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Kazakhstan - Republic of

Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards Report

FAIRS Annual Country Report

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Report Highlights:

This report is an overview of the general legal and technical requirements for food and agricultural imports imposed by the Republic of Kazakhstan. The following sections of this report have been considerably updated from the 2018 FAIRS report: Section I: General Food Laws, Section V: Labeling Requirements, Section VI: Other Specific Standards, Section VII: Facility and Product Registration Requirements, Section VIII: Other Certification and Testing Requirements, Section IX: Import Procedures and Section X: Copyright and/or Trademark Laws.

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List of Abbreviations

CIS - Commonwealth of Independent States, includes Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan.

CU – a Customs Union between Russia, Belarus, and Kazakhstan, launched on January 1, 2010.

CU Commission – Customs Union Commission, the CU regulatory body until July 1, 2012.

EEC – Eurasian Economic Commission, replaced the CU Commission as the regulatory body of the Customs Union as of July 1, 2012.

EAEU - Eurasian Economic Union

HN – Hygienic Norms

SanPiN – Sanitary Norms and Rules

Executive Summary

This report is an overview of the general legal and technical requirements for food and agricultural imports imposed by the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) offices in Astana prepared this report on Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While the USDA office in Kazakhstan believes this report to be accurate, policies may have changed since its preparation, or clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. FAS/Kazakhstan recommends that U.S. exporters verify requirements with their import partners before any goods are shipped. Note: FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.

Kazakhstan, as a new member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), is still in the process of revising its import procedures to be in compliance with those agreements. While the legal framework has improved, in practice, Kazakhstan has not yet taken all of the steps expected of members to these organizations in improving the environment for trade.

Section I: General Food Laws

Kazakhstani food and trade regulations have or are undergoing reform as Kazakhstan continues policy integration with Armenia, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan and Russia via the Eurasian Economic Union, which replaced the Customs Union on January 1, 2015. For additional details, please, see GAIN report <u>RS1611</u> <u>Eurasian Economic Union One Year On</u>.

In late 2015, Kazakhstan joined the World Trade Organization and continues to adjust policies pursuant to international standards. For instance, Kazakhstan agreed to harmonize its SPS measures with OIE, IPPC and Codex. Risk assessment in Kazakhstan is conducted according to Codex standard CAC/GL 62-200.

Kazakhstani Legislation and Principal Regulatory Documents on Foodstuff Imports

Kazakhstan's regulatory framework governing the import of foodstuffs consists of: (1) Eurasian Economic Union documents, (2) Kazakhstani Laws, (3) Kazakhstani Government decrees, and (4) regulatory documents of the executive bodies of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The major documents are the following:

1. Eurasian Economic Union documents:

General

- EAEU Customs Code, in force since January 1, 2018 <<u>http://base.garant.ru/71652992</u>>, <u>EEC unofficial</u> <u>translation into English</u>.
- EAEU Treaty <<u>https://www.alta.ru/tamdoc/14bn0044/</u>> (as amended through May 8, 2015), <u>EEC courtesy</u> <u>translation into English</u>

- Treaty on Accession of the Republic of Armenia to the Treaty on the Eurasian Economic Union <<u>https://www.alta.ru/tamdoc/14bn0084/</u>> (as amended through April 11, 2017), <u>EEC courtesy translation</u> into English
- Treaty on Accession of the Kyrgyz Republic to the Treaty on the Eurasian Economic Union <<u>https://www.alta.ru/tamdoc/14bn0119/</u>>
- Free Trade Agreement between the Eurasian Economic Union and its Member States and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam <<u>https://docs.eaeunion.org/docs/ru-ru/0147849/itot_02062015</u>>

Tariff and TRQs

- Unified CU Customs Tariff, in effect as of August 23, 2012 (as amended through October 16, 2018) <<u>http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/trade/catr/ett/Pages/default.aspx</u>>
- EEC Council Decision No. 54 of July 16, 2012 "On Approval of the Unified Commodity Nomenclature of the Foreign Economic Activity of the Customs Union and the Common Customs Tariff of the Customs Union" (as amended through December 11, 2018)
 http://www.alta.ru/show_orders.php?action=view&filename=12sr0054>
- EEC Collegium Decision No. 141 of August 30, 2018, "On Establishment of Tariff-Rate Quotas for Import of Certain Agricultural Goods into the Customs Territory of the Eurasian Economic Union in 2019, as well as Volumes of Tariff-Rate Quotas for Import of these Goods in the Territories of the Eurasian Economic Union Member States" (refers to beef, pork, poultry, and whey) <<u>https://www.alta.ru/tamdoc/18kr0141/</u>>

General SPS Measures

- CU Commission Decision No. 625 of April 7, 2011 "On Harmonization of CU Legal Acts in the Field of Sanitary, Veterinary and Phytosanitary Measures with International Standards" (as amended through March 7, 2012) <<u>http://www.alta.ru/tamdoc/11sr0625/</u>>
- CU Commission Decision No. 721 of June 22, 2011 "On Application of International Standards, Recommendations, and Guidelines" <<u>https://www.alta.ru/tamdoc/11sr0721/</u>>
- EEC Collegium Decision No. 212 of November 6, 2012 "On Regulation on the Uniform Procedure of Carrying Out Examination of Legal Acts in the Sphere of Implementation of Sanitary, Veterinary and Phytosanitary Measures" <<u>https://www.alta.ru/tamdoc/12kr0212/</u>>
- CU Commission Decision No. 835 of October 18, 2011 "On Equivalence of Sanitary, Veterinary or Phytosanitary Measures and Conduct of Risk Assessment" (as amended through February 11, 2014) <<u>http://www.alta.ru/tamdoc/11sr0835/</u>>

Sanitary Measures

<<u>http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/texnreg/depsanmer/regulation/Pages/Санитарные-меры.aspx</u>>

• CU Commission Decision No. 299 of May 28, 2010 "On the Application of Sanitary Measures in the Customs Union" (as amended through June 14, 2018)

Veterinary Measures

<<u>http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/texnreg/depsanmer/regulation/Pages/Bemepuнарно-санитарные-</u> <u>меры.aspx</u>>

- CU Commission Decision No. 317 of June 18, 2010 "On the Application of Veterinary-Sanitary Measures in the Customs Union" (as amended through December 5, 2018)
- CU Commission Decision No. 455 of November 18, 2010 adopted "The Unified List of Dangerous and Quarantine Diseases of Animals of the Customs Union"
- CU Commission Decision No. 607 of April 7, 2011 "On Common Forms of Veterinary Certificates on Imported Goods Subject to Veterinary Control into the Customs Union Territory" (as amended through May 30, 2017)
- CU Commission Decision No. 624 of April 7, 2011 "On the Regulation on the Procedure of Development and Maintenance of the Register of Companies and Persons which Carry out Production, Reprocessing and (or) Storing Products Subject to Veterinary Control (Surveillance) and Imported into the territory of the Custom Union"

- CU Commission Decision No. 810 of September 23, 2011 "On Exemptions from the Application of the Veterinary Measures in Respect of Goods Included in the Unified List of Goods Subject to Veterinary Control (Surveillance)" (as amended through May 16, 2013)
- CU Commission Decision No. 834 of October 18, 2011 "On Regulation on Common System of Joint Inspections of Objects and Sampling of Goods (Products), Subject to Veterinary Control (Surveillance)" (as amended through October 9, 2014)
- EEC Council Decision No. 94 of October 9, 2014 "On Regulation on Common System of Joint Inspections of Objects and Sampling of Goods (Products), Subject to Veterinary Control (Surveillance)"

Phytosanitary Measures

<<u>http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/texnreg/depsanmer/regulation/Pages/Фитосанитарные-</u> <u>меры.aspx</u>>

