Basic information

2011/0169(COD) COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation	Procedure completed
Imports of high-quality beef: autonomous tariff quota **Subject** 3.10.05.01 Meat 4.60.04.04 Food safety 6.20.01 Agreements and relations in the context of the World Trade Organization (WTO) 6.20.04 Union Customs Code, tariffs, preferential arrangements, rules of origin	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
INTA International Trade	QUISTHOUDT-ROWOHL Godelieve (PPE)	22/09/2011
	Shadow rapporteur CUTAȘ George Sabin (S&D) KAZAK Metin (ALDE) BOVÉ José (Verts/ALE) STURDY Robert (ECR) MURPHY Paul (GUE/NGL)	

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	LYON George (ALDE)	26/09/2011

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Agriculture and Fisheries	3161	2012-04-26

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Agriculture and Rural Development	CIOLOȘ Dacian

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
24/06/2011	Legislative proposal published	COM(2011)0384	Summary
05/07/2011	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
26/01/2012	Vote in committee, 1st reading		
01/02/2012	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A7-0025/2012	Summary
13/03/2012	Debate in Parliament		
14/03/2012	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T7-0075/2012	Summary
14/03/2012	Results of vote in Parliament		
26/04/2012	Act adopted by Council after Parliament's 1st reading		
22/05/2012	Final act signed		
22/05/2012	End of procedure in Parliament		
08/06/2012	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2011/0169(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 207
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	INTA/7/06358

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE472.117	27/10/2011	
Committee opinion	AGRI	PE473.958	20/12/2011	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A7-0025/2012	01/02/2012	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T7-0075/2012	14/03/2012	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Draft final act	00006/2012/LEX	23/05/2012	

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(2011)0384	24/06/2011	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2012)323	02/05/2012	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
National parliaments	IPEX	
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Regulation 2012/0464
OJ L 149 08.06.2012, p. 0001 Summary

Imports of high-quality beef: autonomous tariff quota

2011/0169(COD) - 24/06/2011 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to open and modify the autonomous import tariff quota for high-quality fresh, chilled or frozen beef.

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

BACKGROUND: a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the United States of America and the European Commission** regarding the importation of beef from animals not treated with certain growth-promoting hormones and increased duties applied by the United States to certain products of the European Communities, endorsed by the Council by letter of 12 May 2009 and signed in Geneva on 13 May 2009.

The aim of that Memorandum of Understanding is to settle the long-standing WTO dispute between the European Union and the United States of America on Beef Hormones, European Communities— Measures Concerning Meat and Meat Products (Hormones) (DS 26).

It foresees a three-phased arrangement which progressively reduces the level of sanctions imposed by the United States on products from the Union, while the Union progressively increases the tariff-rate quota for high-quality beef that is not treated with growth hormones. The first-phase tariff-rate quota for high quality beef of 20 000 tonnes was established by Council Regulation (EC) No 617/2009. In a second phase, the United States would suspend all remaining sanctions and the Union would expand this tariff rate quota by additional 25 000 tonnes.

On 17 March 2011, the Commission also **signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Canada** and the European Commission regarding the importation of beef from animals not treated with certain growth-promoting hormones and increased duties applied by Canada to certain products of the European Union.This MoU brings about the suspension of all sanctions imposed by Canada and stipulates the further expansion of the Union autonomous tariff rate quota for high-quality beef by 1 500 tonnes (first phase) and additional 1 700 tonnes (second phase).

The timing foreseen for the first and second phases in the US and Canada Memoranda is the same. It is envisaged in particular that the second phase would normally begin on 1 August 2012 under both Memoranda.

In order to be in a position to establish the above-mentioned increases of the existing tariff rate quota for high-quality beef, to a total of 21 500 tonnes (first phase) and subsequently, 48 200 tonnes foreseen in the second phase of both Memoranda of Understanding starting on 1 August 2012, the

legislative procedure needs to be started in a timely manner. This is also necessary in order to follow the Resolution adopted by the European Parliament on 8 March 2011 calling on the Commission to ensure that the settlement of the 'beef hormones' dispute will allow for the suspension of the sanctions on EU products, while guaranteeing that beef imports to the EU will be in line with EU requirements.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT: no impact assessment was carried out.

