

EU/Colombia and Peru Trade Agreement: accession of Ecuador; EU/Central America Association Agreement: CN code for bananas

2015/0112(COD) - 26/05/2015 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to amend Regulation (EU) No 19/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council implementing the bilateral safeguard clause and the stabilisation mechanism for bananas of the Trade Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Colombia and Peru, of the other part, given that Ecuador joined the Agreement.

PROPOSED ACT: Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: the European Parliament decides in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure and on an equal footing with the Council.

BACKGROUND: the Trade Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and **Colombia and Peru**, of the other part signed on 26 June 2012, provides for an accession of other Member Countries of the Andean Community to the Agreement. The European Union and **Ecuador** concluded negotiations for such accession on 17 July 2014.

Similarly to the Agreement with Colombia and Peru, the Agreement with Ecuador includes a bilateral safeguard clause and a Stabilisation Mechanism for Bananas.

Following the decision on signature and provisional application of the Protocol of Accession, it is necessary to lay down the procedures to guarantee the effective application of the bilateral safeguard clause and for applying the stabilisation mechanism for bananas as foreseen in the Agreement in respect of Ecuador.

CONTENT: this proposal for an amendment is directly derived from the text of the Agreement negotiated with Ecuador. It seeks to amend [Regulation \(EU\) No 19/2013](#) and [Regulation \(EU\) No 20/2013](#) in order to **enable the implementation of the safeguard clause and the banana stabilisation mechanism of the Agreement already concluded with Ecuador.**

The bilateral safeguard clause provides for the possibility to re-instate the most favoured nation (MFN) customs duty rate when, as a result of a trade liberalisation, imports take place in such increased quantities and under such conditions as to cause (or threaten to cause) serious injury to the Union Industry producing the like or directly competitive product. Preferential customs duties can also be suspended according to the Stabilisation Mechanism for Bananas when a certain annual import volume is reached, until 31 December 2019.

However, the relevant **code** for bananas was changed from 1 January 2012 from 0803 00 19 to 0803 90 10 in order to reflect the compulsory Harmonised System (HS) amendments.

For the sake of clarity, this change should be introduced in both Regulation (EU) No 19/2013 and Regulation (EU) No 20/2013 in the relevant part on the stabilisation mechanism for bananas.