

15 June 2017

(17-3175) Page: 1/2

Original: English

## RUSSIA – TARIFF TREATMENT OF CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL AND MANUFACTURING PRODUCTS

## COMMUNICATION FROM THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

The following communication, dated 8 June 2017, was received from the delegation of the Russian Federation with the request that it be circulated to the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB).

On 26 September 2016 the Dispute Settlement Body ("DSB") adopted the Panel report on the case Russia – Tariff Treatment of Certain Agricultural and Manufacturing Products (DS485).

We recall that the Panel recommended the Russian Federation to bring a number of challenged measures in conformity with Articles II:1(a) and II:1(b) of the GATT 1994.

Pursuant to Article 21.3(b) of the Dispute Settlement Understanding, the Russian Federation and the European Union agreed on the reasonable period of time to implement the DSB recommendations and rulings in this dispute that expired on 11 May 2017.

Russia fully implemented the DSB rulings before the above deadline as detailed below.

For measures 1 -5, i.e. the measures concerning paper and paperboard products (HS 4810 22 900, 4810 29 300 0, 4810 92 300 0, 4810 13 800 9), the Common Customs Tariff of the Eurasian Economic Union was amended in accordance with the recommendation of the Panel by virtue of the Decision of the Board of Eurasian Economic Union  $N^{\circ}$  13 that was adopted on 31 January 2017 and came into force on 3 March 2017.

For measures 6 – 8, i.e. the measures concerning paper and paperboard products (HS 481092 100 0), palm oil and its fractions (HS 1511 90 190 2, 1511 90 990 2), the Russian Federation had amended its applied duties before or in the course of these proceedings. The Common Customs Tariff of the Eurasian Economic Union in respect of paper and paperboard products (the  $6^{th}$  measure) was amended by virtue of the Decision of the Board of the Eurasian Economic Commission Nº 85 that was adopted on 2 June 2015 and entered into force on 20 August 2015. According to the Decision of the Council of the Eurasian Economic Commission Nº 52 adopted on 16 July 2014 the duties on palm oil and its fractions (7 – 8 measures) ceased to be in force as of 1 September 2015.

In relation to the  $9^{th}$  measure, i.e. the measure concerning the duty on combined refrigerators-freezers (HS 8418 10 200 1), the duty was amended by the Decision of the Council of the Eurasian Economic Commission  $N^0$  40 that was adopted on 16 May 2016 and entered into force on 1 September 2016.

For measures 10 – 11, i.e., the measures concerning the duties on combined refrigerators-freezers (HS 8418 10 800 1) and refrigerators (HS 8418 21 100 0), the duties were amended in the course of these proceedings by virtue of the Decision of the Council of the Eurasian Economic Commission  $N^{\circ}$  54 that was adopted on 21 August 2015 and entered into force on 20 September 2015.

Therefore, Russia fully implemented the DSB rulings and recommendations in this dispute prior to the expiry of the reasonable period of time agreed by the Parties.

The Russian Federation provided to the EU the copies of all relevant decisions and acts concerning implementation in this dispute. The Russian Federation is ready to provide, upon request, the copies of its implementing documents to any Member. Such information is also available on the website of the Eurasian Economic Commission, which is <a href="http://www.eurasiancommission.org">http://www.eurasiancommission.org</a>.