- CU Commission Decision No. 318 of June 18, 2010 "On Assurance of Plant Quarantine in the Customs Union" (as amended through March 17, 2017)
- EEC Council Decision No. 157 of November 30, 2016 "On Approval of the Unified Quarantine Phytosanitary Requirements to Controlled Goods and Controlled Objects at the Customs Border and in the Customs Territory of the Eurasian Economic Union" (as amended through March 30, 2018), <u>EEC courtesy</u> translation into English
- EEC Council Decision No. 158 of November 30, 2016 "On Approval of the Unified List of Quarantine Objects of the Eurasian Economic Union" (as amended through March 30, 2018), <u>EEC courtesy translation into English</u>
- EEC Council Decision No. 159 of November 30, 2016 "On Approval of the Unified Rules and Norms of Ensuring Plant Quarantine in the Customs Territory of the Eurasian Economic Union"

Technical Regulation <<u>http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/texnreg/deptexreg/tr/Pages/default.aspx</u>>

- CU Commission Decision No. 319 of June 18, 2010 "On Technical Regulation in the Customs Union" (as amended through April 9, 2013)
- CU Commission Decision No. 526 of January 28, 2011 "Common List of Products which shall be Subject to Mandatory Requirements within the Customs Union" (as amended through November 23, 2012)
- CU Commission Decision No. 620 of April 7, 2011 "Common List of Products, Subject to Mandatory Evaluation (Confirmation) of Compliance within the Customs Union with the Issuance of Common Documents" (as amended through September 15, 2017)
- CU Commission Decision No. 621 of April 7, 2011 "On the Regulation on Application of Standard Schemes for Evaluation (Confirmation) of Compliance with Technical Regulations of the Customs Union"
- CU Commission Decision No. 711 of July 15, 2011 "On the Common Sign of Circulation of Products on the Market of the Member States of the Customs Union (as amended through March 17, 2016)
 http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/texnreg/deptexreg/normbaza/Pages/EAC.aspx>
- EEC Collegium Decision No. 293 of December 25, 2012 "On the Unified Forms of a Certificate of Conformity and a Declaration of Conformity with the Technical Regulations of the Customs Union and the Rules of their Execution" (as amended through November 11, 2016)
 https://www.alta.ru/tamdoc/12kr0293/>
- CU Technical Regulation TR TS 005/2011 "On Safety of Packaging" (as amended through November 15, 2016) <<u>http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/texnreg/deptexreg/tr/Pages/bezopypakovki.aspx</u>>
 For English translation of the Technical Regulation as originally adopted please, see GAIN report <u>RS1253</u>
 <u>Customs Union Technical Regulation on Safety of Packaging</u>
- CU Technical Regulation TR TS 015/2011 "On Safety of Grain" (as amended through September 15, 2017) <<u>http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/texnreg/deptexreg/tr/Pages/bezpoZerna.aspx</u>>
 For English translation of the Technical Regulation as originally adopted please, see GAIN report <u>RS1250</u> Customs Union Technical Regulation on Safety of Grain
- CU Technical Regulation TR TS 024/2011 "Technical Regulation on Oils and Fats" (as amended through May 10, 2016)

<<u>http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/texnreg/deptexreg/tr/Pages/MasloGirov.aspx</u>>

For English translation of the Technical Regulation as originally adopted please, see GAIN report <u>RS1326</u> <u>Customs Union Technical Regulation on Fat and Oil Products</u>

- CU Technical Regulation TR TS 021/2011 "On Food Safety" (as amended through June 10, 2014) <<u>http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/texnreg/deptexreg/tr/Pages/PischevayaProd.aspx</u>>
 For English translation of the Technical Regulation as originally adopted please, see GAIN report <u>RS1233</u>
 <u>Customs Union Technical Regulation on Food Safety</u>
- CU Technical Regulation TR TS 022/2011 "On Food Labeling" (as amended through September 14, 2018) <<u>http://docs.cntd.ru/document/902320347#</u>> For English translation of the Technical Regulation as originally adopted please, see GAIN report <u>RSAT01211Customs Union Technical Regulations on Food</u> <u>Products Labeling</u>
- CU Technical Regulation TR TS 023/2011 "Technical Regulation on Juice Products from Fruits and Vegetables" (as amended through December 12, 2015)
 <<u>http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/texnreg/deptexreg/tr/Pages/SokovayaProd.aspx</u>>
 For English translation of the Technical Regulation as originally adopted please, see GAIN report <u>RS1334</u> <u>Customs Union Technical Regulation on Juice</u>
- CU Technical Regulation TR TS 027/2012 "On Safety of Certain Types of Specialized Food Products, Including Dietary Therapeutic and Dietary Prophylactic Nutrition"
 <<u>http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/texnreg/deptexreg/tr/Pages/bezopSpecProd.aspx</u>>
 For English translation of the Technical Regulation as originally adopted please, see GAIN report <u>RS1340</u> Customs Union Technical Regulation on Specialized Foods
- CU Technical Regulation TR TS 029/2012 "Safety Requirements for Food Additives, Flavorings, and Technological Aids" (as amended through September 18, 2014)
 http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/texnreg/deptexreg/tr/Pages/bezopPischDobavok.aspx For English translation of the Technical Regulation as originally adopted please, see GAIN report <u>RS1338</u> <u>Customs Union Technical Regulation on Food Additives</u>
- CU Technical Regulation TR TS 033/2013 "On Safety of Milk and Dairy Products" (as amended through December 20, 2017)
 <<u>http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/texnreg/deptexreg/tr/Pages/%D0%A2%D0%A0-%D0%A2%D0%A1-033.aspx</u>> For English translation of the Technical Regulation as originally adopted please, see GAIN report <u>RS1382 Customs Union Technical Regulation on Milk and Dairy Products</u>
- CU Technical Regulation TR TS 034/2013 "On Safety of Meat and Meat Products" <<u>http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/texnreg/deptexreg/tr/Pages/%D0%A2%D0%A0-</u> <u>%D0%A2%D0%A1-034.aspx</u>> For English translation of the Technical Regulation as originally adopted please, see GAIN report <u>RS1384 Customs Union Technical Regulation on Meat</u>
- EAEU Technical Regulation TR EAEU 040/2016 "On Safety of Fish and Fish Products" <<u>http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/texnreg/deptexreg/tr/Pages/TR_EEU_040_2016.aspx</u>> For English translation of the Technical Regulation as originally adopted please, see GAIN report <u>RS1734</u> <u>Technical Regulation on Safety of Fish and Fish Products</u>
- EAEU Technical Regulation TR EAEU 044/2017 "On Safety of Packaged Potable Water, Including Natural Mineral Water" <<u>http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/texnreg/deptexreg/tr/Pages/tr_EAEU_044-</u> <u>2017.aspx</u>> For English translation of the Technical Regulation as originally adopted please see GAIN report <u>RS1752 EAEU Technical Regulation on Packaged Water</u>
- EAEU Technical Regulation TR EAEU 047/2018 "On Safety of Alcohol Products" (will come into force as of January 9, 2021)
 http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/texnreg/deptexreg/tr/Pages/TR_EAEU_047.aspx For automated English translation of the Technical Regulation as originally adopted please, see
 https://translate.google.com/translate?sl=ru&tl=en&u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.alta.ru%2Ftamdoc%2F18sr_0098%2F>
- 2. Kazakhstani Laws in effect to the extent that they do not contradict EAEU Agreements and/or CU Commission/EEC Decisions:

General

- Civil Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan (latest update as of December 07, 2015) http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/archive/docs/K940001000_/16.11.2015
- Law on Trade Regulation No 544 dated April 12, 2004 <u>http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z040000544</u>
- Law on Consumer's Rights Protection No 274-IV dated May 4, 2010 http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z100000274
- Law on Competition No 112-IV dated December 25, 2008 <u>http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z080000112</u>
- Law on permits and notifications No 202-V dated May 16, 2014 http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z1400000202
- Law on special protection, anti-dumping measures and compensation of third countries No 316-V dated June 8, 2015 http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z1500000316
- Law on state regulation of biofuel production and trade No 351-IV dated November 15, 2010 http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z1000000351

