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GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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The Ministry of Trade's New Regulation on Soybean Imports

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation

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Report Highlights:

The Indonesian Ministry of Trade revised regulation No. 24/2013 (Regulation 24) concerning soybean imports by issuing Regulation No. 45/2013 (Regulation 45) on August 28, 2013. This report summarizes key changes to soybean import policy. Post continues to work with the Government of Indonesia and importers to clarify the regulation.

General Information:

Regulation 45

Indonesia's Ministry of Trade (MOT) issued Regulation 45 concerning soybean import provisions on August 28, 2013. This regulation makes changes to several articles in MOT's Regulation 24.

[Unofficial English translation of MOT Regulation 45 can be viewed at this link.](#) These changes include the following:

- In addition to private companies, cooperatives, and other Indonesian state-owned companies including the National Logistic Agency (BULOG)), are allowed to import soybeans.
- Soybean importers will either be classified as a Registered Importer (IT) or a Producer Importer (IP). IT importers must have 3 years experience in importing and/or distributing soybeans. IP importers, however, are exempted from this requirement.
- Previously, soybean importers were required to attach a local soybean purchase receipt in order to receive an import permit. Regulation 45 replaces that requirement with the following two documents:
 - Letter of commitment to buy local soybeans
 - Domestic sales planning of soybeans
- In addition to BULOG, the Minister of Trade will assign an independent surveyor to verify local soybean purchases.
- Previously, soybean import permits were issued on an annual basis with one year validity. Under the new regulation, import permits are issued twice per year with a validity period of six months: first semester: January to June, and second semester: July to December.
- Import permit applications must be submitted in the last 10 days of November for the first semester and in the last 10 days of May for the second semester.

Pre-shipment Inspection

Regulation 45 doesn't make any changes to article 9 and article 10 of Regulation 24. Pre-shipment inspection (PSI), therefore, is still required and soybeans importers must have surveyor reports in order to release their cargos from Indonesian ports. PSI requirement is effective October 1, 2013.

Soybean Import Quota

MOT stated to the press that the issuance of Regulation 45 removes the soybean import quota. Post understands, however, that the soybean import quota still exists as stipulated in article 5 of Regulation No. 23/2013 (Regulation 23) concerning the soybean price stabilization program.

“Soybean imported by Public Company BULOG, cooperatives and/or private parties in the Soybean Price Stabilization (SPS) Program is stipulated by the Minister with regard to the national Soybean demand recommended by SPS Team and has been decided in Limited Coordination Meeting of Economic Minister”.

MOT made no amendments to Regulation 23. Post, therefore, concludes that the import quota system remains in place but appears to be dormant at this time.

