

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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

> Brussels MP/nb/agri.ddg1.b.4(2021)1442090

I would like to thank you for your email of 12 February 2021, in which you request to receive clarifications about the linguistic choice used in Annex 14A and 14B of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement with the United Kingdom.

The annexes provide for a description of unprocessed agriculture or aquaculture products and of processed agricultural products for use as food and feed. Specifically, for processed products, the text refers to the need for the ingredients to be "grown" in the United Kingdom or imported into the United Kingdom in accordance with United Kingdom laws and regulations.

You would like to clarification about the choice of the term "grown" instead of the more generic "produced", which in your view could cover better also products from animal origin.

We can confirm that the wording used in the Agreement for the UK is exactly the same as the one already used in annex III of Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008 for other third Countries under equivalence and we therefore consider it appropriate to maintain the current linguistic choice for coherence.

The present opinion is provided on the basis of the facts as set out in your e-mail of 12 February 2021 and expresses the view of the Commission services and does not commit the European Commission. In the event of a dispute involving Union law it is, under the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, ultimately for the European Court of Justice to provide a definitive interpretation of the applicable Union law.

Yours sincerely,

¹ Int. reference Ares(2021)1197843

c.c.: