



23 September 2025

(25-5999)

Page: 1/2

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1. Notifying Member: <u>ALBANIA</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2. Agency responsible: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Food and feed, animal health and welfare, plant health and plant protection products
4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All trading partners <input type="checkbox"/> Specific regions or countries:
5. Title of the notified document: Draft law "On official controls and other official activities performed to ensure the application of rules on food and feed, animal health and welfare, plant health and plant protection products in the Republic of Albania". Language(s): Albanian. Number of pages: 94 https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2025/SPS/ALB/25_06204_00_x.pdf
6. Description of content: The draft law aims to sets out the general and specific rules, principles, and requirements related to official controls and other official activities, and it defines the responsibilities, financing, and procedures for carrying out official controls. Its overarching purpose is to guarantee a high level of protection for human health, animal health and welfare, and plant health, while also safeguarding the environment and consumer interests. The draft law provides a comprehensive legal framework for the performance of official controls and other official activities, which are essential to verify compliance with national legislation throughout all stages of food and feed production and distribution, including rules related to organic production, animal welfare, plant health, and geographical indications. To achieve its objectives, the draft law establishes a harmonized and integrated system of official controls conducted by designated competent authorities. These authorities are required to be adequately resourced, trained, and supervised to ensure the effectiveness, impartiality, and consistency of controls. The draft law introduces multi-annual national control plans, which must be regularly updated and cover all relevant sectors of the agri-food chain. These plans allow for a risk-based approach, ensuring that resources are focused where they are most needed. Furthermore, the draft law foresees the use of a computerized information management system, enabling efficient exchange of data and coordination among the competent authorities and with the European Commission before day of accession. In cases of non-compliance or serious risk, the regulation outlines clear enforcement mechanisms, including immediate corrective actions and sanctions. Through these mechanisms, draft law establishes a strong and coherent system that enhances transparency, strengthens trust in the Albanian food safety and regulatory systems, and ensures that consumers across the country are equally protected.

	<p>The draft law "On official controls and other official activities performed to ensure the application of rules on food and feed, animal health and welfare, plant health and plant protection products in the Republic of Albania" is approximation of the Regulation (EU) 2017/625.</p>
7.	<p>Objective and rationale: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests.</p>
8.	<p>Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:</p>
9.	<p>Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:</p>
10.	<p>Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): 1 August 2027</p> <p>Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy): 1 August 2026</p>
11.	<p>Proposed date of entry into force: <input type="checkbox"/> Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): 1 August 2027</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trade facilitating measure</p>
12.	<p>Final date for comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): 22 November 2025</p> <p>Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</p> <p>Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development General Directorate in the Field of Food Safety, Veterinary, Plant Protection and Fishery Tel: +(355) 4 2226 911 E-mail: info@bujqesia.gov.al Website: http://www.bujqesia.gov.al</p>
13.	<p>Text(s) available from: <input type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</p> <p>Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development General Directorate in the Field of Food Safety, Veterinary, Plant Protection and Fishery SPS Enquiry Point- Albania Tel: +(355) 4 2226 911 E-mail: blerina.luke@bujqesia.gov.al Website: http://www.bujqesia.gov.al</p>