



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate B. Quality, Research & Innovation, Outreach
The Director

Brussels
AAF/sn/(2020)6137477

Dear Ms Quintin,

Thank you for your email of 2nd October¹ concerning trade of organic products between EU and UK after 1st January 2021.

As of the 1st January 2021, the UK will become a third country and the rules foreseen in the organic legislation for the import of organic products will apply also to organic products imported from UK. Concerning your request for information on the state of play of the applications introduced by the control bodies to be recognised under Regulation Article 33(3) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 for certification of organic products from UK intended for imports into the EU, please note that the Commission services are assessing the information provided by these control bodies in line with Articles 11 and 16 of Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008. While examining the application, the Commission services may request any further information or decide to undertake an on-the spot examination in accordance with Article 11(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008.

If the outcome of the assessment of the applications is positive, the Commission services will propose to amend Regulation (EC) 1235/2008 to include the concerned control bodies in the list of control bodies recognised under Article 33(3) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007. The final decision should be taken in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 37(2) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007.

As for your question on the requirements that UK will impose on imported organic products from the EU, the Commission services have requested the UK to clarify their import requirements, in particular by confirming whether the information published in their guidance on organic trade as of 1 January is still valid. In this regard, I invite you to check “the Guidance on trading and labelling organic food from 1 January 2021” published by UK authorities and to also contact directly the UK authorities for further details.

¹ Ares(2020)5180656

Ms Aurélie QUINTIN
EOCC Representative
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<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/trading-and-labelling-organic-food-if-theres-no-brexit-deal#importing-organic-food>

Please be assured that we are committed to work closely with the UK to secure continued access to our reciprocal organic market, with no trade disruption.

Yours faithfully,



Nathalie SAUZE- VANDEVYVER

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