

Warsaw, June 24th, 2019

Poland's comments

on amending the trade preferences for poultry meat and poultry meat preparations provided for by the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Ukraine, of the other part

ref.: COM(2019) 267 final, COM(2019) 268 final

Taking into consideration the urgent need to limit the uncontrolled increase of imports of the non-standard poultry cuts from Ukraine, Poland is ready to accept the proposed modification of the EU tariff concessions in imports of poultry meat within DCFTA.

Concurrently, we sustain our opinion that, in the year the additional quota granted to Ukraine enters into force, it would be better to include in the utilization of the quota the imports registered since the beginning of the year rather than having the quota calculated on the pro rata basis as currently proposed.

We also uphold our position that the Ukraine's DCFTA commitments on approximation of its legislation to the EU law, including in the area of animal welfare standards, should be fully complied with. According to Article 64 and Annex V of the Association Agreement, Ukraine was obliged to adjust its law to EU standards by 2016. However, we don't have the information from the European Commission on the state of play in this regard, including, for instance, whether Ukraine has implemented the Directive 2007/43/EC of 28.06.2007 on minimum rules for the protection of chickens kept for meat production. EU Member States have not received information on compliance by Ukraine with its obligations set in Annex V of the Association Agreement, despite the Commission's commitment to provide such information.

Additionally, we recommend considering the application of additional instruments in the field of TRQ administration, such as the division of TRQ into different categories of products, tariff lines, monthly or quarterly periods etc.

Regardless of the implementation of the negotiated TRQ modification in the import of poultry meat from Ukraine, we also uphold our earlier postulate that the EU should additionally try to negotiate with Ukraine an agreement (e.g. in the form of an exchange of letters or an additional protocol) providing for a bilateral safeguard clause allowing both parties to temporarily withdraw the preferences in the case of a serious injury, or a threat thereof, to their producers.



Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

Brussels, 25 June 2019

WK 7703/2019 INIT

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WORKING DOCUMENT

From:	PL Delegation
To:	Trade Policy Committee (Deputies)
Subject:	Poland's comments on amending the trade preferences for poultry meat and poultry meat preparations provided for by the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Ukraine, of the other part