General SPS Measures

• Law on Food Safety No 301 dated July 21, 2007 http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z070000301_

Veterinary Measures

• Law on Animal Health No 339 dated July 10, 2002 http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z020000339_

Phytosanitary Measures

- Law on Plant Quarantine No 344 dated February 11, 1999 http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z990000344_
- Law on Plant Protection No 331 dated July 3, 2002 <u>http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z020000331</u>

Technical Regulation

Law on Technical Regulation No 603-II dated November 9, 2004 (amendments on December 29, 2014) http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z040000603_

3. Kazakhstani Government Regulations:

Veterinary Measures

- Rules for transportation (movement) of the transported objects within the territory of the Republic of Kazakhstan № 7-1/496 dated May 29, 2015 <u>http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/V1500011845</u>
- Rules for slaughterhouses of agricultural animals intended for subsequent sale No 7-1/370 dated April 2, 2015 <u>http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/V1500011591#z0</u>
- Agricultural animals identification Rules No 7-1/68 dated January 30, 2015 http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/V1500011127#z0
- Requirements on drug and veterinary preparations safety, used for animal health, dated April 23, 2008 No 380 <u>http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P080000380</u>

Phytosanitary Measures

- Rules on keeping the territory of the Republic of Kazakhstan from quarantine objects and foreign species No 15-08/590 dated June 29, 2015 <u>http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/V1500012032#z74</u>
- Phytosanitary requirements to imported products of quarantine concern No 4-4/66 dated January 30, 2015 <u>http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/V1500011781</u>
- List of quarantine objects and foreign species, subject to quarantine measures and list of very dangerous organisms No 4-4/282 dated March 30, 2015 <u>http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/V1500011739</u>
- On approval of the Rules on reclaiming and destruction of regulated products infected by quarantine objects, that cannot be subject to decontamination or processing No 15-4/513 dated June 3, 2015 http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P1100001287
- Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On plant quarantine" dated February 11, 1999 No 344 http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z990000344_
- Requirements on pesticides safety, dated May 29, 2008 No 515 http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P080000515_

Technical Regulations

- Requirements on Products Labelling No 724 dated October 15.2016 http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P080000090_
- Requirement on feedstuff and feed additive safety dated March 18, 2008 No 263 http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P080000263_
- Requirements on drinking water safety, dated May 1, 2008 No 456 (amendments as of January 21, 2011) <u>http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P080000456</u>
- Requirements for fish and fishery products safety, dated May 19, 2009 No 743 (amendments as of December 18, 2011) <u>http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P090000743</u>_______
- Requirements for fertilizer safety, dated May 28,.2010 No 491 http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P100000491
- Requirements for the safety of food, derived from genetically-engineered plants and/or animals, dated September 21, 2010 No 969 <u>http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P100000969</u>
- Requirements for the safety of alcohol products, dated October 20, 2010 No 1081 http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P1000001081
- Requirement for canned food, dated November 15, 2010 No 1201 (amendments as of November 15, 2010) http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P1000001201
- Requirements for Bioethanol safety, dated February 24, 2011 No 179 <u>http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P1100000179</u>
- Requirements for biodiesel safety, dated February 10, 2011 No 116 http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P1100000116
- 4. Kazakhstani Competent Authority Regulations:

Veterinary Measures

 Ministry of Agriculture order No 7-1/587 dated June 29, 2015 Veterinary (veterinary-sanitary) rules http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/V1500011940

Sanitary Measures

- Order of the Minister of Health "On approving sanitary rules "Sanitary Epidemiological requirements for perishable foods storage and expiration date" dated September 24.2010 No 755 <u>http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/V1000006525</u>
- Order of the Minister of National Economy No164 dated February 28.2015 "Sanitary Rule "Sanitary-Epidemiological Requirements for food production facilities" <u>http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/V1500010971</u>

Kazakhstan Regulatory Bodies for Imported Foodstuffs

The Committee of the Veterinary Control and Surveillance of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan monitors veterinary conditions within Kazakhstan and enforces Kazakhstani legal requirements for animal health.

The Agricultural State Inspection Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan monitors phytosanitary conditions within Kazakhstan and enforces Kazakhstani legal requirements for plant health.

The Committee for Public Health of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Kazakhstan is responsible for food safety. This Committee may prohibit the sale of products that do not meet official requirements.

The Committee on Technical Regulation and Metrology is part of the Ministry of Industry and Infrastructural Development. This Committee manages product assessment, processing, and servicing to determine if products conform to national standards and certification criteria.

The Committee of State Revenue, of the Ministry of Finance regulates foreign economic activity using a system of customs fees and charges. It is also responsible for customs control.

The Ministry of National Economy is in charge of non-tariff regulations for external economic activities, including licensing and quota administration and determination of import quota volumes.

Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU)

Since 2010, Kazakhstan has been part of the Eurasian economic integration project with Russia and Belarus. The process, which first materialized in 2010 in the form of the Russia-Belarus-Kazakhstan Customs Union and evolved into the Single Economic Space (SES) in 2012, continued with the launch of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) on January 1, 2015, which currently includes Armenia, Belarus, Russia, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. The CU/SES/EEU regulatory body is the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC), which replaced the initial CU body, the Customs Union Commission, in 2012. For details on the EEC structure and authority please see GAIN report <u>RS1611 Eurasian</u> Economic Union One Year On.

Section II: Food Additive Regulations

In July 2012, the EEC adopted the Technical Regulation of the Customs Union on "Safety Requirements for Food Additives, Flavorings, and Technological Aids" (TR TS 029/2012), which contains a list of food additives allowed for use in food product manufacturing. For more information please see GAIN report <u>RS1338 Customs Union Technical Regulation on Food Additives</u>. The TR TS 029/2012 came into effect on July 1, 2013, and became the primary document regulating production and quality of products in the food ingredients and additives sector.

Section III: Pesticides and Other Contaminants

Kazakhstani tolerances are based on the requirements stipulated in the EAEU technical regulations on safety of food and agricultural products. For details see GAIN reports <u>RS1343</u> Customs Union Food <u>Technical Regulations in Force as of 1 July 2013</u>, <u>RS1382</u> Customs Union Technical Regulation on <u>Milk and Dairy Products</u>, <u>RS1384</u> Customs Union Technical Regulation on Meat, <u>RS1734</u> Technical <u>Regulation on Safety of Fish and Fish Products</u>, and <u>RS1752</u> EAEU Technical Regulation on Packaged <u>Water</u>. <u>Section 15 in Chapter II</u> of the CU Commission Decision No. 299, "Requirements for Pesticides and Agrochemicals," provides maximum residue levels (MRLs) for soil, air, water, the human body, and agricultural products. These EAEU requirements were most recently amended in 2015, for details please see GAIN report <u>RS1596</u> Eurasia Economic Union - New Pesticide MRLs.

In addition to the abovementioned legislation, the Kazakhstani technical regulation "Requirement to Pesticides Safety" No 515 dated May 29, 2008 <u>http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P080000515</u> requires pesticides to be registered in Kazakhstan and to be included on the List of pesticides permitted for use in Kazakhstan. Kazakhstan enforces licensing requirements for the importation of pesticides.

Section IV: Packaging and Container Requirements

The CU Technical Regulation "On Safety of Packaging" (TR TS 005/2011) came into force on July 1, 2012, but production and circulation of food products in accordance with the pre-existing CU and national requirements of the EAEU Member States was allowed until February 15, 2014. TR TS 005/2011 contains requirements for all kinds of packaging including metal, polymer, carton, wooden, glassy, composite packing. The food packaging should comply with the sanitary-hygienic requirements given in Attachment 1 of the TR TS 005/2011. Before the packaging can be released into circulation in the territory of the Eurasian Economic Union, it needs to go through the obligatory confirmation of compliance with the requirements of the current Technical Regulation. As a result, producers and importers must obtain the <u>declaration of conformity</u> for the packaging.

Other EAEU technical regulations also establish product-specific packaging requirements for specific food products, including fat-and-oil products, juice products, meat products, alcohol products, milk and dairy products, specialized dietary food products, fish, and potable water. For more information please see GAIN reports <u>RS1343 Customs Union Food Technical Regulations in Force as of 1 July 2013</u>, <u>RS1382 Customs Union Technical Regulation on Milk and Dairy Products</u>, <u>RS1384 Customs Union Technical Regulation on Safety of Fish and Fish Products</u>, and <u>RS1752 EAEU Technical Regulation on Packaged Water</u>.

Specifications for packaging are a vital part of each commercial contract. Before signing a contract, the importer should research the specific packaging requirements and advise the exporter accordingly.

Packaging (e.g., cardboard or paper boxes, plastic or polymer packets, bottles or cans) that comes into direct contact with products must be certified.

The permeability of the packaging material to gas, steam, water, fats, and odors is an important consideration. For instance, chilled meat must be packaged in materials with low-vapor permeability in order to prevent the loss of moisture. The material must also meet specific gas-permeability levels to preserve the color. Products must be packed reliably, taking into account their nature, the method of transport, and storage temperatures.

For more information please see GAIN report <u>RS1253 Customs Union Technical Regulation on Safety</u> of Packaging.

Section V: Labeling Requirements

On July 1, 2013, the Technical Regulation of the Customs Union "Food Products Labeling" (TR TS 022/2011) came into effect. The document outlines regulations for food product labeling including the requirements for name, ingredients, nutritional content and value, quantity, date of production, validity,

address of manufacturer and importer, presence of genetically modified organisms, etc. For more information please see the GAIN report <u>RSATO1211 Customs Union Technical Regulations on Food</u> <u>Products Labeling</u>.

The general packaged food requirements for information to be presented on the label in the Russian language are:

- Product name;
- Data about the manufacturer (including name, country, and address) or manufacturer representative or importer;
- Net weight, or volume, or quantity;
- Composition (ingredients) (with a few exceptions, e.g. it is not required to indicate ingredients for unprocessed fresh fruit, berries and vegetables, or single-component foods);
- Information about the presence of genetically engineered (GE) components in the product (including information that the product was produced from/with GE components).
- Nutritional value of the product;
- Storage conditions prescribed by producer or by technical regulations of EAEU. In case the product's quality or safety is changing after opening the package storage conditions for opened product;
- Use-by date or shelf-life expiration date;
- Date of production and packaging;
- Recommendations or limitations of usage, including preparation mode if needed, in case the usage without these recommendations or limitations may be complicated, harmful or lead to the product's quality degradation.
- "Eurasian Conformity" mark (EAC).

The information should be printed in a language of the EAEU Member States. Additional information can be placed on the same label, such as: brand, technical document license, information about the right holder of the brand, the origin of product's components, name of licenser, voluntary certification labels.

In addition to the above, the TR TS 022/2011 also establishes a number of product-specific requirements.

Non-alcoholic beverages containing more than 150 mg/l of caffeine or drug-plants or its extracts enough to lead to a tonic effect should have written warning 'Not recommended for people under 18 y.o., pregnant, nursing, and people suffering from increased nervous irritability, insomnia, and arterial hypertension.

The EAEU Technical Regulation on food products labeling can be found at <u>http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/texnreg/deptexreg/tr/Documents/TrTsPishevkaMarkirovka.p</u> <u>df</u>.

Other EAEU technical regulations also establish product-specific labeling requirements for specific food products, including fat-and-oil products, juice products, meat products, alcohol products, milk and dairy products, specialized dietary food products, fish, and potable water. For more information please see GAIN reports <u>RS1343 Customs Union Food Technical Regulations in Force as of 1 July 2013</u>, <u>RS1382 Customs Union Technical Regulation on Milk and Dairy Products</u>, <u>RS1384 Customs Union Technical Regulation on Safety of Fish and Fish Products</u>, and <u>RS1752 EAEU Technical Regulation on Packaged Water</u>.

EAEU technical regulations on safety of certain food and agricultural products also require that regulated products that meet their requirements and have passed conformity assessment procedures be marked with the uniform mark of products in circulation on the market of the EAEU Member States ("Eurasian Conformity" mark, approved by <u>Decision of the CU Commission No. 711 of July 15, 2011</u>). Thus, the "Eurasian Conformity" mark is meant to show that the product has been produced in accordance with the relevant EAEU technical regulations and has passed all procedures of conformity assessment¹ (confirmation) established in the relevant technical regulations. For details, please see GAIN reports <u>RS1493 Eurasian Conformity Mark for Poultry and Red Meats</u>, and <u>RS1506 Eurasian Conformity Mark for Food Products</u>.

Kazakhstani <u>Technical regulation "Requirements on Products Labelling" No 14471 dated November 26,</u> <u>2016</u> specifies national requirements on products labelling.

Other Specific Labeling Requirements

Genetically Engineered Crops

For any product with biotech (GE) components or processed from GE materials, the label must show that it is a "GMO product" or a "product obtained from GMO" even if the product does not contain DNA or proteins. However, the presence of up to 0.9 percent of each GE ingredient is considered adventitious. The CU <u>Technical Regulation TR TS 022/2011 on Food Labeling</u> requires that food products shall be labeled as GE as follows.

The information on the label must read (in Russian):

- for products containing viable GE microorganisms "Product contains live genetically modified microorganisms;"
- for products containing unviable GE microorganisms "Product is obtained based on genetically modified microorganisms;" and

¹ Assessment (confirmation) of conformity in the EAEU should be carried out by legal entities that are registered in accordance with the legislation of the Eurasian Economic Union Member State on its territory, such as importers.

• for products freed from GE microorganisms or for products obtained based on components freed from GE microorganisms – "Product has components that are obtained based on genetically modified microorganisms."

The requirements for information on GE organisms/line in feeds of plant origin are stipulated in the CU Technical Regulation "On Safety of Grain", which covers both grains and oilseeds (TR TS 015/2011, please see GAIN report <u>RS1250 Customs Union Technical Regulation on Safety of Grain</u>.) This Technical Regulation stipulates that grain/oilseeds transported unpacked should be accompanied by shipping documents that ensure their traceability and provide information on GE organisms/lines if presence of GE organisms/lines is higher than 0.9 percent. For such grain/oilseeds the information should be given: "Genetically modified grain" or "grain obtained from the use of genetically modified organisms", indicating the unique identifier of the transformation event.

Moreover, CU Technical Regulation "On Safety of Grain" stipulates that grain/oilseeds (for both food and feed use) may contain only registered GE lines. Presence of more than 0.9 percent of non-registered GE lines is prohibited both in products that are declared as GE, and in non-GE products.

In 2017, the EEC amended Technical Regulation of the Customs Union "On Food Products Labeling" (TR TS 022/2011) to require that for products obtained with the use of GMOs the inscription "GMO" should be marked next to the unified mark of products circulating on the market of the Eurasian Economic Union Member States and the inscription should be similar to the unified mark in form and size. While the amendment comes into force on December 26, 2018, the EEC has established an 18 months transition period for the new labeling requirements for products obtained with the use of GMOs. In particular, during this transition period companies will be allowed to produce and release into circulation products in accordance with the previous requirements of the EAEU TR "On Food Products Labeling," while sale of such products shall be allowed within their shelf life.

For more details, please see Kazakhstan 2018 Agricultural Biotechnology Report.

Organic Products

Kazakhstan approved Organic Production Law No 423-V dated November 27, 2015 <u>http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z1500000423</u>. The law is aimed at the promotion of healthy foods, environmental protection and rational soil use and includes the following:

- organic production must be labelled with the national mark of organic production conformity; and
- organic production must be completed in accordance with the rules of organic production.

