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## SPECIFIC ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

**South Korea Opens Consultation on Draft Revisions to Food Import Regulation, Adopts Electronic Document Inspections for Imported Foods**

- On August 21, South Korea's Ministry of Food and Drug Safety (MFDS) published [Notice No. 2023-407](#) regarding a proposed revision of the [Enforcement Rules of the Special Act on Imported Food Safety Management](#) (both in Korean).
- Based on machine translation, the draft amendment:
  - Changes the business registration certificate for imported foods from a paper to an electronic format.
  - Exempts businesses from having to submit their original business registration certificate in case their business registration changes, there is a status succession, or the business closes.
  - Expands the scope of documents accepted as an export declaration certificate.
- The Notice provides the following entry into force dates for amendments to various provisions of the *Enforcement Rules*:
  - Amendments to Form No. 25 would enter into force on January 1, 2024.
  - Amendments to Article 2 Paragraphs 1, 3 and 6 (on registration of overseas manufacturing establishments), Article 3-5 (on cancellation of the certifications for businesses applying for the imported food safety management certification), Article 12 (on registration of overseas establishments), and Attached Table 1-2 (the criteria for revoking certification of imported food safety management certification standards) would enter into force on February 9, 2024.
  - Amendments to Article 3 (on import suspension measures and procedures for cancellation measures), Article 14 (on the cancellation of registration of overseas workplaces), and Attached Table 6 (the criteria for the cancellation of registration of overseas workplaces) would enter into force on February 17, 2024.
  - Most other amendments would enter into force on December 14, 2023.
- Professional translation is recommended for further analysis.
- Comments are due by October 2, 2023, and can be emailed to [namkung01@korea.kr](mailto:namkung01@korea.kr) or submitted via the [online system](#).
- On August 29, the MFDS promulgated a partial revision ([Prime Minister's Decree No. 1896, August 29, 2023](#)) to the same [Enforcement Rules](#) of the [Special Act on Imported Food Safety Management](#) listed above (all in Korean) (*BCI Monitor 7-5-23*).
  - This revision permits electronic inspection of import declaration documents for low-risk, repeatedly imported foods.
  - This revision will allow for the review of import declaration documents to expand from only business hours to 24 hours a day, 356 days a year.
- The revision will enter into force on September 14, 2023.

**A REPORT FOR  
THE CALIFORNIA  
CHERRY BOARD**

## UK Publishes Final Import Control Framework, Updates Guidance

- On August 29, the United Kingdom (UK) published the [Border Target Operating Model](#) (BTOM), finalizing the framework for its new import controls and border biosecurity regime. The final BTOM incorporates feedback on the draft published in April 2023 (*BCI Monitor 4-11-23*).
- The BTOM establishes a global risk-based approach for food and agricultural imports, including simplified and digitized health certification and access to streamlined controls for trusted importers with enhanced safety assurances. The new UK Single Trade Window is being implemented concurrently with the BTOM to support trade processes. The final BTOM also includes the introduction of new controls for Irish goods moving directly from Ireland to Great Britain in accordance with the [Windsor Framework](#).
- The revised BTOM implementation timeline includes the following key dates:
  - January 31, 2024: Introduction of health certification on imports of medium risk animal products, plants, and plant products, and on imports of high-risk food and feed of non-animal origin from the European Union (EU).
  - April 30, 2024: Introduction of documentary and risk-based identity and physical checks on the above imports, thus delivering the benefits of the new risk-based model.
  - October 31, 2024: Introduction of safety and security declarations for EU imports; introduction of reduced documentation requirements for exports to Great Britain with use of the UK Single Trade Window removing duplication for safety and security, sanitary and phytosanitary, and pre-arrival customs declarations.
- Additionally, the UK [announced](#) the transition from the current Customs Handling of Import and Export Freight (CHIEF) system to the [Customs Declaration Service](#). Import and export declarations must be made through the Customs Declaration Service from March 30, 2024.
- The following guidance pages have been updated to reflect changes from January 1, 2024, associated with the BTOM:
  - [Moving qualifying goods from Northern Ireland to the rest of the UK](#)
  - [List of goods imported into Great Britain from Ireland that are controlled](#)
  - [Delaying declarations for goods brought into Great Britain](#)
  - [Apply to use simplified declarations for imports](#)

## General Issues of Interest to the CCB:

### South Korea Amends Quarantine Pest List

- On August 23, the Korean Agriculture, Forestry, and Livestock Quarantine Headquarters [published an administrative rule](#) (in Korean) amending its list of regulated pests.
- According to machine translation, the amendment includes the correction of scientific names of several species of quarantine pests based on international classification, the reflection of existing restriction measures regarding Pierce's disease (*Xylella fastidiosa* (*X. taiwanensis*)) and the designation of one type of fruit fly (*Dacus ciliatus*) as a prohibited pest.
- A summary of amendments is included in the “reasons for enactment/revision” section of the regulation.

### Vietnam Publishes Updated Quarantine Pest List

- On August 15, 2023, Vietnam's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) published an updated list of quarantine pests in [Circular No. 4/2023/TT-BNNPTNT](#) (in Vietnamese). Vietnam notified the circular as a draft in March 2023.
- The circular will replace *Circular No. 35/2014/TT-BNNPTNT*, in force since January 1, 2015. An [unofficial translation of Circular No. 35](#) was provided by the USDA.
- *Circular No. 4/2023* enters into force on September 29, 2023.