for private storage (2), and in particular Article 28 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1)Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/2080 (3) has opened the sale of skimmed milk powder by a tendering procedure. It provided initially for two partial invitations to tender per month, except for August and December.
- Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/472 (4) amended Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/2080 by (2)reducing the number of periods during which tenders may be submitted to one per month and eliminating the provision for such a period in the month of August.
- Experience gained with the partial invitations to tender implemented in 2018 has shown an increasing interest (3) for the tender under current market conditions. It is therefore appropriate to restore the original number of periods during which tenders may be submitted and to provide for such a period in the month of August.
- (4) Given that the period in the month of August ends on the fourth Tuesday, in order to avoid having two tenders in two consecutive weeks, it is appropriate having only one period in September.
- Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/2080 should therefore be amended accordingly. (5)
- The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee for the (6) Common Organisation of the Agricultural Markets,

^{(&}lt;sup>1</sup>) OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 671.
(²) OJ L 206, 30.7.2016, p. 71.

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/2080 of 25 November 2016 opening the sale of skimmed milk powder by a tendering procedure (OJ L 321, 29.11.2016, p. 45).

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/472 of 15 March 2017 amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/2080 as regards the periods for the submission of tenders (OJ L 73, 18.3.2017, p. 5).

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Article 2(2) of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/2080 is replaced by the following:

'2. The periods during which tenders may be submitted in response to the second and subsequent partial invitations shall begin on the first working day following the end of the preceding period. They shall end at 11.00 (Brussels time) on the first and third Tuesday of the month. However, in August it shall be 11.00 (Brussels time) on the fourth Tuesday, in September it shall be 11.00 (Brussels time) on the third Tuesday and in December it shall be 11.00 (Brussels time) on the previous working day.'

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 18 July 2018.

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

Done at Brussels, 12 July 2018.

For the Commission, On behalf of the President, Phil HOGAN Member of the Commission EN

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2018/996

of 12 July 2018

approving non-minor amendments to the specification for a name entered in the register of protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications ('Limone Femminello del Gargano' (PGI))

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 November 2012 on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs (1), and in particular Article 52(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- Pursuant to the first subparagraph of Article 53(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012, the Commission has (1)examined Italy's application for the approval of amendments to the specification for the protected geographical indication 'Limone Femminello del Gargano', registered under Commission Regulation (EC) No 148/2007 (2).
- Since the amendments in question are not minor within the meaning of Article 53(2) of Regulation (EU) (2)No 1151/2012, the Commission published the amendment application in the Official Journal of the European Union $(^3)$ as required by Article 50(2)(a) of that Regulation.
- As no statement of opposition under Article 51 of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 has been received by the (3)Commission, the amendments to the specification should be approved,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The amendments to the specification published in the Official Journal of the European Union regarding the name 'Limone Femminello del Gargano' (PGI) are hereby approved.

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 July 2018.

For the Commission, On behalf of the President, Phil HOGAN Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 343, 14.12.2012, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ Commission Regulation (EC) No 148/2007 of 15 February 2007 registering certain names in the Register of protected designation of origin and protected geographical indications (Geraardsbergse mattentaart (PGI) - Pataca de Galicia or Patata de Galicia (PGI) -Poniente de Granada (PDO) — Gata-Hurdes (PDO) — Patatas de Prades or Patates de Prades (PGI) — Mantequilla de Soria (PDO) — Huile d'olive de Nîmes (PDO) — Huile d'olive de Corse or Huile d'olive de Corse-Oliu di Corsica (PDO) — Clémentine de Corse (PGI) — Agneau de Sisteron (PGI) — Connemara Hill Lamb or Uain Sléibhe Chonamara (PGI) — Sardegna (PDO) — Carota dell'Altopiano del Fucino (PGI) — Stelvio or Stilfser (PDO) — Limone Femminello del Gargano (PGI) — Azeitonas de Conserva de Elvas e Campo Maior (PDO) — Chouriça de Carne de Barroso-Montalegre (PGI) — Chouriço de Abóbora de Barroso-Montalegre (PGI) — Sangueira de Barroso-Montalegre (PGI) — Batata de Trás-os-Montes (PGI) — Salpicão de Barroso-Montalegre (PGI) — Alheira de Barroso-Montalegre (PGI) — Cordeiro de Barroso, Anho de Barroso or Borrego de leite de Barroso (PGI) — Azeite do Alentejo Interior (PDO) — Paio de Beja (PGI) — Linguíça do Baixo Alentejo or Chouriço de carne do Baixo Alentejo (PGI) — Ekstra deviško oljčno olje Slovenske Istre (PDO)) (OJ L 46, 16.2.2007, p. 14). (³) OJ C 51, 10.2.2018, p. 17.

