Basic information

2012/0217(COD) COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation	Procedure completed
Exports of wood from Russia: allocation of tariff-rate quotas; Commission implementing powers See also 2011/0322(NLE) **Subject** 3.10.11 Forestry policy 6.20.01 Agreements and relations in the context of the World Trade Organization (WTO) 6.20.03 Bilateral economic and trade agreements and relations 6.20.04 Union Customs Code, tariffs, preferential arrangements, rules of origin **Geographical area** Russian Federation	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
INTA International Trade	MOREIRA Vital (S&D)	11/10/2012
	Shadow rapporteur STURDY Robert (ECR)	

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Transport, Telecommunications and Energy	3204	2012-12-03

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Trade and Economic Security	DE GUCHT Karel

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
09/08/2012	Legislative proposal published	COM(2012)0449	Summary
11/09/2012	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
11/10/2012	Vote in committee, 1st reading		
16/10/2012	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A7-0329/2012	Summary
21/11/2012	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T7-0436/2012	Summary
21/11/2012	Results of vote in Parliament		
03/12/2012	Act adopted by Council after Parliament's 1st reading		
12/12/2012	Final act signed		
12/12/2012	End of procedure in Parliament		
20/12/2012	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2012/0217(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Amendments and repeals	See also 2011/0322(NLE)
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/7/10257

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A7-0329/2012	16/10/2012	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T7-0436/2012	21/11/2012	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Draft final act	00059/2012/LEX	12/12/2012	

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary

Legislative proposal	COM(2012)0449	09/08/2012	Summary

National parliaments

Document type	Parliament /Chamber	Reference	Date	Summary
Contribution	PT_PARLIAMENT	COM(2012)0449	04/01/2013	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
National parliaments	IPEX	
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Regulation 2012/1217
OJ L 351 20.12.2012, p. 0034 Summary

Exports of wood from Russia: allocation of tariff-rate quotas; Commission implementing powers

2012/0217(COD) - 16/10/2012 - Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

The Committee on International Trade adopted he report by Vital MOREIRA (S&D, PT) on the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the allocation of tariff-rate quotas applying to exports of wood from the Russian Federation to the European Union.

The parliamentary committee recommends that the Parliament adopts its position at first reading, taking over the Commission's proposal unamended.

Exports of wood from Russia: allocation of tariff-rate quotas; Commission implementing powers

2012/0217(COD) - 21/11/2012 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 599 votes to 11, with 88 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the allocation of tariff-rate quotas applying to exports of wood from the Russian Federation to the European Union.

The European Parliament adopted its position at first reading, taking over the Commission's proposal unamended.

Exports of wood from Russia: allocation of tariff-rate quotas; Commission implementing powers

2012/0217(COD) - 12/12/2012 - Final act

PURPOSE: to confer on the Commission the necessary powers, to adopt by means of implementing acts, the necessary provisions in respect of the administration of tariff-rate quotas applying to exports of wood from the Russia to the European Union.

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Regulation (EU) No 1217/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the allocation of tariff-rate quotas applying to exports of wood from the Russian federation to the European Union.

CONTENT: in the context of the negotiations on the Russian Federation's accession to the World Trade Organisation (WTO), the Commission, on behalf of the Union, negotiated an agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Union and the Russian Federation concerning the administration of tariff-rate quotas applying to exports of wood from Russia to the Union. Pursuant to the Agreement, the Union and the Russian Federation also negotiated a Protocol on technical modalities.

The Regulation stipulates that in order to implement the Agreement, the Commission shall adopt **implementing acts** laying down detailed rules on the method of allocating quota authorisations pursuant to the Protocol and laying down any other provisions necessary for the management, by the Union, of the quantities of the tariff-rate quotas allocated to exports to the Union.

Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the **examination procedure**, the Commission being assisted by the **Wood Committee** established by Decision 2012/105/EU. The Wood Committee may examine any matter relating to the application of the Agreement and the Protocol, raised by the Commission or at the request of a Member State.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 20/12/2012.

Exports of wood from Russia: allocation of tariff-rate quotas; Commission implementing powers

2012/0217(COD) - 09/08/2012 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to confer implementing powers on the Commission in respect of implementing certain provisions in the Agreement between the EU and Russia relating to the administration of tariff-rate quotas applying to exports of wood from the Russia to the Union.

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

BACKGROUND: in the context of its accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Russian Federation has agreed to **reduce its currently applied export duty rates on raw wood products**. For certain types of wood, namely spruce and pine, Russia has agreed to open tariff-rate quotas for exports of those products and allocate a specific quota share to the EU. Export duty rates within the tariff-rate quotas will be applied at a significantly reduced level (i.e. 13% for spruce and 15% for pine, as opposed to an unbound current out-quota export duty rate of 25%, but not less than 15 EUR /m3). These specific commitments of the Russian Federation have been included in its WTO Schedule of Concessions as Annex to Part V of the Schedule.

A **bilateral agreement** in the form of an Exchange of Letters establishes general provisions on the implementation of the specific quota shares allocated to the EU. In particular, the Agreement provides that the EU shall manage quantities of the EU share of the tariff-rate quotas, and that Russia shall issue export licences based on the relevant import documentation issued by the EU.

The Agreement also provides for the elaboration of more detailed technical modalities on the management of the tariff-rate quotas by the entry into force of the Agreement. Such **technical modalities are contained in a Protocol**, negotiated between the EU and Russia, which establishes the rules regarding the management of the export tariff- rate quotas and of exports within those quotas, including provisions on the cooperation of the competent authorities of the EU and Russia necessary to ensure the adequate operation of the system.

The EU has a strong interest in the tariff-rate quotas which provide for significant advantages for exports of wood from Russia, with in-quota duties significantly reduced as compared to (unbound) out-quota duties. In particular, EU forest industries and downstream users such as the paper, construction and furniture industries have suffered from consecutive increases of wood export duties applied by the Russian Federation since 2007. Economic operators in the EU are now eager to access those raw materials at significantly improved conditions, and it is essentially in their interest that the tariff-rate quotas have been set.

In order to ensure the effective application of the management system provided for in the Agreement and the Protocol by the time of the accession of the Russian Federation to the WTO, **both the Agreement and the Protocol will be applied provisionally** from the date of the Russia's accession to the WTO. Council Decision 2012/105/EU confirms the provisional application of both the Agreement and the Protocol pending the completion of the procedures for the conclusion of the Agreement.

The Commission should be **empowered to adopt the necessary provisions for the management of the quantities of the tariff-rate quotas allocated to exports to the EU** by means of an implementing act.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT: no impact assessment was undertaken.

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

CONTENT: the draft regulation proposes that, in implementing the Agreement relating to the administration of tariff-rate quotas applying to exports of wood from Russia to the Union and the Protocol on technical modalities pursuant to that Agreement, **the Commission shall adopt detailed rules on the method of allocation of quota authorisations** pursuant to paragraph 2 of Article 5 of the Protocol, and any other provisions necessary for the management by the Union of the quantities of the tariff-rate quotas allocated to exports to the Union. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure, given that those acts are acts relating to the common commercial policy and therefore fall under point (iv) of Article 2(2)(b) of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.

Furthermore, in order to ensure legal certainty and continuity for economic operators **the legal effects of the preparatory measures already taken under Implementing Regulation (EU) No 498/2012 will be maintained** by the new implementing acts to be adopted pursuant to this proposal, as if those preparatory measures had been taken under the corresponding provision of those new implementing acts.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS: there are no implications for the EU budget.