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**Report Highlights:**

The report contains summaries of relevant decisions from the Russia-Kazakhstan-Belarus Customs Union (CU) meetings in the first half of June that impact the CU food and agriculture policy. One of the key CU developments in the period was adoption of the Technical Regulation of the Customs Union “On Safety of Certain Types of Specialized Food Products, Including Dietary Therapeutic and Dietary Prophylactic Nutrition” that will come into force as of July 1, 2013.

## General Information

The report contains summaries of relevant decisions from the meetings in the first half of June of the supreme regulatory body of the Russia-Kazakhstan-Belarus Customs Union (CU) - the Council of the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC), as well as regular weekly meetings of the EEC working body - the EEC Collegium, that impact the CU food and agriculture policy. One of the key CU developments in the period was adoption of the Technical Regulation of the Customs Union “On Safety of Certain Types of Specialized Food Products, Including Dietary Therapeutic and Dietary Prophylactic Nutrition” that will come into force as of July 1, 2013.

The documents below are hyperlinked via Google Translate for readers seeking further details. Select “refresh” on your browser if the page does not translate to the end. Please note that the CU is often delayed when publishing attachments to decisions. If there is an attachment in a decision that is not yet linked, please check back again.

### **5<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE EURASIAN ECONOMIC COMMISSION COUNCIL** **June 15, 2012**

***Publication Date: June 18, 2012***

**EEC Council Decision No. 34.** *On Adoption of the Technical Regulation of the Customs Union “On Safety of Certain Types of Specialized Food Products, Including Dietary Therapeutic and Dietary Prophylactic Nutrition”* - original in [Russian](#)

**Summary:** The document adopts the Technical Regulation (TR) of the Customs Union “On Safety of Certain Types of Specialized Food Products, Including Dietary Therapeutic and Dietary Prophylactic Nutrition” (TR TS 027/2012.) According to the Decision, the TR shall come into force as of July 1, 2013.

**EEC Council Decision No. 35.** *On Amendments to the Technical Regulation of the Customs Union “On Safety of Packaging” (TR TS 005/2011)* - original in [Russian](#)

**Summary:** The document amends the Technical Regulation of the Customs Union “On Safety of Packaging” (TR TS 005/2011) to remove the ban on re-use of glass packaging for alcohol products.

**EEC Council Decision No. 36.** *On Amendments to Section II of the Unified List of Goods Subject to Sanitary and Epidemiological Surveillance (Control) at the Customs Border and on the Customs Territory of the Customs Union* - original in [Russian](#)

**Summary:** The EEC Council adopted amendments to Section II of the Unified List of Goods Subject to Sanitary and Epidemiological Surveillance (Control) at the Customs Border and on the Customs Territory of the Customs Union. In particular, the list of goods that are subject to state registration is revised. For more details please see GAIN report [RS1152 Customs Union Publishes SPS Measures for Public Comment.](#)

**EEC Council Decision No. 37.** *On Amendments to the Regulations on Procedure of the State Sanitary and Epidemiological Surveillance (control) over persons and vehicles crossing the customs border of the Customs Union, and the controlled goods moved through the customs border of the Customs Union and in the customs territory of the Customs Union* - original in [Russian](#)

**Summary:** The amendments correct a technical error in paragraph 14 and specify the necessary actions in case of temporary sanitary measures by one of the Parties in paragraphs 22 and 40.

**EEC Council Decision No. 40.** *On the Working Group on the Issue of Participation of the Kyrgyz Republic in the Customs Union of the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, and the Russian Federation* - original in [Russian](#)

**Summary:** The EEC Council approved the list of WG members, including representatives from Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation, and the Eurasian Economic Commission. The list of representatives of the Kyrgyz Republic is yet to be determined.

## **12<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE EURASIAN ECONOMIC COMMISSION COLLEGIUM** **May 31, 2012**

***Publication Date: June 1, 2012***

**EEC Collegium Decision No. 52.** *On Consultative Committee on Customs Regulation* - original in [Russian](#)

**Summary:** The decision establishes the Consultative Committee on Customs Regulation, appoints Vladimir Goshin, member of the EEC Collegium, as Head of the Committee, and approves its Regulations.

**EEC Collegium Decision No. 54.** *On Approval of the Plan for Adjustment of the Regulatory Framework of the Customs Union and the Single Economic Space to Functioning in the Multilateral Trade System* - original in [Russian](#)

**Summary:** The decision adopts a plan containing 28 action items with deadlines and responsible EEC Departments and authorized authorities of the CU members, as well as a draft EEC Council decision related to the implementation of the plan. In some cases the plan also contains a reference to the respective paragraph of the Working Party report on Russia's accession. Action items range from assessment of draft CU regulations for compliance with WTO rules on a permanent basis and annual adjustments of the Unified CU Customs Tariff in accordance with the schedule of Russia's WTO commitments to development of a standard for "High Quality Beef" in 2013 and amendments to the Unified veterinary requirements and Unified forms of veterinary certificates.

**EEC Collegium Decision No. 55.** *On Memorandum of Cooperation in the Sphere of Application of Antidumping, Countervailing, and Safeguard Measures between Eurasian Economic Commission and the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China* - original in [Russian](#)

**Summary:** The decision authorizes EEC Trade Minister Andrey Slepnev to sign the Memorandum, which, among other things, says that the Parties will strive to give each other at least a 15 day notice in case of receipt of industry requests to impose trade remedies affecting the interests of China, Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Russia.