LEGAL BASIS: Article 207 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).

CONTENT: the purpose of this proposal is to request the European Parliament and the Council to amend the existing Regulation opening an autonomous tariff quota for imports of high-quality beef, in order to implement the steps set out in the MoU signed with the United States of America and Canada, respectively.

The measure aims to modify the annual autonomous tariff quota for imports of high-quality beef in the context of the EU-US and the EU-Canada Memoranda of Understanding on "beef hormones". This quota was initially established by Council Regulation (EC) No 617/2009. It increases the tariff quota by **1 500 tonnes** in the first phase following the EU-Canada MoU. In the second phase (from August 2012) an increase of the tariff quota by **26 700 tonnes** is foreseen, as envisaged by the EU-US MoU and the EU-Canada MoU.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS: the customs duty of this tariff-rate quota would remain fixed at zero. Depending on the future beef market situation, imports of high-quality beef may therefore no longer be shipped using the existing quota set up by Regulation (EC) No 810/2008 or out-of-quota. This may imply a loss of own resources of the Union which would be approximately **EUR 4.6 million** net amount after deduction of collection costs for Member States.

Imports of high-quality beef: autonomous tariff quota

2011/0169(COD) - 01/02/2012 - Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

The Committee on International Trade adopted the report by Godelieve QUISTHOUDT-ROWOHL (EPP, DE) on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 617/2009 opening an autonomous tariff quota for imports of high-quality beef.

The committee recommends that Parliament’s position at first reading, following the ordinary legislative procedure, should be to adopt the Commission proposal. It specified that the Regulation should apply from the first day of the month following the entry into force of the Regulation.

Imports of high-quality beef: autonomous tariff quota

2011/0169(COD) - 14/03/2012 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 650 votes to 11, with 11 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 617/2009 opening an autonomous tariff quota for imports of high-quality beef.

Parliament adopted its position at first reading under the ordinary legislative procedure taking over the Commission proposal.

The Regulation should apply from the first day of the month following the entry into force of the Regulation.

Imports of high-quality beef: autonomous tariff quota

2011/0169(COD) - 08/06/2012 - Final act

PURPOSE: to open and modify the autonomous import tariff quota for high-quality fresh, chilled or frozen beef.

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Regulation (EU) No 464/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 617/2009 opening an autonomous tariff quota for imports of high-quality beef.

CONTENT: the Council adopted regulation 617/2009 opening an autonomous tariff quota for imports of high-quality beef following a first reading agreement with the European Parliament.

This text will finally bring to an end the long-lasting trade dispute between the EU, the USA and Canada on the use of "hormones" in beef within the framework of the World Trade Organisation (WTO). By this regulation, the EU has opened an additional autonomous tariff rate quota for high-quality beef that is not treated with hormones. At the same time, the USA has withdrawn sanctions on EU products.

The Memoradum of understading (MoU) with the United States (signed on 13 May 2009) and the MoU with Canada (signed on 17 May 2011) provide for three-phased arrangements which gradually abolish the sanctions imposed by the United States and Canada on certain Union products pursuant to the authorisation of the WTO of 1999. In this regard, the Union should progressively increase the autonomous tariff-rate quota for beef that is not treated with growth hormones and that fully complies with other import requirements of the Union.

The first-phase tariff-rate quota for high-quality beef of 20 000 tonnes was established by regulation 617/2009.

As a first step, an autonomous tariff quota was established in 2009 for imports of high-quality beef (20 000 t) and this regulation provides for **two further increases of this autonomous tariff quota**: from 1 July to **21 tonnes** and from 1 August 2012 to a total of **48 200 tonnes**. The customs duty of this tariff-rate quota will remain fixed at zero.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 15/06/2012.

APPLICATION: from 01/07/2012.