<u>Minister of Agriculture Order No 230 dated May 23.2016</u> specifies standards for organic production requirements for crops, livestock, poultry, fishery and bee farming for Kazakhstani producers.

Section VI: Other Specific Standards

Specific Standards for Meat and Poultry Products

Meat and poultry export requirements are frequently revised. Please consult the current export requirements at <u>http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/international-affairs/exporting-products/export-library-requirements-by-country/Kazakhstan.</u>

The key EAEU regulation covering standards and requirements for meat and meat products is Technical Regulation of the Customs Union "On Safety of Meat and Meat Products" that has been in force since May 1, 2014. For details please see GAIN report <u>RS1384 Customs Union Technical Regulation on Meat</u>.

Specific Standards for Pork

Before joining to the World Trade Organization, Kazakhstan was requiring imported pork to be shipped frozen to mitigate the risk of trichinae. The United States did not consider this mitigation measure to be necessary for U.S. pork as U.S. producers maintain stringent biosecurity protocols that serve to limit the prevalence of trichinae to extremely low levels in commercial swine. This trade concern was resolved by Kazakhstan's commitment to follow Codex Maximum Residue Level as part of the <u>WTO</u> commitment package on SPS.

Specific Standards for Fish and Seafood Products

Specific export procedures for the U.S. fish and seafood processors interested in shipping their products to Kazakhstan are published on the U.S. Department of Commerce/National Marine Fisheries Service: http://www.seafood.nmfs.noaa.gov/export/export_requirements/fishfisheryproductsfishMeal.html.

The key EAEU regulation covering standards and requirements for fish and fish products is Technical Regulation of the Eurasian Economic Union "On Safety of Fish and Fish Products" (TR EAEU 040/2016) that for most part came into force as of September 1, 2017. For details please see GAIN report RS1734 Technical Regulation on Safety of Fish and Fish Products.

A label in the Russian language for marine products must contain information in accordance with the requirements of Technical Regulation on Safety of Fish and Fish Products:

- Title (name) of the product (commodity name or biological name);
- Fishery location;
- Length and weight of fish (large, medium, small);
- Type of cutting (de-headed, eviscerated, sheet, pieces, etc.);
- Type of processing (salted, smoked cured by drying, etc.);
- Level of saltiness (lightly-salted, slightly-salted, medium-salted, strongly-salted);

- Name and location of the manufacturer [legal address including the country, if it is different from the legal address, then the address (addresses) of the production facility (facilities)] and the organization in the Russian Federation that is authorized by the manufacturer to accept claims from the customers on its territory;
- Trademark of the manufacturer (if available);
- Net weight;
- Nutritional value, vitamin content;
- Storage conditions;
- Period of time spent in storage for both live and frozen fish, for non-fish fishery subjects;
- Shelf life (use by date) for the foodstuffs included into the list of products adopted by the government of the Russian Federation, which are considered to be unfit for being used in accordance with the purpose upon completion of the term;
- Date of manufacture and date of packing [date, month, year (date, month and hour of completion of the technological process for special perishable products)];
- Composition of the product, including all food additives, flavorings, biologically active food additives, ingredients of the products having a non-traditional composition;
- Information about conformity confirmation (when the certificate of Conformity is available);
- Technique and conditions to manufacture ready to consume dishes (for semi-finished products/convenience food);
- Vacuumed packed (when vacuum packaging is used);
- Information on "GMO" content (if a level of any "GMO" component exceeds allowed norm);
- Location of the fishery area, length and weight of fish, type of cutting, type of processing, level of saltiness, composition of the product, and information on the preparation technique and/or consumption is indicated when required; and
- On consumer packaging for fish and seafood, produced in aquaculture, additional marking is required: "Aquaculture production"

Specific Standards for Wine, Beer and Other Alcoholic Beverages

The Eurasian Economic Union has drafted a Technical Regulation on the "Safety of Alcoholic Beverages" (TR), which has already gone through the public comment period and now is pending Member States' approval. The TR sets unified mandatory requirements for alcoholic products and its processes of manufacturing, storage, transportation, disposal and recycling, as well as mandatory requirements to terminology, packaging, labeling, ensuring product safety and preventing action misleading consumers, and systematizing the provisions of the regulations of the EAEU Member States. For details please see GAIN report <u>RSATO1203 CU Draft Technical Regulation on Safety of Alcoholic Beverages</u>.

Kazakhstani legislation, which regulates alcohol products, includes the following:

- Kazakh Law on "<u>State regulation of the ethyl spirit and alcohol products manufacturing and circulation</u>" No 429 dated July 16, 1999 specifies, that alcohol products are those food products, which contain ethyl spirit more than 1.5 percent, except products for medical purposes.
- <u>Technical regulation "Requirements to Alcohol Products Safety" No 1081 dated October 20,</u> 2010

The Eurasian Economic Union has recently adopted a Technical Regulation on the "<u>Safety of Alcoholic</u> <u>Beverages</u>" (TR) that will come into force as of January 9, 2021. The TR establishes unified mandatory requirements for alcoholic products and its processes of manufacturing, storage, transportation, disposal and recycling, as well as mandatory requirements to terminology, packaging, labeling, ensuring product safety and preventing action misleading consumers, and systematizing the provisions of the regulations of the EAEU Member States.

Section VII: Facility and Product Registration Requirements

Products under sanitary-epidemiological control

CU Commission Decision No. 299 of May 28, 2010, and its amendments, define the products subject to sanitary-epidemiological control. To clear customs, these products must be accompanied by documents confirming their conformity with Russian standards of safety and quality, i.e. - the <u>state registration</u> (only for regulated products that are imported into the EAEU for the first time) and the <u>Declaration of Conformity</u>. To expedite customs clearance procedures, and to reduce the cost of clearance and temporary storage, it is recommended that the state registration and declaration of conformity of the imported products be conducted approximately one month in advance of the shipment's arrival at customs. To do this, the supplier must provide the following to the importer:

- Product samples of every type and/or name, in sufficient quantities to conduct the sanitaryepidemiological expert examination and certification (samples for testing are not subject to customs fees);
- Contract to supply the product (or data about the contract), the annex to the contract or specifications (or the data about it);
- Documents confirming the origin, safety, and quality of the product (issued by the authorities of the country of origin), manufacturer of the product, the certificate of origin or another document confirming the origin, quality certificate and/or protocols of testing, and analysis; and
- Samples or mockups of the label.

All documents, labels, and markings must be translated into the Russian language, and copies and their translations must be certified in accordance with established procedures.

Product Registration

Prior to importation, importers must register certain products that are subject to sanitaryepidemiological control. Initially, a list of products subject to state registration was established by CU Commission Decision No. 299 and included a wide range of food products. However, with entry into full force of the CU Technical Regulation on Food Safety as of February 15, 2015, as well as adoption and implementation of multiple EAEU Technical Regulations for food products, all food products were removed from the list of products that are subject to state registration per CU Commission Decision No. 299 as of August 30, 2018.

The key EAEU document regulating state registration of certain food products is currently the CU Technical Regulation on Food Safety, which establishes the following list of products that are subject to state registration:

- Specialized food products, as follows:
 - food products for baby food, including potable water for baby food;
 - food products of dietary therapeutic and dietary prophylactic nutrition;
 - mineral natural, medical table mineral water, medical mineral water with mineralization above 1 mg/dm3 or of lower mineralization, containing biologically active substances in the amount of not less than balneological norms;
 - food products for sportsmen, pregnant and nursing women; and
 - biologically active additives to food (BAA).
- Novel food products².

Genetically Engineered Crops

An amendment to the 2003 Law "On Seeds Farming" restricts new testing and prohibits commercial growth of GE seeds. However, biotechnology research may be conducted in laboratory greenhouses, and the National Center for Biotechnology (under the Ministry of Education and Science) has recently developed a new transgenic breed of cotton with higher pesticide resistance.

All imported GE grains and oilseeds must have their lines registered in the Customs Union prior to importation into Kazakhstan, and the presence of non-registered lines cannot exceed 0.9 percent.

