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<sup>(1)</sup> Text with EEA relevance.

EN

Acts whose titles are printed in light type are those relating to day-to-day management of agricultural matters, and are generally valid for a limited period.

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<sup>(1)</sup> Text with EEA relevance.

## II

*(Non-legislative acts)*

## REGULATIONS

## COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2020/1569

of 23 July 2020

**amending Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council,  
on the classification of countries of residence of guests staying at tourist accommodation  
establishments in the context of the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the Union**

*(Text with EEA relevance)*

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 July 2011 concerning European statistics on tourism <sup>(1)</sup>, and in particular Article 3(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) On 1 February 2020, the United Kingdom withdrew from the European Union.
- (2) Pursuant to Regulation (EU) No 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Member States are to submit to the Commission (Eurostat) data on capacity and occupancy of tourist accommodation establishments in accordance with Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 692/2011. That Annex defines, amongst other things, the required categories of countries and geographical areas of residence of guests staying at tourist accommodation establishments.
- (3) Regulation (EU) No 692/2011 contains an implicit reference to the United Kingdom in category “European Union (the Union); to be reported separately: each Member State” under the classification to be applied for Section 2 of Annex I, as listed in Section 3 of Annex I.
- (4) Following the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the Union, the United Kingdom is no longer part of that category. Member States are therefore no longer obliged to submit, separately, data regarding the United Kingdom under Regulation (EU) No 692/2011.
- (5) The Union’s tourism industry occupies an important place in the economy of the Member States with tourist activities representing a large source of employment. European statistics on tourism are essential to provide an appraisal of the industry’s competitiveness and the volume and flows of tourism.
- (6) Taking into account the importance of the United Kingdom as a generating market for tourism in the Union, it is essential to ensure continuity in the submission of data by the Member States with counterpart the United Kingdom after its withdrawal from the Union.
- (7) As a result of the United Kingdom becoming a third country, its positioning in the classification of countries and geographical areas of residence of guests staying at tourist accommodation establishments needs to be modified accordingly.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 192, 22.7.2011, p. 17.

- (8) Section 3 'E. Countries and geographical areas' of Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 692/2011 should therefore be amended to include the United Kingdom as a separate country of residence of guests staying at tourist accommodation establishments. Such update only moves the United Kingdom from one category to another and therefore neither affects the reporting burden nor modifies the applicable underlying conceptual framework.
- (9) It is not advisable to move a country or geographical area from one category to another within a given reference year. It is preferable to apply the amended classification for the entire reference year of 2020 onwards,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1*

Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 692/2011 is amended as follows:

In Section 3, point 'E. Countries and geographical areas', is amended as follows:

(1) the third indent is replaced as follows:

‘— other European countries (apart from EU or EFTA; not including the United Kingdom, Russia, Turkey, Ukraine);’;

(2) the following indent is inserted before ‘— Russia,;’:

‘— the United Kingdom,.’

*Article 2*

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union* and shall apply from the reference year 2020 and onwards.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 23 July 2020.

*For the Commission*  
*The President*  
Ursula VON DER LEYEN

## COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2020/1570

of 22 October 2020

**approving non-minor amendments to the specification for a name entered in the register of traditional specialities guaranteed ('Czwórniak staropolski tradycyjny' (TSG))**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 November 2012 on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs <sup>(1)</sup>, and in particular Article 52(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to the first subparagraph of Article 53(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012, the Commission has examined Poland's application for the approval of amendments to the specification for the traditional speciality guaranteed 'Czwórniak staropolski tradycyjny', registered under Commission Regulation (EC) No 729/2008 <sup>(2)</sup>, as amended by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1898 <sup>(3)</sup>.
- (2) Since the amendments in question are not minor within the meaning of Article 53(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012, the Commission published the amendment application in the *Official Journal of the European Union* <sup>(4)</sup> as required by Article 50(2)(b) of that Regulation.
- (3) As no statement of opposition under Article 51 of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 has been received by the Commission, the amendments to the specification should be approved,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1*

The amendments to the specification published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* regarding the name 'Czwórniak staropolski tradycyjny' (TSG) are hereby approved.

*Article 2*

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth 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, 22 October 2020.

*For the Commission,  
On behalf of the President,  
Janusz WOJCIECHOWSKI  
Member of the Commission*

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 343, 14.12.2012, p. 1.

<sup>(2)</sup> Commission Regulation (EC) No 729/2008 of 28 July 2008 entering certain designations in the register of traditional specialities guaranteed (Czwórniak (TSG), Dwójniak (TSG), Półtorak (TSG), Trójniak (TSG)) (OJ L 200, 29.7.2008, p. 6).

<sup>(3)</sup> Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1898 of 18 October 2017 entering certain names in the register of traditional specialities guaranteed (Półtorak staropolski tradycyjny (TSG), Dwójniak staropolski tradycyjny (TSG), Trójniak staropolski tradycyjny (TSG), Czwórniak staropolski tradycyjny (TSG), Kielbasa jałowcowa staropolska (TSG), Kielbasa myśliwska staropolska (TSG) and Olej rydzowy tradycyjny (TSG)) (OJ L 269, 19.10.2017, p. 3).

