



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 11 December 2014
(OR. en)

16825/14

DENLEG 192
AGRI 798

NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations

Subject: Indication of the country of origin or place of provenance for certain foods
- *Information from the Presidency*

Delegations will find in the Annex a document submitted by the Presidency to be presented under "Any other business" at the Council ("Agriculture and Fisheries") at its session on 15 December 2014.

Indication of the country of origin or place of provenance for certain foods

The Regulation (EU) No. 1169/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the provision of food information to consumers applies from 13th December 2014. Article 26 concerns the indication of the country of origin or place of provenance of a food. This is innovative in terms of transparency of the information on the label and consumer protection from fraud.

According to this article, the indication of origin will be mandatory in cases where it could cause confusion in the consumer as to the origin of the food and, where the origin of the primary ingredient is different from that of the finished product, it must be highlighted to the consumer that the country of origin or place of provenance are different between primary ingredient and finished product.

In particular, for certain foods, article 26 provides for the mandatory indication of the origin (for example for certain types of meat other than beef).

For other products, such as milk, the Regulation does not set specific prescriptions, but the Commission must submit to the European Parliament and the Council the "reports" on the applicability and appropriateness of the mandatory indication of the country of origin or place of provenance.

The reports shall take into account the need for the consumer to be informed, the feasibility of providing the mandatory indication of the country of origin or place of provenance and an analysis of the costs and benefits, including the legal impact on the internal market and the impact on international trade.

Reports shall be submitted by the Commission by 13th December 2014 for: (a) types of meat other than beef, swine, sheep, goats and poultry, (b) milk, (c) milk used as an ingredient in dairy products; unprocessed foods; products made from a single ingredient and (f) ingredients that represent more than 50% of a food.

For drafting the reports, in 2014, the Commission launched a public consultation with consumers and stakeholders in the EU on food sector concerned with the exception of milk and dairy products.

Therefore, according to the deadline of 13th December 2014, the Presidency invites the Commission to provide the Council with the information about the state of play and the content of the reports to be submitted according to Article 26 (5) of the Regulation (EU) No. 1169/2011.