² The CU Technical Regulation on Food Safety defines novel food products as "food products (including food additives and flavorings) that were not previously used for human consumption on the customs territory of the Customs Union, namely: with new or deliberately modified primary molecular structure; consisting of or being isolated from microorganisms, fungi or algae; from plants; isolated from animals, obtained from GMO or with their use; nanomaterials and nanotechnology products except for food products obtained by traditional methods, being in circulation and considered safe by virtue of experience."

Currently, 14 corn lines, eight soybean lines, one rice line, one sugar beet line and two potato lines are registered for food use in the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU).

For more information, please, see Kazakhstan 2018 Agricultural Biotechnology Report.

Products under veterinary control

CU Commission Decision No. 317, and its amendments, define the products subject to veterinary control:

<u>http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/texnreg/depsanmer/regulation/Documents/Пр.1%20Единый %20перечень%20тов.pdf</u>. This list includes the following categories:

- Live animals (all animals, including agricultural, domestic, wild, zoo, sea, commercial fur, circus, laboratory animals, etc.), live birds (all birds, including domestic, wild, ornamental, etc.), semen, and embryos;
- All types of meat and meat by-products, including poultry;
- Milk and dairy products;
- Eggs and processed eggs products;
- Materials of animal origin;
- Feed and feed additives for animals including pet food;
- Leguminous vegetables used for veterinary purposes, including as animal feed
- Fish and sea-products and products of their processing.

As of August 22, 2012, the date of Russia's WTO accession, a number of products from the above list, including grains for feed and feeds of plant origin such as oilseed cake and meal, products of milling and oilseeds extraction industries, and some prepared foods such as ice-cream, are no longer subject to veterinary control when exported to Russia and Kazakhstan. For the full list of exempt products, see <u>CU Commission Decision No. 810 of September 23, 2011</u>.

Lists of Approved Establishments

In general, products subject to veterinary control are required to come from establishments identified on approved supplier lists. Kazakhstani Ministry of Agriculture currently maintains such lists for the following U.S. commodities:

- Meat and Meat Products: Poultry;
- Fish and Seafood;
- Meat and Meat Products: Pork;
- Meat and Meat Products: Beef / Veal;
- Meat and Meat Products: sub-products and Fat of Beef;
- Food Products: Finished Beef Products;
- Food Products: Finished Lamb Products;
- Food Products: Finished Poultry Products;
- Food Products: Finished Pork Products;
- Food Products: Finished Horse Meat Products;
- Food Products: Prepared Meat Products;

- Feed and Feed Additives;
- Feed and Feed Additives: Feed for Non-Productive Animals, Bird, Fish;
- Meat and Meat Products: sub-products and Fat of Pork;
- Live Animals: Day-Old Chicks;
- Live Animals: Hatching Eggs;
- Non-Edible Products: Raw Intestines (Casings);
- Products Not Requiring a Permit: Feed and Feed Additives; and
- Meat and Meat Products: sub-products and Fat of Poultry.

Establishments wishing to be added to the existing lists should contact the appropriate, competent U.S. authority:

- USDA/Food Safety and Inspection Service;
- USDA/Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, or
- U.S. Department of Commerce/National Marine Fisheries Service.

The Eurasian Economic Union has indicated that it is "temporarily" exempting the following products from the listing requirement:

- Animals and genetic material;
- Bee products;
- Raw materials of animal origin (skin, hair, raw fur skins, feathers, etc.);
- Animal feed of vegetable origin;
- Food additives of animal origin;
- Composite (containing animal origin components) products; and
- Gelatin.

Section VIII: Other Certification and Testing Requirements

Licensing

Tariff Rate Quotas (TRQs)

In order to bring a product into Kazakhstan at the in-quota tariff rate for beef, and poultry, it is necessary for the importer to secure a license. The Kazakhstan Ministry of National Economy (MNE) issues licenses. The MNE reviews license applications within 15 working days of submission and then issues the licenses. Licenses are required on an annual basis.

Excise Stamps

Alcohol

Excise stamps are required on all alcoholic products for sale to consumers, except beer and wine. Rules on alcohol product labelling are specified in <u>Minister of Finance Order No 143</u>, dated February 8, 2018.

In addition to excise stamp alcohol importer should secure a deposit according to item 6, article 653 of the Tax Code. The basic idea of this is that the importers deposit funds to guarantee the proper usage of the excise stamps. Also importer should pay excise and security deposit at the same time in Kazakhstan. The amount of deposit is calculated at 2,525 tenge (\$6.8) per 1 liter of vodka and 252 tenge (\$0.68) per 1 liter of any other type of alcohol for 2019.

Products under sanitary-epidemiological control

Declaration of Conformity

Customs Union Commission Decision No. 319, of June 18, 2010, partially adopted some of Russia's system for safety assessments, but still allowed for businesses to follow the guidelines of EAEU Member States, if they prefer. Kazakhstan follows list covering all goods and products that are subject to mandatory safety assessment (confirmation) for the EAEU, <u>approved by the CU Commission</u> <u>Decision 620</u>.

The EAEU technical regulations for food products currently establish declaration of conformity procedures for almost all agricultural and food products, including fat-and-oil products, juice products, meat products, alcohol products, milk and dairy products, specialized dietary food products, fish, and potable water. For more information please see GAIN reports <u>RS1343 Customs Union Food Technical Regulations in Force as of 1 July 2013</u>, <u>RS1382 Customs Union Technical Regulation on Milk and Dairy Products</u>, <u>RS1384 Customs Union Technical Regulation on Meat</u>, <u>RS1734 Technical Regulation on Safety of Fish and Fish Products</u>, and <u>RS1752 EAEU Technical Regulation on Packaged Water</u>.

The CU Commission Decision No. 620 currently requires a declaration of conformity for the following agricultural products:

- Animal, bird, and fish feed: compound feed and feed additives (e.g., soy meal, milk powder, fishmeal, etc.)

Declarations of conformity are usually valid for three years and allow importers to mark products with a sign of conformity.

In addition to implementing EAEU and CU import requirements, Kazakhstan requires that importers and/or domestic producers of certain specific goods obtain a Certificate of State Registration before the product can be sold in Kazakhstan, according to <u>Government Decree No 165 dated February 19.2008</u>. The Committee of Public Health, at the Ministry of Health and the Committee for Animal Health

Control and Surveillance are responsible for issuing these certificates. Goods subject to this certification requirement include:

- Feed and feed additives;
- biologically active supplements, childhood nutrition;
- genetically modified objects;
- materials and items designated for contact with water and food;
- chemicals harmful for human health.

Products under veterinary control

Veterinary Health Certificate

Veterinary certificates are generally required for all products subject to veterinary control. Please consult the current FAIRS Export Certificate report for a list of individual certificates.

Import Permits

In order to import beef and poultry products into Kazakhstan at the in-quota tariff rate, importers must secure a license. The Ministry of National Economy (MNE) is responsible for the issuance of licenses. The MNE reviews license applications within 15 working days of submission and then issues the licenses. Licenses are required on an annual basis.

Products under phytosanitary control

CU Commission Decision No. 318 of June 18, 2010 (as amended through March 17, 2017) approved the "Regulation on the Procedure of Phytosanitary Quarantine Control (Supervision) at the Customs Border of the Customs Union" and the "Common List of Regulated Products (Materials, Commodities) Subject to Quarantine Phytosanitary Control." The list divided products into two groups: regulated products of high phytosanitary risk and regulated products of low phytosanitary risk. Products of high phytosanitary certificate.

Since 2013, replacement phytosanitary certificates have been allowed in some cases under condition that the authorized agencies of exporting countries guarantee safety and wholesomeness of regulated products from the moment of its out-loading to the moment of the entry to the Customs Territory of the Customs Union (please see GAIN Report <u>RS1389 Amended CU Regulations Allow Replacement</u> <u>Phytosanitary Certificates</u>).