<sup>(4)</sup> OJ C 214, 29.6.2020, p. 8.

## COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2020/1571

of 22 October 2020

**approving non-minor amendments to the specification for a name entered in the register of traditional specialities guaranteed ('Półtorak staropolski tradycyjny' (TSG))**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 November 2012 on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs <sup>(1)</sup>, and in particular Article 52(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to the first subparagraph of Article 53(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012, the Commission has examined Poland's application for the approval of amendments to the specification for the traditional speciality guaranteed 'Półtorak staropolski tradycyjny', registered under Commission Regulation (EC) No 729/2008 <sup>(2)</sup>, as amended by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1898 <sup>(3)</sup>.
- (2) Since the amendments in question are not minor within the meaning of Article 53(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012, the Commission published the amendment application in the *Official Journal of the European Union* <sup>(4)</sup> as required by Article 50(2)(b) of that Regulation.
- (3) As no statement of opposition under Article 51 of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 has been received by the Commission, the amendments to the specification should be approved,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1*The amendments to the specification published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* regarding the name 'Półtorak staropolski tradycyjny' (TSG) are hereby approved.*Article 2*This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth 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, 22 October 2020.

*For the Commission,*  
*On behalf of the President,*  
Janusz WOJCIECHOWSKI  
*Member of the Commission*

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 343, 14.12.2012, p. 1.

<sup>(2)</sup> Commission Regulation (EC) No 729/2008 of 28 July 2008 entering certain designations in the register of traditional specialities guaranteed (Czwórniak (TSG), Dwójniak (TSG), Półtorak (TSG), Trójniak (TSG)) (OJ L 200, 29.7.2008, p. 6).

<sup>(3)</sup> Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1898 of 18 October 2017 entering certain names in the register of traditional specialities guaranteed (Półtorak staropolski tradycyjny (TSG), Dwójniak staropolski tradycyjny (TSG), Trójniak staropolski tradycyjny (TSG), Czwórniak staropolski tradycyjny (TSG), Kielbasa jałowcowa staropolska (TSG), Kielbasa myśliwska staropolska (TSG) and Olej rydzowy tradycyjny (TSG)) (OJ L 269, 19.10.2017, p. 3).

<sup>(4)</sup> OJ C 214, 29.6.2020, p. 16.

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2020/1572****of 28 October 2020****amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/626 as regards lists of third countries and regions thereof authorised for the entry into the European Union of dairy products and insects****(Text with EEA relevance)**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2017 on official controls and other official activities performed to ensure the application of food and feed law, rules on animal health and welfare, plant health and plant protection products, amending Regulations (EC) No 999/2001, (EC) No 396/2005, (EC) No 1069/2009, (EC) No 1107/2009, (EU) No 1151/2012, (EU) No 652/2014, (EU) 2016/429 and (EU) 2016/2031 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Regulations (EC) No 1/2005 and (EC) No 1099/2009 and Council Directives 98/58/EC, 1999/74/EC, 2007/43/EC, 2008/119/EC and 2008/120/EC, and repealing Regulations (EC) No 854/2004 and (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Directives 89/608/EEC, 89/662/EEC, 90/425/EEC, 91/496/EEC, 96/23/EC, 96/93/EC and 97/78/EC and Council Decision 92/438/EEC (Official Controls Regulation) <sup>(1)</sup>, and in particular Article 127(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EU) 2017/625 lays down rules for official controls and other official activities performed by the competent authorities of the Member States in order to verify compliance with Union legislation in the area of, among others, food safety at all stages of the production, processing and distribution process. In particular, it provides that certain animals and goods are only to enter the Union from a third country or region thereof which appears on a list drawn up by the Commission for that purpose.
- (2) Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/625 <sup>(2)</sup> supplements Regulation (EU) 2017/625. In particular, Article 3 of that Delegated Regulation lays down rules regarding certain animals and goods that are only permitted to enter the Union from third countries or regions thereof included in the list for such animals and goods laid down in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/626 <sup>(3)</sup>.
- (3) Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/626 lays down or refers to such lists of third countries or regions thereof authorised for the entry into the Union of consignments of certain animals and goods intended for human consumption.
- (4) Article 10 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/626 provides that consignments of raw milk, colostrum, dairy products and colostrum-based products intended for human consumption are only authorised for the entry into the Union if they come from third countries or regions thereof authorised for import into the Union in accordance with Article 2 of Commission Regulation (EU) No 605/2010 <sup>(4)</sup>. Before the date of application of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/626, other third countries were also authorised based on public health requirements for the import of consignments of certain dairy products by references to Articles 3 and 4 of Regulation (EU) No 605/2010. These references to Articles 3 and 4 of Regulation (EU) No 605/2010 were erroneously not included in Article 10 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/626 and should be added. Article 10 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/626 should therefore be amended accordingly.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 95, 7.4.2017, p. 1.

<sup>(2)</sup> Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/625 of 4 March 2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to requirements for the entry into the Union of consignments of certain animals and goods intended for human consumption (OJ L 131, 17.5.2019, p. 18).

