Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 706/2014 of 25 June 2014 amending Regulation (EC) No 972/2006 as regards the import duty applicable to Basmati rice

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) No 706/2014

of 25 June 2014

amending Regulation (EC) No 972/2006 as regards the import duty applicable to Basmati rice

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)], and in particular point (a) of Article 183 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Pursuant to the Agreement between the European Union and India[(2)] with respect to rice, approved by Council Decision 2004/617/EC[(3)], the duty applicable to imports of husked rice of certain Basmati varieties originating in India is fixed at zero.

(2) Pursuant to the Agreement between the European Union and Pakistan[(4)] with respect to rice, approved by Council Decision 2004/618/EC[(5)], the duty applicable to imports of husked rice of certain Basmati varieties originating in Pakistan is fixed at zero.

(3) To implement those agreements, Article 138 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007[(6)] provided that the husked Basmati rice varieties covered by those agreements had to qualify for a zero rate of import duty under the conditions fixed by the Commission. Those conditions have been laid down in Commission Regulation (EC) No 972/2006[(7)].

(4) Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013, which repeals and replaces Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007, does not contain a provision similar to Article 138 of Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007. As regards the import duties, Article 183 of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 empowers the Commission to adopt implementing acts fixing the level of the applied import duty in accordance with the rules set out, inter alia, in an international agreement concluded in accordance with the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

(5) In order to continue to comply with the Agreement between the Union and India and the Agreement between the Union and Pakistan, it should be provided in Regulation (EC) No 972/2006 that the husked Basmati rice varieties covered by those agreements should qualify for a zero rate of import duty under the conditions fixed in that Regulation.

(6) Regulation (EC) No 972/2006 should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Changes to legislation: *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 706/2014. (See end of Document for details)*

Article 1

Article 1 of Regulation (EC) No 972/2006 is replaced by the following:

Article 1

This Regulation shall apply to husked Basmati rice falling within CN code 1006 20 17 and CN code 1006 20 98, of the following varieties:

— Basmati 217
— Basmati 370
— Basmati 386
— Kernel (Basmati)
— Pusa Basmati
— Ranbir Basmati
— Super Basmati
— Taraori Basmati (HBC-19)
— Type-3 (Dehradun)

Notwithstanding the rates of import duty fixed in the Common Customs Tariff, the husked Basmati rice of the varieties referred to in the first paragraph shall qualify for a zero rate of import duty under the conditions fixed by this Regulation..

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third 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, 25 June 2014.

For the Commission

The President

José Manuel BARROSO