In late 2016, the EAEU adopted three key documents, <u>Unified EAEU List of Quarantine Pests</u>, <u>Unified EAEU Phytosanitary Requirements</u>, and <u>Unified Rules and Norms to Ensure Plant Quarantine on the EAEU Territory</u>, finally introducing unified phytosanitary requirements for all Member States as of July 1, 2017. For details please see GAIN reports <u>RS1721 WTO Notifications on the EAEU Common List</u>

of Pests, <u>RS1722 WTO Notifications on EAEU Phytosanitary Requirements</u>, and <u>RS1723 WTO</u> Notification on EAEU Common Phytosanitary Rules.

In particular, the <u>Unified EAEU List of Quarantine Pests</u> replaced the national lists of quarantine objects (pests) of the individual EAEU member states, including that of Russia, as of July 1, 2017.

In 2018, both the Unified EAEU List of Quarantine Pests and the Unified EAEU Phytosanitary Requirements were amended to include additional quarantine objects (pests) into the Unified List from the National Lists of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Kazakhstan. For details please see GAIN report <u>RS1830 Eurasian Economic Union Ag Times No. 2 of 2018</u>. As a result, 46 of the 57 pests from the Rosselkhoznadzor notification above are now covered by the Unified EAEU List and the Phytosanitary Requirements.

<u>Ministry of Agriculture Order No 4-4/66 of January 30, 2015</u> specifies the Kazakhstani phytosanitary requirements for imported products of quarantine concern, in accordance with the EAEU approach and international requirements. This order approves requirements by quarantine pest, by country, and by product groups. Similarly, the <u>Ministry of Agriculture Order No 4-4/282 of March 30, 2015</u> approves the List of Quarantine Pests and List of Very Dangerous Pests.

Phytosanitary Certificates

Imported products of low phytosanitary risk do not require a phytosanitary certificate issued by the exporting country, while high phytosanitary risk products require a phytosanitary certificate from the exporting country.

Phytosanitary certificates are issued for each lot of a product. A lot is a specified quantity (depending on the product) that meets the following requirements:

- the product was manufactured at one facility,
- the entire lot was manufactured during the same month, and
- the entire lot was transported in the same vehicle.

All of the above criteria must be met in order for a product to be described as a single lot. If, for example, products arrive in the same vehicle but were manufactured during different months, separate certificates and packaging descriptions will be assigned.

<u>Kazakhstan phytosanitary certificate</u> is approved by the Ministry of Agriculture Order No 4-4/66 dated January 30, 2015.

Section IX: Import Procedures

It is recommended that an importer, with the help of up-to-date information sources, check all import documents closely and ensure they do not violate the laws of Kazakhstan or Kazakhstani product-specific regulations, including rules recently revised due to EAEU policies and WTO accession.

While the formation of the EAEU is ultimately expected to allow customs clearance of imported goods on the external border of the Eurasian Economic Union, currently, during a transitional period as defined by Article 449 of the EAEU Customs Code, the EAEU customs declaration is based on the "residency principle", i.e. the applicant shall submit a customs declaration only to specific customs bodies of the country where the applicant is registered or permanently lives in the EAEU. The residency principle will apply until entry into force of a relevant international agreement between the EAEU Member States allows for the presentation of the goods declaration to any customs office in the EAEU.

It is recommended that customs clearance be carried out by an agency located in the country where the customs clearance must be performed, or at least by a representative of this party *in situ*.

Import permits are issued in the name of physical or legal entities that are officially registered in the territory of the Republic of Kazakhstan with the Kazakhstan tax authorities. Typically, a product's exporter handles export customs-clearance and the product's importer handles import customs-clearance.

EAEU Classification of Commodities and Customs Tariff

All imported commodities are classified in accordance with the Codes of the Customs Commodities' Nomenclature of the Foreign Economic Activity of the Eurasian Economic Union. In 2018, the EEC continued adjusting the EAEU tariff schedule to reflect Kazakhstan's WTO tariff commitments, with the majority of reduced tariffs for agricultural goods coming into effect as of September 1, 2018. (For more information on EAEU tariff reductions following Kazakhstan's WTO accession please see GAIN reports <u>RS1830 Eurasian Economic Union Ag Times No. 2 of 2018</u>.)

The descriptions of the current edition of the Nomenclature and the EAEU Customs Tariff, as currently amended, can be found online at:

http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/trade/catr/ett/Pages/default.aspx. The EAEU codes are similar, but not identical to the U.S. Customs Service Harmonized Code numbers. As of January 1, 2017, the EAEU Commodity Codes were updated to reflect the HS Nomenclature 2017 Edition.

Customs Payments

Customs duties, fees, and the value-added tax (VAT) are usually paid in advance to avoid delays in customs clearance. Customs duties, payments, and taxes depend on the type of product and are calculated based on the customs value of the product. The customs value of goods imported into the EAEU, which is used as a basis for calculation of the import custom duties and taxes, includes the cost of goods, insurance costs, and costs of transportation of the goods to the customs border. Depending on

the actual circumstances, including contractual arrangements, an importer may, in addition, have to include royalties (payable for the right to use trademarks and other IP rights in order to resell the goods) or other income into the customs value of those goods, provided that the importer must directly or indirectly (e.g., via third parties) pay those royalties, other license fees and/or other income as a direct consequence of importation of the goods being valued at customs.

Traders should use the EAEU Customs Tariff and the Kazakhstani Tax Code to calculate customs duties and fees. Customs duties, fees, and payments are calculated based on rates from the customs value of the goods and are assigned while developing the consignment's customs declaration. Tariff rates are subject to change, so importers and exporters should monitor amendments to the tariff schedule. Customs clearance fees are established by the Ministry of Finance (www.minfin.gov.kz) and can be searched <u>here</u>.

Customs Clearance

Customs clearance usually occurs at the point of destination and typically takes between two and four days. In Kazakhstan, imported goods are generally released one business day after the customs declaration is registered. Imported goods are normally cleared at customs either before their shipment to Kazakhstan customs territory or at the time the goods reach the designated customs house/post (and are placed in a special temporary customs warehouse, if needed).

Customs clearance is normally completed by the importer who files the appropriate documents. The main document required for customs clearance is the customs declaration, which should be filed by the importer (or a customs agent acting on its behalf). The importer is also, generally, required to submit the following documents:

- Documents confirming the authority of an entity or individual(s) to represent the importer/exporter before the customs authorities (e.g., customs broker agreement or power of attorney);
- Documents confirming the legal capacity of the entities, data on which is indicated in the customs cargo declaration, to operate in Kazakhstan (e.g., statutory documents, the accreditation certificate of the branch or representative office of a legal entity, the passport (ID) of an individual, the state registration certificate of a legal entity or individual entrepreneur, etc.);
- Relevant tax registration documents of such entities;
- Supporting documentation with respect to the declared customs value of the goods (e.g., foreign trade contract, payment documentation, exporter's official price lists, etc.);
- A foreign-trade contract and/or other commercial documents relevant to the products being declared, as required for the selected customs regime (e.g., commercial invoice from the supplier/exporter, shipping documentation, e.g. for sea transportation the Bill of Lading, for vehicle transportation CMR);
- A "transaction passport" for the foreign-trade contract, which is a currency control document issued by the importer's Kazakh bank (the Kazakh importer would have to provide the supply

contract with its foreign supplier to its local bank for the purposes of opening and registering the "transaction passport");

- Documents proving the right to apply tariff preferences or tax benefits, if any;
- A country of origin certificate;
- A certificate of conformity, declaration of conformity, sanitary registration certificate;
- Supporting payment documents proving that the relevant customs payments have been made (e.g., cash payment orders, other payment documentation);
- Documents proving the provision of security for making customs payments; other guarantees, if required (if customs payments have been made in full for the customs clearance of imported products, this provision would not be applicable);
- Transportation documents for international carriage of goods;
- A phytosanitary certificate and/or veterinary health certificate, if applicable; and,
- Other certificates and licenses, if required.