<sup>(3)</sup> Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/626 of 5 March 2019 concerning lists of third countries and regions thereof authorised for the entry into the European Union of certain animals and goods intended for human consumption, amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/759 as regards these lists (OJ L 131, 17.5.2019, p. 31).

<sup>(4)</sup> Commission Regulation (EU) No 605/2010 of 2 July 2010 laying down animal and public health and veterinary certification conditions for the introduction into the European Union of raw milk, dairy products, colostrum and colostrum-based products intended for human consumption (OJ L 175, 10.7.2010, p. 1).

- (5) Article 20 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/626 provides that consignments of insects intended for human consumption are only authorised for entry into the Union if such foods have originated in and been consigned from a third country or region thereof, listed in Annex IIIa to that Implementing Regulation. Third countries and regions thereof should only be authorised for the entry into the Union of insects and duly listed if they provide appropriate evidence and guarantees that they comply with the requirements laid down in Article 127(3) of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 and Article 4 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/625.
- (6) On 4 December 2019, Thailand submitted to the Commission the relevant questionnaire for evaluation for the export of insects intended for human consumption to the EU.
- (7) On 6 April 2020, Thailand provided sufficient evidence and guarantees to the Commission to be included in the list of third countries or regions thereof authorised for the entry into the Union of consignments of insects. Thailand should therefore be included in the list set out in Annex IIIa to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/626, and that Annex should be amended accordingly.
- (8) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

#### *Article 1*

Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/626 is amended as follows:

- (1) Article 10 is replaced by the following:

##### *Article 10*

#### **List of third countries or regions thereof authorised for the entry into the Union of consignments of raw milk, colostrum, dairy products and colostrum-based products**

Consignments of raw milk, colostrum, dairy products and colostrum-based products intended for human consumption shall only be authorised for the entry into the Union if they come from the third countries or regions thereof authorised for the import into the Union in accordance with Articles 2, 3 and 4 of Regulation (EU) No 605/2010.;

- (2) Annex IIIa is amended in accordance with the Annex to 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, 28 October 2020.

*For the Commission*  
*The President*  
Ursula VON DER LEYEN

## ANNEX

In Annex IIIa to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/626, the following entry is added after the entry for South Korea:

|     |           |  |
|-----|-----------|--|
| ‘TH | Thailand’ |  |
|-----|-----------|--|

# DECISIONS

## COMMISSION DECISION (EU) 2020/1573

of 28 October 2020

### **amending Decision (EU) 2020/491 on relief from import duties and VAT exemption on importation granted for goods needed to combat the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak during 2020**

*(notified under document C(2020) 7511)*

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Directive 2009/132/EC of 19 October 2009 determining the scope of Article 143(b) and (c) of Directive 2006/112/EC as regards exemption from value added tax on the final importation of certain goods <sup>(1)</sup>, and in particular Article 53, first paragraph, thereof, in conjunction with Article 131 of the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1186/2009 of 16 November 2009 setting up a Community system of reliefs from customs duty <sup>(2)</sup>, and in particular Article 76, first paragraph, thereof, in conjunction with Article 131 of the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community,

Whereas:

- (1) Commission Decision (EU) 2020/491 <sup>(3)</sup> as amended by Commission Decision (EU) 2020/1101 <sup>(4)</sup> grants relief from import duties and exemption of value added tax ("VAT") on importation of goods needed to combat the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak until 31 October 2020.
- (2) On 29 September 2020, the Commission consulted the Member States and the United Kingdom in accordance with recital 5 of Decision (EU) 2020/491 whether an extension was necessary, following which Member States requested the extension of the relief.
- (3) The United Kingdom requested the extension of Decision (EU) 2020/491 until the end of the transition period. The provisions of Union legislation regarding relief from import duties and exemption of VAT on importation of goods, in accordance with Article 5(3) and (4) and Article 8 of the Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland to the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community ('the Withdrawal Agreement') are to apply to and in the United Kingdom in respect of Northern Ireland from the end of transition period. However, the United Kingdom did not request for relief from import duties and exemption from VAT on imported goods to Northern Ireland. Therefore, the extension of Decision (EU) 2020/491 should only apply to the United Kingdom until the end of the transition period in accordance with Article 127(1) of the Withdrawal Agreement.
- (4) The imports made by Member States under Decision (EU) 2020/491 have been beneficial in providing State organisations or approved organisations by the competent authorities in the Member States access to needed medicines, medical equipment and personal protective equipment, for which a shortage exists. Trade statistics for such goods have indicated that importations are still high. Since the number of COVID-19 infections in Member States still poses public health risks and as shortages for goods needed to combat the COVID-19 pandemic are still reported in the Member States, it is necessary to extend the period of application provided in Decision (EU) 2020/491.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 292, 10.11.2009, p. 5.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 324, 10.12.2009, p. 23.

<sup>(3)</sup> Commission Decision (EU) 2020/491 of 3 April 2020 on relief from import duties and VAT exemption on importation granted for goods needed to combat the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak during 2020 (OJ L 103, 3.4.2020, p. 1).