**EEC Collegium Decision No. 56.** *On Draft Regulation on Development, Adoption, Amending, and Cancellation of the CU Technical Regulations* - original in [Russian](#)

**Summary:** The EEC Collegium approved a draft decision of the EEC Council on approval of the above regulation, which will replace the current one that was approved by the CU Decision No. 453 of November 18, 2010. The change is largely aimed to reflect the development of the Single Economic Space and the Eurasian Economic Commission, as well as refine the language of the regulation. The key provision about the public comment period for draft CU Technical Regulations of no less than 60 days is preserved in the new version of the regulation. One of the novelties of the updated regulation is that in addition to the authorized bodies of the CU countries, the EEC Commission may be put in charge of drafting CU TRs, in which case it may hire a contractor for drafting a TR.

**EEC Collegium Decision No. 57.** *On Amendments to the Regulation on the Formation of Lists of International and Regional (Interstate) Standards, and in case of their Absence, of the National (State) Standards, Ensuring Compliance with the Requirements of the Customs Union Technical Regulations and Necessary for the Assessment (Confirmation) of Compliance* - original in [Russian](#)

**Summary:** The EEC Collegium amended the above regulation that was approved by the CU Decision No. 629 of April 7, 2011. The change is largely aimed to reflect the development of the Single Economic Space and the Eurasian Economic Commission, as well as refine the language of the regulation. In addition, two new annexes will be added to the regulation, the first with a form for proposals on updating the lists of standards, and the second with a form of summary information about testing methods.

**EEC Collegium Decision No. 58.** *On Activities of the Eurasian Economic Commission in the sphere of International Trade Negotiations* - original in [Russian](#)

**Summary:** The EEC Collegium approved a draft decision of the EEC Council and the Supreme Eurasian Economic Council at the level of the heads of states on the scope of involvement of the EEC Commission in the trade negotiations of the CU Parties launched before February 1, 2012. The EEC Commission will be engaged in the development of negotiating positions for all such trade talks on issues of its competence, including customs, TBT, SPS, and trade remedies regulation, as well as free trade agreements. However, this decision will not apply to issues related to the accession and participation of the Parties in the WTO.

**13<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE EURASIAN ECONOMIC COMMISSION COLLEGIUM**  
**June 7, 2012**

***Publication Date: June 8, 2012***

**EEC Collegium Decision No. 62.** *On the Issue of Studying the Feasibility of Concluding and a Free Trade Agreement in the Framework of a Joint Research Group between the Customs Union Member-States and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam* - original in [Russian](#)

**Summary:** The EEC Collegium approved a draft decision of the EEC Council on the progress of the CU-Vietnam FTA talks.

**EEC Collegium Decision No. 69.** *On the Concept of a Draft Agreement on the Circulation of Ethyl Alcohol, Alcoholic and Alcohol-Containing Products on the Unified Customs Territory of the Customs Union and the Single Economic Space* - original in [Russian](#)

**Summary:** The EEC Collegium endorsed a draft Concept and Structure of the above agreement, instructing the Head of the Working Group in charge of drafting the Agreement to report on the progress in October 2012. According to the Concept, elaboration of the requirements of the Agreement regarding technical regulations will be conducted in correlation with the respective CU Technical Regulation on Alcohol, which is being drafted.

**EEC Collegium Decision No. 71.** *On the Draft Amendments to the Regulation on the Single Mark of Circulation of Products on the Market of the Customs Union Member-States* - original in [Russian](#)

**Summary:** The EEC Collegium approved a draft decision of the EEC Council on amendments refining the language of the above regulation.

## **14<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE EURASIAN ECONOMIC COMMISSION COLLEGIUM June 13, 2012**

***Publication Date: June 13, 2012***

**EEC Collegium Decision No. 71.** *On the Draft Amendments to the Regulation on the Single Mark of Circulation of Products on the Market of the Customs Union Member-States* - original in [Russian](#)

**Summary:** The EEC Collegium approved a draft decision of the EEC Council on amendments refining the language of the above regulation.

**EEC Collegium Decision No. 74.** *On the Organization by the Parties of the Talks on the Harmonization of Excise Rates on Alcohol and Tobacco Products* - original in [Russian](#)

**Summary:** The EEC Collegium approved a draft decision of the EEC Council on progress of the above talks instructing the EEC Minister of Economy and Financial Policy Mr. Suleimenov to prepare a road-map for the harmonization and report on it in September 2012.

**EEC Collegium Decision No. 76.** *On the Draft Technical Regulation of the Customs Union “On Safety of Certain Types of Specialized Food Products, Including Dietary Therapeutic and Dietary Prophylactic Nutrition”* - original in [Russian](#)

**Summary:** The EEC Collegium approved a draft decision of the EEC Council on the Technical Regulation of the Customs Union “On Safety of Certain Types of Specialized Food Products, Including Dietary Therapeutic and Dietary Prophylactic Nutrition” (see EEC Council Decision No. 34 above), and its own draft decision on certain issues of the respective CU TR’s implementation, containing a number of transitional provisions in effect through February 15, 2015 and approving the relevant lists of standards for this TR. This draft document and the lists of standards will come into effect following the TR approval by the EEC Collegium.

**EEC Collegium Decision No. 82.** *On the Form of Certificate of State Registration of Products, Subject to Assessment in the Form of State Registration in Accordance with the Requirements of the Customs Union Technical Regulations* - original in [Russian](#)

**Summary:** The EEC Collegium established that the Unified form of state registration, approved by the CU Decision No. 299 of May 28, 2010, shall be used in case of state registration for the purposes of assessment of the products’ compliance with the requirements of the Customs Union Technical Regulations.