



IMPORTS AND EU POLICY TEAM

OVS Note/2017/02

Date: 2 February 2017

RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS OF POULTRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Purpose

1. To advise you of the current situation in Israel and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia with respect to imports of poultry and poultry products.

Background

2. Commission Regulation (EC) No 798/2008 provides for imports from certain third countries of poultry and poultry products.

Israel

3. Following an unfavourable outcome of a Commission audit in Israel imports from Israel of certain poultry commodities were suspended by [Regulation \(EU\) 2015/608](#). That Regulation also introduced additional testing of poultry flocks for Newcastle disease for certain commodities including poultry meat and eggs.

4. The Competent Authority in Israel has now informed the Commission that it intends to abolish its stamping out policy for Newcastle disease in parts of its territory and compliance with certain requirements for laboratory testing can no longer be guaranteed.

5. It is therefore appropriate to prohibit imports of certain commodities from the affected area. Imports of poultry meat from the area south of Route No 5 as defined in [Regulation \(EU\) 2017/151](#) will be able to continue.



Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

6. Regulation (EU) 2017/151 also adds the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) to the list of third countries authorised to export fresh poultry meat to the EU. There are no approved establishments in FYROM but transits through the Union may still be possible.

7. However, on 28 January the Competent Authority notified the OIE of an outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, subtype H5N8 in poultry in Moroista, Struga. This means that they are unable to sign health certificates for the following commodities as they are no longer free of HPAI.

- Fresh poultry meat (certificate POU in Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 798/2008;
- Poultry meat preparations (Decision 2000/572/EC
- Unprocessed animal by-products containing consisting of or containing material of poultry (Regulation (EU) no 140/2011)

8. Any consignments of the above products accompanied by certificates signed after 28 January should be rejected.

General

9. The veterinary certificates for poultry meat in Regulation (EC) 798/2008 provides for meat to be obtained from live poultry that were previously imported from another third country that is also approved to export live poultry into the EU. However, it does not provide for meat derived from live poultry imported from the EU for subsequent slaughter in that third country to be exported to the EU.

10. Health certificate POU has therefore been amended to allow for this trade.

11. The certificate for egg products is also being amended slightly to include an additional HS code.

Action for OVSs

12. OVSs should ensure that any of the commodities referred to in paragraph 7 above from FYROM are not permitted entry into the EU.

13. OVSs should note that for a transitional period until 28 March 2017, MSs shall continue to authorise imports into the EU of consignments of poultry meat and egg products using the certificate that was in place prior to the publication of Regulation (EU) 2017/151, provided the certificate was signed before 28 February 2017.

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