<sup>(4)</sup> Commission Decision (EU) 2020/1101 of 23 July 2020 amending Decision (EU) 2020/491 on relief from import duties and VAT exemption on importation granted for goods needed to combat the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak during 2020 (OJ L 241, 27.7.2020, p. 36).

- (5) In order to allow a proper reporting by Member States of the obligations derived from Decision (EU) 2020/491, it is appropriate to extend the deadline provided for in Article 2 of Decision (EU) 2020/491. The reporting deadline for the United Kingdom should be adjusted to take into account shorter application of the exemption.
- (6) On 14 October 2020, the Member States were consulted on the requested extension in accordance with Article 76 of Regulation (EC) No 1186/2009 and Article 53 of Directive 2009/132/EC.
- (7) Decision (EU) 2020/491 should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

#### *Article 1*

Decision (EU) 2020/491 is amended as follows:

- (1) Article 2 is amended as follows:

- (a) the introductory part is replaced by the following:

‘Member States shall communicate by 31 August 2021 at the latest the following information to the Commission:’;

- (b) the following second paragraph is added:

‘The United Kingdom shall communicate the information referred to in the first paragraph to the Commission by 30 April 2021 at the latest.’;

- (2) Article 3 is replaced by the following:

‘Article 3

Article 1 shall apply to importations made from 30 January 2020 to 30 April 2021.

However, as regards importations made to the United Kingdom, Article 1 shall apply from 30 January 2020 to 31 December 2020.’.

#### *Article 2*

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 28 October 2020

*For the Commission*  
Paolo GENTILONI  
*Member of the Commission*

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**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2020/1574****of 28 October 2020****amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/450 as regards the publication of references of European Assessment Documents for waterproofing kits, ETICs, joints for road bridges, timber building kits, fire retardant products and other construction products****(Text with EEA relevance)**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2011 laying down harmonised conditions for the marketing of construction products and repealing Council Directive 89/106/EEC <sup>(1)</sup>, and in particular Article 22 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In accordance with Regulation (EU) No 305/2011, Technical Assessment Bodies are to use methods and criteria provided in European Assessment Documents, the references of which have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*, for assessing performance of construction products covered by those documents in relation to their essential characteristics.
- (2) In accordance with Article 19 of Regulation (EU) No 305/2011, following several requests by manufacturers for European Technical Assessments, the organisation of Technical Assessment Bodies has drawn up and adopted 25 European Assessment Documents.
- (3) The European Assessment Documents drawn up and adopted by the Technical Assessment Bodies relate to the following construction products:
  - acoustic spray coating based on a water-based organic binder,
  - liquid applied roof waterproofing kits,
  - liquid applied watertight covering kits for wet room floors and/or walls,
  - fully bonded, pre-applied flexible sheet for waterproofing,
  - watertight covering kits based on flexible sheets for wet room floors and/or walls,
  - watertight covering kits based on inherently watertight boards for wet room floors and/or walls,
  - external thermal insulation composite systems (ETICS) with renderings,
  - thermal insulation board made of pressed rigid polyurethane foam,
  - veture kits – Prefabricated units for external wall insulation and their fixing devices,
  - dowels for structural joints under static and quasi-static loading,
  - flexible asphaltic plug expansion joints for road bridges,
  - nosing expansion joints for road bridges,
  - mat expansion joints for road bridges,
  - cantilever expansion joints for road bridges,
  - supported expansion joints for road bridges,
  - modular expansion joints for road bridges,

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 88, 4.4.2011, p. 5.

- prefabricated wood-based loadbearing stressed skin panels,
  - re-cycled clay masonry units,
  - calcium carbonate fine as active addition with catalytic binding performance for concrete,
  - bonded fasteners for use in concrete,
  - injected anchor for thermal insulation boards,
  - fasteners for push-pull props for precast wall/column elements,
  - timber building kits,
  - CRM (Composite Reinforced Mortar) systems for strengthening concrete and masonry structures,
  - fire retardant products.
- (4) The European Assessment Documents drawn up and adopted by the organisation of Technical Assessment Bodies satisfy the demands to be met in relation to the basic requirements for construction works set out in Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 305/2011. It is therefore appropriate to publish the references of those European Assessment Documents in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.
- (5) The list of references of European Assessment Documents is published by Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/450 <sup>(2)</sup>. For reasons of clarity, references of new European Assessment Documents should be added to that list.
- (6) Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/450 should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (7) In order to enable the use of the European Assessment Documents as early as possible, this Decision should enter into force on the day of its publication,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

The Annex to Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/450 is amended in accordance with the Annex to this Decision.

*Article 2*

This Decision shall enter into force on the day of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at Brussels, 28 October 2020.

*For the Commission*  
*The President*  
Ursula VON DER LEYEN

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<sup>(2)</sup> Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/450 of 19 March 2019 on publication of the European Assessment Documents (EADs) for construction products drafted in support of Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 77, 20.3.2019, p. 78).