These documents must be issued in the name of the importer and must be in official languages of the country-members of the EAEU and in foreign languages. The above is a general list of the documents required for the customs clearance of goods under any customs regime declared for importation into Kazakhstan; the list of the required documents may be expanded for a given customs regime. At the request of the customs authorities, the importer should also present additional documents relevant to the importation at issue.

By law, the customs clearance of goods in Kazakhstan should be performed within one day after the importer has submitted, and the Kazakh customs authorities have accepted, all the required documentation. However, because the customs authorities control the moment when this term starts, in practice the customs clearance process may take longer than the statutory term.

According to the Customs Code of the EAEU, the customs clearance of goods is shortened to just one day after receipt of the customs declaration (under the Kazakh Customs Code the goods should have been cleared within one day also). At the same time, the legislation provides for the right of a customs inspector to extend that term by up to ten days at his/her discretion.

Pre-Arrival Submission for Automobile/Rail/Air Shipments

<u>CU Commission Decision No. 899</u> of December 9, 2011, mandates a pre-arrival submission of information about goods imported into the EAEU customs territory by automobile transport two hours prior to the good's arrival. The decision came into force on June 17, 2012, but should be replaced by an updated version of the requirement per <u>EEC Collegium Decision No. 56</u> of April 17, 2018, as of July 1, 2019.

The scope of a pre-arrival submission is as follows:

- The sender, recipient of the goods in accordance with the transportation (shipment) documents; their names and addresses;
- The seller and the buyers of the goods in accordance with the commercial documents of the carrier;
- Country of origin, country of destination;
- The declarant;
- The carrier, its name and address;
- The vehicle of international transport that carried the goods, or its state registration;
- The name, quantity, value of goods in accordance with the commercial, transportation (shipment) documents;
- Code of the goods in accordance with the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System or the Nomenclature of Foreign Economic Activity of the Eurasian Economic Union for at least the first six digits;
- Gross weight or volume of goods, as well as the quantity of goods in additional units (if such information is available) for each code of the Nomenclature for Foreign Economic Affairs of the Eurasian Economic Union or the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System;
- The number of packages; their labeling and types of packaging;
- The destination of the goods in accordance with the transportation (shipment) documents;
- Documents confirming compliance with the restrictions associated with the movement of goods across the customs border of the Eurasian Economic Union, if such movement is permitted;
- Planned transshipment of goods or cargo operations in a way;
- Time and place of arrival of goods into the customs territory of the Eurasian Economic Union.
- Availability of goods whose import into the customs territory of prohibited or restricted;
- Place and date of drawing up international commodity transport bill of lading.

According to the <u>EEC Collegium Decision No. 196</u> of September 17, 2013, as of October 1, 2014, prearrival submission of information about goods imported into the EAEU customs territory via railway is required two to four hours prior to the good's arrival. For details, please see GAIN reports <u>RS1349</u> <u>Draft CU Pre-Notification Requirement for Imports by Rail</u> and <u>RS1368 Customs Union Ag Times No.</u> <u>15</u>. Similar to the regulation above regarding imports by automobile transport, Decision 196 is due to be replaced by an updated version of the requirement per <u>EEC Collegium Decision No. 57</u> of April 17, 2018, as of July 1, 2019

Pre-arrival submission of information about goods imported into the EAEU customs territory by air has been required since April 1, 2017, according to the <u>EEC Collegium Decision No. 158</u> of December 1, 2015. The requirement will also be updated as of July 1, 2019, per <u>EEC Collegium Decision No. 62</u> of April 24, 2018.

Finally, <u>EEC Collegium Decision No. 51</u> of April 10, 2018, will introduce a pre-arrival submission of information about goods imported into the EAEU customs territory by water transport no later than six hours prior to the good's arrival as of July 1, 2019.

Section X: Copyright and/or Trademark Laws

To facilitate its WTO accession and attract foreign investment, Kazakhstan continues to improve its legal regime for protecting intellectual property rights (IPR). The Civil Code and various laws, in principle, protect U.S. intellectual property.

The legal structure for IPR protection is relatively strong, however, enforcement needs further improvement. Kazakhstan was last listed in the Special 301 Report in 2006. To facilitate its WTO accession and attract foreign investment, Kazakhstan continues to improve its legal regime for protecting intellectual property rights (IPR). Basic provisions on intellectual property rights protection are defined in the Civil Code, as well as three major IP laws: the Patent Law (1999), regulating patents, utility models and industrial designs; the Law on Trademarks, Service Marks and Appellations of Origin (1999); and the Law on Copyrights and Neighboring Rights (1996). These laws have been amended several times to comply with WTO requirements and with the requirements of international treaties to which Kazakhstan is party.

In 2015, Kazakhstan signed an Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement with the European Union, which includes a special section on IPR protection.

Kazakhstan signed the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) treaty, which came into force on January 1, 2015. Basic principles of the IPR protection Kazakhstan should follow within the EAEU are defined by the 2015 EAEU Agreement on coordinating IPR protection activities and the 2018 Treaty on the EAEU Customs Code.

In 2015, Kazakhstan enacted two new IP laws enhancing the role and transparency of organizations for collective management of copyright royalty payments, and extending the original medicine patent protection period to six years, during which no new drug can be registered with reference to the test data and confidential information submitted under the original drug owner's patent.

In 2018, Kazakhstan amended several IPR laws to streamline the IPR protection system. In particular, an amended law creates one-tier system for trademark registration, reduces a time period for registration, introduces opportunities for pre-trial dispute resolution of trademark issues through the Appeals Council at the Ministry of Justice, and fine-tunes qualification requirements of patent attorneys.

Kazakhstan has ratified 18 of 24 treaties endorsed by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). (<u>http://www.wipo.int/members/en/details.jsp?country_id=97</u>)

Appendix I: Key Government Regulatory Agency Contacts

 Committee of the Veterinary Control and Surveillance 010000, Astana, Kenessary 36, floor 6 Tel: 7 (7172) 555-815 Fax: 7 (7172) 555-815 Email: priemnaya.kvkn@minagri.gov.kz https://moa.gov.kz/ru/documents/93

Committee of the Veterinary Control and Surveillance reports to the Ministry of Agriculture: <u>www.moa.gov.kz</u>

 Committee of the State Inspection in Agriculture 010000, Astana, Kenessary 36 Tel: 7 (7172) 555-961 e-mail: priemnaya.kgiapk@minagri.gov.kz

Committee of the State Inspection in Agriculture reports to the Ministry of Agriculture: <u>www.moa.gov.kz</u>

- 3. Committee for Public Health 010000, Astana, Orynbor, 8 Tel: 7 (7172) 74-17-72 Fax: 7 (7172) 74-17-72 <u>http://kooz.dsm.gov.kz/ru</u> Committee for Public Health reports to the Ministry of Health : <u>www.mz.gov.kz</u>
- 4. Technical Regulation and Metrology Committee 010000, Astana, Orynbor 11 Tel: 7 (7172) 270-701 <u>http://memst.miid.gov.kz/en</u> Technical Regulation and Metrology Committee reports to the Ministry of Industry and Infrastructural Development: <u>www.miid.gov.kz</u>
- Eurasian Economic Commission 115114, Moscow, Letnikovskaya ul., 2, bld. 1, bld. 2 Tel./Fax: 011 7 (495) 669-2400 <u>http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/Pages/default.aspx</u>

Appendix II: Other Import Specialist Technical Contacts

Certification bodies

Kazakh Institute of Standartization and Certification –certification/declaration of conformity 11, Orynbor, Bld. "Ethalon Center"
 010000, Astana, Yessil district
 Tel. 7 (7172) 79-34-22
 https://www.memst.kz/contacts/podvedomstvennye.php

Customs brokers list - <u>http://www.keden.kz/ru/tam_nav.php?type=1</u>