DECISIONS

COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP) 2018/997

of 13 July 2018

amending Decision 2012/392/CFSP on the European Union CSDP mission in Niger (EUCAP Sahel Niger)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Articles 42(4) and 43(2) thereof,

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

Whereas:

- On 16 July 2012, the Council adopted Decision 2012/392/CFSP (1) establishing a European Union CSDP mission (1)in Niger to support the capacity building of the Nigerien security actors to fight terrorism and organised crime (EUCAP Sahel Niger).
- (2) On 18 July 2016, the Council adopted Decision (CFSP) 2016/1172 (2) extending EUCAP Sahel Niger until 15 July 2018. On 11 July 2017, the Council adopted Decision (CFSP) 2017/1253 (3) providing for a financial reference amount for EUCAP Sahel Niger until 15 July 2018.
- EUCAP Sahel Niger and the reference amount provided therefor should be extended until 30 September 2018. (3)
- (4) Decision 2012/392/CFSP should therefore be amended accordingly.
- EUCAP Sahel Niger will be conducted in the context of a situation which may deteriorate and could impede the (5) achievement of the objectives of the Union's external action as set out in Article 21 of the Treaty on European Union,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Decision 2012/392/CFSP is amended as follows:

(1) in Article 13(1), the last sub-paragraph is replaced by the following:

The financial reference amount to cover the expenditure related to EUCAP Sahel Niger for the period from 16 July 2017 to 30 September 2018 shall be EUR 31 000 000.';

(2) in Article 16, the second sentence is replaced by the following:

'It shall apply until 30 September 2018.'.

⁽¹⁾ Council Decision 2012/392/CFSP of 16 July 2012 on the European Union CSDP mission in Niger (EUCAP Sahel Niger) (OJ L 187, 17.7.2012, p. 48).

Council Decision (CFSP) 2016/1172 of 18 July 2016 amending Decision 2012/392/CFSP on the European Union CSDP mission in Niger (EUCAP Sahel Niger) (OJ L 193, 19.7.2016, p. 106). Council Decision (CFSP) 2017/1253 of 11 July 2017 amending Decision 2012/392/CFSP on the European Union CSDP mission in Niger

⁽EUCAP Sahel Niger) (OJ L 179, 12.7.2017, p. 15).

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Article 2

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

It shall apply from 16 July 2018.

Done at Brussels, 13 July 2018.

For the Council The President H. LÖGER

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2018/998

of 12 July 2018

amending Annex I to Decision 2009/177/EC as regards the status of Croatia for koi herpes virus (KHV) disease, of Finland for infectious haematopoietic necrosis (IHN), the list of areas in Ireland free of Bonamia ostreae, the list of areas in the United Kingdom free of Marteilia refringens and amending Annex I to Decision 2010/221/EU as regards the list of areas in the United Kingdom free of Ostreid herpesvirus 1 μvar (OsHV-1 μVar)

(notified under document C(2018) 4381)

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Council Directive 2006/88/EC of 24 October 2006 on animal health requirements for aquaculture animals and products thereof, and on the prevention and control of certain diseases in aquatic animals (¹), and in particular Article 43(2), 49(1), 50(3), 51(2) and 53(3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Part C of Annex I to Commission Decision 2009/177/EC (²) sets out the list of Member States, zones and compartments declared free of certain diseases referred to in Part II of Annex IV to Directive 2006/88/EC.
- (2) On that list currently the whole territory of Croatia is declared free from koi herpes virus (KHV) disease and the whole territory of Finland is declared free from infectious haematopoietic necrosis (IHN). However, in recent years these Member States have declared several outbreaks of those diseases, respectively.
- (3) Both Member States sent information to the Commission which indicate that they have taken measures in accordance with Directive 2006/88/EC in order to deal with those outbreaks. Those measures are still ongoing in some areas.
- (4) On that list currently the whole coastline of Ireland is declared free from Bonamia ostreae with the exception of eight bays. Due to a recent outbreak of Bonamia ostreae which occurred in another bay in the area of Ireland listed as free from that disease, restrictions have been put in place and are still applied in accordance with Directive 2006/88/EC.
- (5) Furthermore, the whole coastline of Northern Ireland is declared free from Marteilia refringens. However, the United Kingdom has declared two outbreaks of this disease in two different bays in Northern Ireland. Movement restrictions have been put in place and are still applied in accordance with Directive 2006/88/EC.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 328, 24.11.2006, p. 14.