## ANNEX

In the Annex to Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/450, the following rows are inserted in sequential order following the order of the reference numbers:

|                 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ‘030219-00-0501 | Acoustic spray coating based on a water-based organic binder                                                                                             |
| 030350-00-0402  | Liquid applied roof waterproofing kits<br>(superseding technical specification “ETAG 005”)                                                               |
| 030352-00-0503  | Liquid applied watertight covering kits for wet room floors and/or walls<br>(superseding technical specification “ETAG 022-1”)                           |
| 030378-00-0605  | Fully bonded, pre-applied flexible sheet for waterproofing                                                                                               |
| 030436-00-0503  | Watertight covering kits based on flexible sheets for wet room floors and/or walls<br>(superseding technical specification “ETAG 022-2”)                 |
| 030437-00-0503  | Watertight covering kits based on inherently watertight boards for wet room floors<br>and/or walls<br>(superseding technical specification “ETAG 022-3”) |
| 040083-00-0404  | External Thermal Insulation Composite Systems (ETICS) with renderings<br>(superseding technical specification “ETAG 004”)                                |
| 040419-00-1201  | Thermal insulation board made of pressed rigid polyurethane foam                                                                                         |
| 040914-00-0404  | Veture kits – Prefabricated units for external wall insulation and their fixing devices<br>(superseding technical specification “ETAG 017”)              |
| 050019-00-0601  | Dowels for structural joints under static and quasi-static loading<br>(superseding technical specification “ETAG 030”)                                   |
| 120093-00-0107  | Flexible asphaltic plug expansion joints for road bridges<br>(superseding technical specification “ETAG 032-3”)                                          |
| 120109-00-0107  | Nosing expansion joints for road bridges<br>(superseding technical specification “ETAG 032-4”)                                                           |
| 120110-00-0107  | Mat expansion joints for road bridges<br>(superseding technical specification “ETAG 032-5”)                                                              |
| 120111-00-0107  | Cantilever expansion joints for road bridges<br>(superseding technical specification “ETAG 032-6”)                                                       |
| 120112-00-0107  | Supported expansion joints for road bridges<br>(superseding technical specification “ETAG 032-7”)                                                        |
| 120113-00-0107  | Modular expansion joints for road bridges<br>(superseding technical specification “ETAG 032-8”)                                                          |
| 140022-00-0304  | Prefabricated wood-based loadbearing stressed skin panels<br>(superseding technical specification “ETAG 019”)                                            |
| 170005-00-0305  | Re-cycled clay masonry units                                                                                                                             |
| 260020-00-0301  | Calcium carbonate fine as active addition with catalytic binding performance for<br>concrete                                                             |
| 330499-01-0601  | Bonded fasteners for use in concrete<br>(superseding technical specification “ETAG 001-5” and EAD 330499-00-0601)                                        |
| 331433-00-0601  | Injected anchor for thermal insulation boards                                                                                                            |

|                |                                                                                             |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 332277-00-0601 | Fastener for push-pull props for precast wall/column elements                               |
| 340308-00-0203 | Timber building kits<br>(superseding technical specification "ETAG 007")                    |
| 340392-00-0104 | CRM (Composite Reinforced Mortar) Systems for strengthening concrete and masonry structures |
| 350865-00-1106 | Fire retardant products<br>(superseding technical specification "ETAG 028")                 |

**DECISION (EU) 2020/1575 OF THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK****of 27 October 2020****as regards the assessment of and follow-up on information on breaches reported through the whistleblowing tool where a person concerned is a high-level ECB official (ECB/2020/54)**

THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK,

Having regard to the Statute of the European System of Central Banks and of the European Central Bank, and in particular Article 12.3 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The whistleblowing policy of the European Central Bank (ECB) has recently been enhanced in the ethics framework of the ECB <sup>(1)</sup>. Information on breaches reported through the internal reporting platform set up for this purpose by the ECB ('the whistleblowing tool') may concern high-level ECB officials, that is, the officials referred to in Articles 1.1, 1.2 and 1.4 of the Code of conduct for high-level European Central Bank Officials <sup>(2)</sup>.
- (2) To be effective, the ECB's whistleblowing policy should provide for a thorough assessment and follow-up on all reports submitted through the new reporting tool. Such assessment and follow-up should be carried out in accordance with a harmonised procedure under the responsibility of a designated competent authority.
- (3) It is appropriate to specify the procedure that will apply to the assessment of and follow up on information on breaches reported through the whistleblowing tool, where a report refers to a high-level ECB official as a person to whom a breach is attributed or with whom that person is associated.
- (4) In order to ensure a smooth implementation of the enhanced framework and avoid legal uncertainty on the assessment of and follow up on information on breaches reported through the whistleblowing tool, where a report refers to a high-level ECB official as a person to whom a breach is attributed or with whom that person is associated, this Decision should enter into force on the third day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1***Definitions**

Unless otherwise provided, the terms used in this Decision have the same meaning as those defined in the ethics framework of the ECB.

*Article 2***Competent authority**

Where reports of information on breaches received through the whistleblowing tool refer to a high-level ECB official as a person to whom a breach is attributed or with whom that person is associated, the competent authority to assess such reports and give feedback to the whistleblower, and/or to follow up on such reports, shall be:

- (a) the President; or
- (b) where the high-level ECB official referred to in the report is the President, the Vice-President.

