



25 July 2018

(18-4714)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1. Notifying Member: <u>REPUBLIC OF KOREA</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2. Agency responsible: Environment-Friendly Agriculture Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (MAFRA)
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): Environment-friendly agricultural and fishery products, processed organic foods and materials for organic farming
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: Proposed Amendments to the Act on the Promotion of Environmentally-friendly Agriculture and Fisheries, and Management of and Support for Organic Foods. Language(s): Korean. Number of pages: 32 https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2018/SPS/KOR/18_3905_00_x.pdf
6. Description of content: The proposed amendments mainly focus on the following: A. Certified business operators shall take training on environmentally-friendly agriculture in a mandatory manner (Articles 10 and 16(1), Asterisks 3 and 11 of the Draft). (1) Those wishing to apply for or renew their certifications should take training related to the environmentally-friendly agriculture every two years in a mandatory manner. B. Labelling requirement for organic food, etc. and pesticide-free agricultural produce, etc. shall be improved (Article 18(2) and Asterisks 5, 6 and 12 of the Draft). (1) To exclude "the name of the certified agency" from the labelling requirement for organic food, etc. and pesticide-free agricultural produce, etc. in order to minimize any inconvenience that certified business may face due to the change of the agency. C. Having in place additional ways to apply for designation of the notifying agency (Article 60(1) of the Draft). (1) Inconvenience that stakeholders may face due to the cancellation of designation of notifying agencies shall be minimized, by newly introducing proviso enabling flexible application for designation, in case of emergency where the designation of the agencies is cancelled, etc. D. More information shall be provided from the Environmentally-Friendly Certification Management Information System (Article 70(1) of the Draft). (1) To extend the scope of information on certified business operators and/or certified business operators which received administrative dispositions, to be provided by the Environmentally-Friendly Certification Management Information System, in order to fulfil customers' right to know.

<p>E. Certification requirements including on sanitation and safety management shall be completed (Asterisks 3 and 11 of the Draft).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) To complete quality management regulations of the products, by devising regulations on sanitation measures for operators at the harvest and/or post-harvest; on safety management of tools and equipment; and on the prevention of environmental pollution around nearby farms, so that certified environmentally-friendly agricultural and livestock products that people can trust can be distributed. (2) To complete the regulation on prohibiting the use of materials with pesticide components in organic and pesticide-free livestock products. <p>F. Period of keeping the records on the documents on manufacturing, processing, and people who handle the products (Asterisk 4 of the Draft).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) To extend the period of keeping the records on the documents on manufacturing and/or processing, and the ones related to the management of people who handle the products from the current three months to one year, to comply with the certificate validity period. <p>G. Disciplinary measures for certified business operators that made violations shall be stricter (Asterisk 8 of the Draft).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Individuals shall be classified into a certified operator and a certified product, in order to prevent the confusion in implementing disciplinary measures. (2) The criteria for punishment should be in place, in order to cancel the certification of a certified business operator if pesticide (including materials with pesticide components) is used in livestock farms or pesticide is detected in livestock products. (3) Regulations shall be in place to order corrective measures at the first time of violation where organosynthetic agricultural chemicals or drugs for animal use are detected in livestock products, organic processed food, etc. due to Force Majeure, under the Standards for Handling Agricultural Produce. <p>H. Requirements for Certification Authority shall be improved (Asterisk 9-2 of the Draft).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) If a certification authority is approved only because it has past experience of reviewing certifications, the regulation of such certification shall be eliminated. A person with veterinary license shall be added to the list of qualified certification authority, in order to enhance expertise of livestock certification. <p>I. Administrative dispositions of certified agencies shall be stricter (Asterisk 10 of the Draft).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) If a certified agency rated as "moderate" and above succeeds the position of another certified agency, the number of violations the predecessor already made shall not be succeeded. (2) Punishment criteria for detailed items of designation shall be in place so that disciplinary measures can be applied according to the severity of a violation, when standard or criteria have been violated. <p>J. To expand inspection on harmful components in notified organic agricultural materials (Asterisks 13 and 14 of the Draft).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) To lay the foundation for the production of environmentally-friendly certified products that people can trust, by adding organosynthetic agricultural chemicals to the inspection list of harmful components in notified organic agricultural materials. 	<p>7. Objective and rationale: <input type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests.</p>
<p>8. 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>
<p>9. Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (MAFRA) Public Notice No. 2018-237 (available in Korean)</p>
<p>10. Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): October 2018 or later</p> <p>Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy): October 2018 or later</p>
<p>11. Proposed date of entry into force: <input type="checkbox"/> Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): To be determined.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trade facilitating measure</p>
<p>12. Final date for comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): 23 September 2018</p> <p>Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <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>Environment-Friendly Agriculture Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (MAFRA) Tel: +(82 44) 201 2432, 2433 Fax: +(82 44) 868 0483 E-mail: llty@korea.kr</p>
<p>13. 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>Environment-Friendly Agriculture Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (MAFRA) Tel: +(82 44) 201 2432, 2433 Fax: +(82 44) 868 0483 E-mail: llty@korea.kr</p>