⁽²⁾ Commission Decision 2009/177/EC of 31 October 2008 implementing Council Directive 2006/88/EC as regards surveillance and eradication programmes and disease-free status of Member States, zones and compartments (OJ L 63, 7.3.2009, p. 15).

- (6) In accordance with the information sent by Croatia, Finland, Ireland and the United Kingdom, the areas concerned should not be listed as free from the respective diseases and the geographical demarcation of the disease-free areas for Croatia, Finland, Ireland and the United Kingdom should therefore be updated.
- (7) Annex I to Commission Decision 2010/221/EU (1) sets out the list of Member States, zones and compartments which are regarded as being free of certain diseases not referred to in Part II of Annex IV to Directive 2006/88/EC
- (8) On that list currently, the territory of Northern Ireland in the United Kingdom is regarded as being free from Ostreid herpesvirus 1 μ var (OsHV-1 μ Var) with the exception of certain bays. Due to a recent outbreak of OsHV-1 μ Var which occurred in another bay, the geographical demarcation of the disease-free area for the United Kingdom should be updated.
- (9) Annex I to Decision 2009/177/EC and Annex I to Decision 2010/221/EU should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (10) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

In Part C of Annex I to Decision 2009/177/EC, in the table, the fourth column 'Geographical demarcation of the disease-free area (Member State, zones or compartments)' is amended as follows:

- (1) in the row 'Koi herpes virus (KHV) disease', the entry for Croatia is replaced by the following: 'Whole territory, except the following zones: the zone comprising the aquaculture production business at Donji Miholjac (approval number 2HR0109) together with the Drava river from the dam of Dubrava to its mouth into the Danube river and the zone comprising the aquaculture production business at Grudnjak (approval number 2HR0177) together with the whole water course of the Vučica river to its mouth to the Karašica river and from there the Karašica river to its mouth to the Drava river';
- (2) in the row 'Infectious haematopoietic necrosis (IHN)', the entry for Finland is replaced by the following: 'Whole territory, except the coastal compartment in Ii, Kuivaniemi, and the following water catchment areas: 14.72 Virmasvesi, 14.73 Nilakka, 4.74 Saarijärvi area and 4.41 Pielinen area';
- (3) in the row 'Infection with Bonamia ostreae', the entry for Ireland is replaced by the following:

'The whole coastline of Ireland, except:

- 1. Cork Harbour;
- 2. Galway Bay;
- 3. Ballinakill Harbour;
- 4. Clew Bay;
- 5. Achill Sound;
- 6. Loughmore, Blacksod Bay;
- 7. Lough Foyle;
- 8. Lough Swilly;
- 9. Kilkieran Bay.';
- (4) in the row 'Infection with Marteilia refringens', the entry for the United Kingdom is replaced by the following:

'The whole coastline of Great Britain.

The whole coastline of Northern Ireland, except Belfast Lough and Dundrum Bay.

^{(&}lt;sup>1</sup>) Commission Decision 2010/221/EU of 15 April 2010 approving national measures for limiting the impact of certain diseases in aquaculture animals and wild aquatic animals in accordance with Article 43 of Council Directive 2006/88/EC (OJ L 98, 20.4.2010, p. 7).

The whole coastline of Guernsey and Herm.

The coastal area of the States of Jersey: the area consists of the intertidal and immediate coastal area between the mean high-water mark on the Island of Jersey and an imaginary line drawn three nautical miles from the mean low-water mark of the Island of Jersey. The area is situated in the Normano-Breton Gulf, on the south side of the English Channel.

The whole coastline of the Isle of Man.'

Article 2

In Annex I to Decision 2010/221/EU, in the table, in the fourth column 'Geographical demarcation of the area with approved national measures', in the row 'Ostreid herpesvirus 1 μ var (OsHV-1 μ Var)', the entry for the United Kingdom is replaced by the following:

'The territory of Great Britain, except The River Roach, River Crouch, Blackwater Estuary and River Colne in Essex, the north Kent Coast, Poole Harbour in Dorset and The River Teign in Devon

The territory of Northern Ireland except Dundrum Bay, Killough Bay, Lough Foyle, Carlingford Lough, Larne Lough and Strangford Lough

The territory of Guernsey'.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 12 July 2018.

For the Commission Vytenis ANDRIUKAITIS Member of the Commission

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