<sup>(1)</sup> Amendment to the ethics framework of the ECB (not yet published in the Official Journal).<sup>(2)</sup> Code of conduct for high-level European Central Bank Officials (2019/C 89/03) (OJ C 89, 8.3.2019, p. 2).

*Article 3***Procedure for assessment and follow-up**

1. Reports of information on breaches received through the whistleblowing tool which refer to a high-level ECB official as a person to whom a breach is attributed or with whom that person is associated shall be followed up in accordance with Decision (EU) 2016/456 of the European Central Bank (ECB/2016/3) <sup>(3)</sup> where such reports fall within the scope of that Decision.
2. Where the reports of information on breaches referred to in paragraph 1 do not fall within the scope of Decision (EU) 2016/456 (ECB/2016/3), they shall be followed up in accordance with Administrative Circular 01/2006 on internal administrative inquiries <sup>(4)</sup>.
3. Notwithstanding paragraph 2, the competent authority designated under Article 2 may:
  - (a) prior to concluding whether or not the information received justifies an internal inquiry, forward the information received to the ECB's Ethics Committee for its advice on the matter;
  - (b) if they conclude that the information received justifies an internal administrative inquiry, decide, in derogation from Article 4(1) to (4) of Administrative Circular 01/2006, to directly open an administrative inquiry, and take the relevant decision in accordance with Article 4(5) and (6) of Administrative Circular 01/2006, including the possibility that the competent authority designated under Article 2 exceptionally decides to carry out the administrative inquiry themselves, designating in this case either an individual or a panel, with adequate seniority, to conduct the inquiry.

*Article 4***Entry into force**

This Decision shall enter into force on the third day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at Frankfurt am Main, 27 October 2020.

*The President of the ECB*  
Christine LAGARDE

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<sup>(3)</sup> Decision (EU) 2016/456 of the European Central Bank of 4 March 2016 concerning the terms and conditions for European Anti-Fraud Office investigations of the European Central Bank, in relation to the prevention of fraud, corruption and any other illegal activities affecting the financial interests of the Union (ECB/2016/3) (OJ L 79, 30.3.2016, p. 34).

<sup>(4)</sup> Administrative Circular 01/2006 was adopted on 21 March 2006 and is available on the ECB's website.

## III

*(Other acts)*

## EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA

## EFTA SURVEILLANCE AUTHORITY DECISION

No 90/20/COL

of 15 July 2020

**amending, for the one hundred and seventh time, the procedural and substantive rules in the field of State aid, by amending and prolonging certain State aid guidelines [2020/1576]**

THE EFTA SURVEILLANCE AUTHORITY ('ESA'),

Having regard to the Agreement on the European Economic Area ('the EEA Agreement'), and in particular Articles 61 to 63 and Protocol 26,

Having regard to the Agreement between the EFTA States on the Establishment of a Surveillance Authority and a Court of Justice ('the Surveillance and Court Agreement'), and in particular Article 24 and Article 5(2)(b), and

Having regard to Protocol 3 to the Surveillance and Court Agreement ('Protocol 3'), and in particular Article 1(1) of Part I.

Whereas:

Under Article 24 of the Surveillance and Court Agreement, ESA shall give effect to the provisions of the EEA Agreement concerning State aid.

Under Article 5(2)(b) of the Surveillance and Court Agreement, ESA shall issue notices or guidelines on matters dealt with in the EEA Agreement, if that Agreement or the Surveillance and Court Agreement expressly so provides or if ESA considers it necessary.

The following State aid guidelines adopted by ESA, as part of the State aid Modernisation initiative, are due to expire at the end of 2020:

- (a) Guidelines on regional State aid for 2014-2020 <sup>(1)</sup>;
- (b) Guidelines on State aid to promote risk finance investments <sup>(2)</sup>;
- (c) Guidelines on State aid for environmental protection and energy 2014-2020 <sup>(3)</sup>;
- (d) Guidelines for the analysis of the compatibility with the functioning of the EEA Agreement of State aid to promote the execution of important projects of common European interest <sup>(4)</sup>;

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 166, 5.6.2014, p. 44, and EEA Supplement No 33, 5.6.2014, p. 1, amended by ESA Decision No 302/14/COL, OJ L 15, 22.1.2015, p. 103, and EEA Supplement No 4, 22.1.2015, p. 1.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 354, 11.12.2014, p. 62, and EEA Supplement No 74, 11.12.2014, p. 1, amended by ESA Decision No 302/14/COL, OJ L 15, 22.1.2015, p. 103, and EEA Supplement No 4, 22.1.2015, p. 1.

<sup>(3)</sup> OJ L 131, 28.5.2015, p. 1, and EEA Supplement No 30, 28.5.2015, p. 1.

<sup>(4)</sup> OJ L 39, 16.2.2017, p. 49, and EEA Supplement No 11, 16.2.2017, p. 1.

- (e) Guidelines on short-term export-credit insurance <sup>(5)</sup>; and
- (f) Guidelines on State aid for rescuing and restructuring non-financial undertakings in difficulty <sup>(6)</sup>.

