

24 February 2021

(21-1586)

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Committee on Import Licensing

### AGREEMENT ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURES

#### NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 5.1 TO 5.4 OF THE AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup>

#### UNITED KINGDOM

The following notification dated 2 February 2021, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of the United Kingdom.

	Category	Notification details
1	Notifying Member	United Kingdom
2	Title of new legislation/procedure	<ol> <li><u>Retained EU law<sup>2</sup>:</u></li> <li>Council Regulation (EC) No. 2173/2005 of 20 December 2005 on the establishment of a FLEGT licensing scheme for imports of timber into the European Community.</li> <li>Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1024/2008 of 17 October 2008 laying down detailed measures for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No. 2173/2005 on the establishment of a FLEGT licensing scheme for imports of timber into the European Community.</li> </ol>
		<ul> <li><u>UK legislation:</u></li> <li>3. The Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade Regulations 2012.</li> <li>4. The Timber and Timber Products and FLEGT (EU Exit) Regulations 2018.</li> <li>5. The Environment and Wildlife (Legislative Functions) (EU exit) Regulations 2019.</li> <li>6. The Timber and Timber Products and FLEGT (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulation 2020.</li> </ul>
3	Date of Publication	1. 20 December 2005 2. 17 October 2008 3. 30 January 2012 4. 25 September 2018 5. 26 February 2019 6. 19 November 2020
4	Date of entry into force	1. 20 December 2005 2. 17 October 2008 3. 20 February 2012 4. 31 December 2020 5. 31 December 2020 6. 31 December 2020

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> It is understood that the notifying Member has also completed its notification obligations under Article 1.4(a) and Article 8.2(b) regarding the relevant law/regulation/procedure notified for by filling this form in a full and complete manner.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Some European Union law was retained in UK law by virtue of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 and the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Act 2020, with minor modifications to ensure operability.

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	Category	Notification details
5	Website link/Official publication of the new regulation/procedure	<ol> <li>https://www.legislation.gov.uk/eur/2005/2173/contents</li> <li>https://www.legislation.gov.uk/eur/2008/1024/contents#</li> <li>https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/178/made</li> <li>https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2018/1025/made</li> <li>https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2019/473/made</li> <li>https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2019/473/made</li> <li>https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2019/473/made</li> </ol>
6	Have you attached a copy of the regulation (PDF) to the Secretariat	[] Yes. ( <i>Please attach a copy of the regulation to the notification</i> .) [x] No.
7	Type of notification	<ul> <li>[X] (a) New licensing regulation/procedure<sup>3</sup>; (please answer question 8 to 14)</li> <li>[] (b) Changes to a regulation/procedure which has been previously notified in document:; (please answer question 15 and 16)</li> </ul>
8	List of products subject to licensing	<ul> <li>4403 Wood in the rough, whether or not stripped of bark or sapwood, or roughly squared.</li> <li>4406 Railway or tramway sleepers (cross-ties) of wood.</li> <li>4407 Wood sawn or chipped lengthwise, sliced or peeled, whether or not planed, sanded or end-jointed, of a thickness exceeding 6 mm.</li> <li>4408 Sheets for veneering (including those obtained by slicing laminated wood), for plywood or for other similar laminated wood and other wood, sawn lengthwise, sliced or peeled, whether or not planed, sanded, spliced or end-jointed, of a thickness not exceeding 6mm.</li> <li>4412 Plywood, veneered panels and similar laminated wood</li> </ul>
9	Nature of licensing	Automatic: [ ] Non-Automatic: [X]
10	Administrative purpose/measure being implemented	(a)       Protect public morals;         (b)       Protect human, animal or plant life and health; protect environment;         (c)       Collect trade statistics or market surveillance;         (d)       Protection of patents, trademarks and copyrights, and the prevention of deceptive practices;         (e)       Pursue obligations under the UN Charter and other international treaties ( <i>i.e. CITES, Basel Convention, Rotterdam Convention, UNSC Resolutions etc.</i> )         (f)       Quota (including TRQ) administration;         (g)       Regulate imports of arms, ammunition or fissionable materials and safeguard national security;         (h)       Other:
11	Administrative body(ies) for submission of applications	Office for Product Safety and Standards Lower Ground Floor Victoria Square House Victoria Square Birmingham B2 4AJ United Kingdom Tel: +44 (0)121 345 1200 <u>fleqtenquiries@beis.gov.uk</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "New licensing regulation/procedure" is understood to refer to any newly introduced law, regulation or procedure, and those which are in force but being notified for the first time to the Committee.

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	Category	Notification details
12	Contact point for information on eligibility	Office for Product Safety and Standards Lower Ground Floor Victoria Square House Victoria Square Birmingham B2 4AJ United Kingdom Tel: +44 (0)121 345 1200 fleqtenquiries@beis.gov.uk
13	Expected duration of licensing procedure	Ongoing.
14	A summary of the notification in one of the WTO official languages	The FLEGT licensing scheme is a voluntary scheme to ensure that only legally harvested timber is imported into the UK from countries with which the UK concludes bilateral FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreements (VPAs). Under the scheme a partner country issues FLEGT licences for every shipment of timber products covered by the agreement exported to the UK. Guidance available at: <u>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/eu-timber-regulation-guidance-for- business-and-industry</u>
15	In the case of 7(b), please indicate the type of new change(s)	(a)       Termination         (b)       Suspension         (c)       Modification of specific details in existing procedures:         Product coverage;       Administrative purpose;         Administrative purpose;       Automatic or Non-automatic;         Duration of licensing;       Change the nature of quantity/value restriction;         Eligibility of applicants;       Contact information on eligibility;         Administrative body(ies) for submission of application;         Documentation requirements (including application form);         Period for Application;         Administrative body(ies) to issue licence;         Processing time for issuing licence;         Licence fee/administrative charge;         Deposit/advance payment and relevant conditions;         Appeal regulations/procedures;         Validity of licence;         Other conditions of licence (extension, transferability, penalty of non-use etc.);         Foreign exchange requirements;         Other:
16	Please elaborate the changes in detail (in one of the WTO official languages)	