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Date: 6/18/2015

GAIN Report Number: IN5078

India

Post: New Delhi

WTO Notified Draft Order on Meat-Poultry Products in Indian Market

Report Categories:

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Exporter Guide

FAIRS Subject Report

Livestock and Products

Poultry and Products

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Report Highlights:

On April 23, 2015, the Government of India (GOI) notified the Draft Order on Meat and Poultry Products in the Indian Market to the World Trade Organization (WTO) for comment. The draft Order notes that a procedure will be developed to inspect and monitor slaughtering and processing plants before granting market access to trading partners. It also has introduced modified text for some requirements currently included in veterinary import certificates for imported meat and poultry products). The deadline for final comments is June 22, 2015.

Executive Summary:

On April 23, 2015, the Government of India (GOI) notified the Draft Order on Meat and Poultry Products in the Indian Market to the World Trade Organization (WTO) for comment. The draft Order notes that a procedure will be developed to inspect and monitor slaughtering and processing plants before granting market access to trading partners, and requires a country's competent authority to certify to Indian import requirements. Furthermore, the draft Order has introduced modified text for some requirements currently included in veterinary import certificates for imported meat and poultry products. The Order shall come into effect from July 1, 2015. The deadline for final comments is June 22, 2015.

General Information:

DISCLAIMER: The information contained in this report was retrieved from the Government of India (GOI) and WTO websites: <http://www.fssai.gov.in/> and www.wto.org. The Office of Agricultural Affairs and/or the U.S. Government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity.

Introduction:

On April 23, 2015, the Government of India (GOI) notified the Draft Order on Meat and Poultry Products in the Indian Market to the World Trade Organization (WTO) for comment. The draft Order notes that Food Safety and Standards Authority of India will work with the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying, and Fisheries to modify veterinary import certificates, and will require a country's competent authority to certify to Indian import requirements. It also comments that a procedure will be developed to inspect and monitor slaughtering and processing plants before granting market access to trading partners. However, no details are provided in the text on what these new modifications or procedures may be.

The draft Order introduced modified text for some requirements currently included in veterinary import certificates for imported meat and poultry products. For example, in para 12, sub-para a, allowing "milk and milk products (*sic*)" to be used as feed is not mentioned in most veterinary import certificates (except in the pet food veterinary import certificate). Moreover, para 12, sub-para b, specifically prohibits poultry meat from being slaughtered and processed in the same facility as bovine and porcine meat. Para 12, sub para c, emphasizes regulations (see web links in the main highlights section below to access these documents) on the management and use of antibiotics and antimicrobials, including withdrawal periods. Some of the text of the draft Order, including links to the full document, is copied below for convenience. The deadline for final comments to the WTO is June 22, 2015. The draft Order notes it will come into effect from July 1, 2015.

Comments should be sent to:

Mr. P. Karthikeyan
Assistant Director
SPS Enquiry Point
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road
New Delhi – 110 002, India
Ph: 91-11-2323 7419
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Email: baranip@yahoo.com
Main highlights of the draft Order include:

BEGIN TEXT

12. Therefore, it is decided to issue directions to all concerned for ensuring compliance with the contents of sub-paras (a) to (e) below and advised to ensure that:

- a. the meat producing animals /poultry birds shall not be fed with feed containing meat and/ or bone meal including internal organs, blood meal and tissues of bovine or porcine origin materials except milk and milk products;*
- b. the slaughtering/processing for bovine meat and porcine meat shall be prohibited in the slaughtering/processing plants where poultry meat is produced for human consumption;*
- c. [notification No. GSR 28 \(E\) dated 17th January 2012](#) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare as well as the advisories issued vide No. 102-74/2014-Trade, dated [03.06.2014](#) and [02.12.2014](#) by the DAHDF are duly complied with;*
- d. FSS Regulations in force and notified under the FSSA are duly complied with;*
- e. slaughter of animals other than those allowed by Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 shall remain prohibited.*

13. In case of meat and poultry products intended to be imported into India, the FSSAI, in consultation with the DAHDF, will develop a procedure for inspection and monitoring of slaughtering/processing plants and their pre-requisites before grant of market access to the Indian market to ensure compliance with the paras 12 (a) to (e) above and the FSS Regulations in force and notified under the FSSA. FSSAI shall also work with the DAHDF to make the required modification in the health certificates for import of meat and poultry products into India. The procedure shall include requiring the Competent Authority of the exporting countries to provide the prescribed certifications to India in compliance with the requirements to allow for placing of meat and poultry products on the Indian market.

END TEXT

For more details, please refer to: [Draft Order on Placing Meat and Poultry Products in the Indian](#)

[Market.](#)

Final details on the draft Order:

GOI Publication Date: January 16, 2015

Publication date on the FSSAI website: January 19, 2015

Date of Implementation: July 1, 2015

WTO Notification Number: G/SPS/N/IND/103

WTO Notification Date: April 23, 2015

Final date for comments: June 22, 2015

Products affected: All Meat and Poultry Products.

GOI Agency in Charge: Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GOI.