In the context of the Green Deal and Digital Agenda, the European Commission ('the Commission') has already announced its intention to revise a series of guidelines by the end of 2021.

On 2 July 2020, the Commission adopted a Communication concerning the prolongation and the amendments of the Guidelines on Regional State aid for 2014-2020, Guidelines on State aid to Promote Risk Finance Investments, Guidelines on State aid for Environmental Protection and Energy 2014-2020, Guidelines on State aid for rescuing and restructuring non-financial undertakings in difficulty, Communication on the Criteria for the Analysis of the Compatibility with the Internal Market of State aid to Promote the Execution of Important Projects of Common European Interest, Communication from the Commission – Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation and Communication from the Commission to the Member States on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to short-term export-credit insurance <sup>(7)</sup>.

To provide predictability and legal certainty, while preparing for a future update of the State aid rules, the Commission considered it appropriate to extend the period of application of its guidelines, corresponding to the ESA guidelines listed in points (a)-(e) above, until the end of 2021. The Commission extended the period of application of the guidelines corresponding to those listed in point (f), the Guidelines on State aid for rescuing and restructuring non-financial undertakings in difficulty, until the end of 2023.

The prolongation of those rules will allow the Commission to finalise the evaluation of those rules together with other State aid rules adopted as part of the State aid Modernisation initiative. On 7 January 2019, the Commission launched the evaluation of those rules in the form of a 'fitness check'. On the basis of the result of that evaluation, the Commission will then be in a position to decide whether to further prolong or update those rules.

Having regard to the economic and financial consequences that the COVID-19 outbreak may have on undertakings, the Commission considered that temporary adaptations of some State aid Guidelines are also necessary. In particular, in the framework of the Guidelines on regional State aid for 2014-2020, the Guidelines on State aid for environmental protection and energy 2014-2020, the Communication – Criteria for the analysis of the compatibility with the internal market of State aid to promote the execution of important projects of common European interest (IPCEI) and the Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation <sup>(8)</sup>, undertakings which were not in difficulty on 31 December 2019, but became undertakings in difficulty after 31 December 2019 should be eligible under those guidelines until 30 June 2021.

With regard to the Guidelines on State aid for environmental protection and energy 2014-2020, the sharp decline of electricity prices due to the COVID-19 outbreak could lead to situations where the electro-intensity of undertakings may decrease. In that case, the undertaking may lose eligibility under Section 3.7.2 (targeted reductions in the funding of support for energy from renewable sources for competitiveness reasons) when applying Annex 4 for calculating the GVA (Gross Value Added) and the electro-intensity at the level of the undertaking. The Commission therefore considered that calculation methods to be used should therefore be adapted, in order to address this in an appropriate manner.

These amendments and prolongations to the Commission's Communications are also of relevance to the European Economic Area.

Uniform application of the EEA State aid rules is to be ensured throughout the European Economic Area, in line with the objective of homogeneity established in Article 1 of the EEA Agreement.

According to point II under the heading 'GENERAL' on page 11 of Annex XV to the EEA Agreement, ESA, after consultation with the Commission, is to adopt acts corresponding to those adopted by the Commission,

Having consulted the Commission,

Having consulted the EEA EFTA States,

<sup>(5)</sup> OJ L 343, 19.12.2013, p. 54, and EEA Supplement No 71, 19.12.2013, p. 1, re-adopted by ESA Decision No 4/19/COL, OJ L 163, 20.6.2019, p. 110, and EEA Supplement No 48, 20.6.2019, p. 1, amended by ESA Decision No 030/20/COL, OJ L 220, 9.7.2020, p. 8, and EEA Supplement No 46, 9.7.2020, p. 1.

<sup>(6)</sup> OJ L 271, 16.10.2015, p. 35, and EEA Supplement No 62, 15.10.2015, p. 1.

<sup>(7)</sup> OJ C 224, 8.7.2020, p. 2.

<sup>(8)</sup> Which correspond to ESA's Guidelines for research and development and innovation, OJ L 209, 6.8.2015, p. 17, and EEA Supplement No 44, 6.8.2015, p. 1.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

### Article 1

The substantive rules in the field of State aid shall be amended as follows:

(1) the Guidelines on regional State aid for 2014-2020 are amended as follows:

(a) in paragraph 18, the following sentence is added:

‘These Guidelines shall, however, apply to undertakings which were not in difficulty on 31 December 2019 but became undertakings in difficulty in the period from 1 January 2020 to 30 June 2021.’;

(b) the following points are inserted after paragraph 156:

‘(a) In view of the expiry of the validity of the national regional aid maps on 31 December 2020, the Authority invites the EEA EFTA States to notify by 15 September 2020 to the Authority their intention to prolong the validity of their national regional aid maps.

