

Dear EU equivalence arrangement team,

This letter is to facilitate trade between Korea and EU via Korea-EU equivalence arrangement.

When Korea and EU made the arrangement, it is agreed that importing country's regulation should be applied to the labeling contents. Accordingly, package of products imported from EU must contain compulsory indications such as name of operation, contact information and certification number, etc. under the Korean standards for labelling of organic product.

However, certificate number are not described in product organic certificates and NAQS import certificates which are required exporters to submit to responsible authority of food customs clearance, the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety (called as MFDS). It makes for MFDS difficult to verify certification of the relevant product in any documents.

Accordingly, NAQS decides to add certification number in NAQS import certificate in order to improve customs clearance and relieves importers complaints about customs delays.

If control bodies enter product certification number into NAQS import certificate, MFDS will just verify that the certification number described in NAQS import certificate is indicated in the package of organic products. As a result, the period of customs clearance will be shortened with certification number in NAQS import certificate.

This updated import certificates are required for products declared to be imported into Korea since July 1, 2019.

The revised form with instructions is attached in this email. If you have any questions regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best regards,

Jae-rok An