Provisional list of non-EU countries compliant with new EU antimicrobial requirements

Published by AGRINFO on 03 Jul 2024

EU issues provisional list of non-EU countries compliant with antimicrobial requirements and authorised to export animals and animal products

Draft Commission implementing Regulation laying down the list of third countries or regions thereof authorised for the entry into the Union of certain animals and goods intended for human consumption in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/625 as regards the application of the prohibition of use of certain antimicrobial medicinal products

Annex

Update

The EU has provided the World Trade Organization Sanitary and Phytosanitary (WTO SPS) Committee with a provisional list of non-EU countries that meet new EU requirements on the use of antimicrobial medicinal products in animals or animal products. Comparing this new list with the list of non-EU countries currently authorised to export these products to the EU, the following countries are not included, and still need to provide the declaration and appropriate guarantees required to avoid any disruption of trade on 3 September 2026: **Armenia, Benin, Belize, Burkina Faso, Eswatini, Indonesia, India, Iran, Jamaica, Kenya, Mauritius, Mozambique, Nigeria, Panama, Sri Lanka, Serbia, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Wallis and Futuna**.

The WTO consultation is open until **27 August 2024**.

Impacted products

Animals and animal products for human consumption except for:

- gelatine, collagen, highly refined products, composite products, wild animals, insects, frogs, snails, reptiles

- animals and food in transit not placed on the EU market

- animals or animal products not intended for human consumption

- samples for product analysis and quality testing not placed on the market.

What is changing?

In accordance with Regulation 2023/905, non-EU countries received a letter from the European Commission in May 2023 requesting them to submit a written declaration before the end of November 2023 providing guarantees of conformity with the prohibition of the use in animals of:

- certain antimicrobials reserved to treat humans
- antimicrobials either as growth promoters or to increase yield.

For more details see Rules on prohibited antimicrobials in imported animal products.

The EU Commission has now assessed the declarations received. This proposed Regulation lists those countries that have submitted appropriate evidence and guarantees of meeting new antimicrobial requirements.

- Non-EU countries that have met requirements are marked with an 'X' in the table in the Annex.
- Non-EU countries that have not submitted appropriate evidence and guarantees of meeting antimicrobial requirements, but intend to use only raw material from EU Member States or from other approved non-EU countries in animal products destined for the EU, are marked with a 'Δ' in the table in the Annex for the relevant species or commodity.

AGRINFO partners ***not*** **included in the new list** (but currently listed for the export of animal products with a valid residue control plan in Regulation 2021/405, Annex-I) are:

- Armenia: aquaculture; honey
- Benin: honey
- Belize: aquaculture
- Burkina Faso: honey
- Eswatini: cattle/beef
- Indonesia: aquaculture
- India: aquaculture; eggs; honey; casings
- Iran: aquaculture; casings
- Jamaica: bivalve molluscs
- Kenya: aquaculture
- Mauritius: aquaculture; honey (triangular trade for honey)
- Mozambique: aquaculture
- Nigeria: aquaculture
- Panama: aquaculture

- Sri Lanka: aquaculture
- Serbia: all commodities (except farmed game)
- Tanzania: aquaculture and honey
- Tunisia: aquaculture; casings
- Uganda: honey
- Uzbekistan: casings
- Wallis and Futuna: honey.

For more information on Regulation 2021/405, see Third country lists for public health – explained.

Why?

The EU is adopting a list of compliant non-EU countries to ensure that food of animal origin exported from non-EU countries to the EU complies with the EU requirements on antimicrobials (Regulation 2023/905). To increase transparency and legal certainty for the operators concerned, the EU has published its draft list well ahead of 3 September 2026, when the new rules enter into force.

Timeline

The list of countries permitted to export animal products to the EU applies from **3 September 2026** (24 months after the revised Model health certificates enter into force).

What are the major implications for exporting countries?

Only non-EU countries included in the list for the marked commodity or commodities will be authorised to continue exporting these products to the EU from **3 September 2026**.

Following the publication of this draft Regulation, the list will be updated on the basis of the evidence and guarantees received.

Recommended Actions

The draft Regulation may still be modified before its final adoption. **If non-EU countries not yet on the list submit the required declarations soon, they could still be listed before the final adoption**.

As soon as possible, these countries should send the required written declaration guaranteeing compliance to SANTE-VETERINARY-MEDICINES@ec.europa.eu.

The declaration must include **every** type of animal product exported to the EU to avoid potential disruptions to trade (European Commission 2023).

The template for the declaration can be requested from SANTE-VETERINARY-MEDICINES@ec.europa.eu.

Competent authorities of countries that are members of the WTO can submit comments on the EU's proposal by emailing the EU SPS Enquiry Point until **27 August 2024**.

Any questions can be emailed to agrinfo@colead.link.

Background

Antimicrobial resistance is viewed as a major threat to global health. The EU seeks to ensure prudent and responsible use of antimicrobials in animals.

Regulation 2023/905 established stricter requirements to ensure that live animals and certain animal products exported to the EU are not produced using certain prohibited antimicrobials.

In order to export such products, countries will have to be included in an official list of authorised exporting countries (confirming they are compliant with the new antimicrobial rules) by **3 September 2026**. From 3 September 2024, exporters must use the updated official certificates that have an attestation of compliance signed by their competent authorities (see Model health certificates: antimicrobial attestation).

Resources

Online resources from the European Commission:

- Specifications as regards the listing of third countries and the amendments of the official export certificates, Powerpoint, 8 June 2023
- State of play concerning the implementation of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2023/905, Powerpoint, 6 March 2024

Regulation (EU) 2019/6 – Delegated Acts, Detailed rules regarding animals or products of animal origin imported into the Union (Article 118 (2))

Regulation 2024/399 as regards model certificates for the entry into the Union of consignments of certain products of animal origin and certain categories of animals

Regulation (EU) 2023/905 as regards the application of the prohibition of use of certain antimicrobial medicinal products in animals or products of animal origin exported from third countries into the Union

Regulation (EU) 2022/1255 designating antimicrobials or groups of antimicrobials reserved for treatment of certain infections in humans

Regulation (EU) 2021/1760 establishing the criteria for the designation of antimicrobials to be reserved for the treatment of certain infections in humans

Regulation 2019/6 on veterinary medicinal products

Sources

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Annex