(b) Following the approval of the prolongation of the national regional aid maps until 31 December 2021, the EEA EFTA States may decide to prolong the existing schemes approved on the basis of the present Guidelines. Any prolongation of such schemes must be notified to the Authority in due time before their expiry date.’;

(2) in the Guidelines on State aid to promote risk finance investments, paragraph 174 is replaced by the following:

‘174. The Authority will apply the principles set out in these Guidelines for the compatibility assessment of all risk finance aid to be awarded from 1 July 2014 to 31 December 2021.’;

(3) the Guidelines on State aid for environmental protection and energy 2014-2020 are amended as follows:

(a) in paragraph 11, the following sentence is added:

‘These Guidelines shall, however, apply to undertakings which were not in difficulty on 31 December 2019 but became undertakings in difficulty in the period from 1 January 2020 to 30 June 2021.’;

(b) paragraph 103 is replaced by the following:

‘103. These Guidelines apply to the period until 31 December 2021. However, they should prepare the ground for achieving the objectives set in the 2030 Framework. Notably, it is expected that in the period between 2020 and 2030 established renewable energy sources will become grid-competitive, implying that subsidies and exemptions from balancing responsibilities should be phased out in a degressive way. These Guidelines are consistent with that objective and will ensure the transition to a cost-effective delivery through market-based mechanisms.’;

(c) paragraph 237 is replaced by the following:

‘(237) These Guidelines will be applied from 1 July 2014 and replace the Guidelines on State aid for environmental protection published on 10 June 2010 (\*). They will be applicable until 31 December 2021.

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(\*) OJ L 144, 10.6.2010, p. 1 and EEA Supplement No 29, 10.6.2010, p. 1.’;

(d) Annex 4 is amended as follows:

(i) paragraph 2 is replaced by the following:

‘(2) For the purposes of applying Section 3.7.2 the EEA EFTA States can use:

(a) the arithmetic mean over the most recent 3 years for which GVA data is available;

(b) the arithmetic mean of 2 years chosen from the most recent 3 years for which GVA data is available, provided this method is applied in the same way to all beneficiaries.

The Authority considers that moving from a calculation pursuant to method (a) to method (b) does not constitute a notifiable change.’;

(ii) paragraph 5 is replaced by the following:

‘(5) For the calculation of the electricity consumption of the undertaking, use is to be made of electricity consumption efficiency benchmarks for the industry where available. If not available, the EEA EFTA States can use:

- (a) the arithmetic mean over the most recent 3 years for which data is available.
- (b) the arithmetic mean of 2 years chosen from the most recent 3 years for which data is available, provided this method is applied in the same way to all beneficiaries.

The Authority considers that moving from a calculation pursuant to method (a) to method (b) does not constitute a notifiable change.’;

(4) in the Guidelines on State aid for rescuing and restructuring non-financial undertakings in difficulty paragraph 135 is replaced by the following:

‘135. The Authority will apply these guidelines with effect from 10 September 2014 until 31 December 2023.’;

(5) the Guidelines for the analysis of the compatibility with the functioning of the EEA Agreement of State aid to promote the execution of important projects of common European interest are amended as follows:

(a) in paragraph 10(a) the following sentence is added:

‘These Guidelines shall, however, apply to undertakings which were not in difficulty on 31 December 2019 but became undertakings in difficulty in the period from 1 January 2020 to 30 June 2021.’;

(b) paragraph 50 is replaced by the following:

‘50. These Guidelines will be applied from 27 April 2016 until 31 December 2021.’;

(6) in the Guidelines on short-term export-credit insurance, paragraph 40 is replaced by the following:

‘(40) Having regard to the need for continuity and legal certainty in the treatment of State aid in the field of short-term export-credit insurance, it is considered appropriate to apply the current Guidelines until 31 December 2021. This will align its expiration date with those of the majority of State aid guidelines adopted pursuant to the State aid modernisation programme.’;

(7) in the Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation, in paragraph 10 the following sentence is added:

‘These guidelines shall, however, apply to undertakings which were not in difficulty on 31 December 2019 but became undertakings in difficulty in the period from 1 January 2020 to 30 June 2021.’.

## Article 2

Only the English language version of this Decision is authentic.

Done at Brussels, 15 July 2020.

*For the EFTA Surveillance Authority*

Bente ANGELL-HANSEN  
*President*  
*Responsible College Member*

Frank J. BÜCHEL  
*College Member*

Högni KRISTJÁNSSON  
*College Member*

Carsten ZATSCHLER  
*Countersigning as Director,*  
*Legal and Executive Affairs*

## CORRIGENDA

**Corrigendum to Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1051 of 16 July 2020 terminating the absorption reinvestigation concerning imports of certain cast iron articles originating in the People's Republic of China***(Official Journal of the European Union L 230 of 17 July 2020)*

On page 25, in Article 1:

- for:* 'The absorption reinvestigation concerning imports of certain cast iron articles, currently falling under CN codes ex 7325 10 00 (TARIC code 7325 10 00 31) and ex 7325 99 90 (TARIC code 7325 99 90 80), originating in the People's Republic of China, is hereby terminated.'
- read:* 'The absorption reinvestigation concerning imports of certain cast iron articles, currently falling under CN codes ex 7325 10 00 (TARIC code 7325 10 00 31) and ex 7325 99 10 (TARIC code 7325 99 10 60), originating in the People's Republic of China, is hereby terminated.'
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