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From:	Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Ms Martine DEPREZ, Director
date of receipt:	26 May 2021
To:	Mr Jeppe TRANHOLM-MIKKELSEN, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union

No. Cion doc.:	COM(2021) 259 final - Annex
Subject:	ANNEX to the Recommendation for a COUNCIL DECISION authorising the opening of negotiations on agreements on trade in organic products between the European Union and Argentina, Australia, Canada, Costa Rica, India Israel, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Tunisia and the United States of America

Delegations will find attached document COM(2021) 259 final - Annex.

Encl.: COM(2021) 259 final - Annex



Brussels, 26.5.2021
COM(2021) 259 final

ANNEX

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to the

Recommendation for a COUNCIL DECISION

**authorising the opening of negotiations on agreements on trade in organic products
between the European Union and Argentina, Australia, Canada, Costa Rica, India
Israel, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Tunisia and the United States of
America**

ANNEX

DIRECTIVES FOR THE NEGOTIATION OF AGREEMENTS ON TRADE IN ORGANIC PRODUCTS BETWEEN

the European Union and Argentina, Australia, Canada, Costa Rica, India, Israel, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Tunisia and the United States of America

1. The Commission may enter into negotiations with Argentina, Australia, Canada, Costa Rica, India, Israel, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Tunisia and the United States of America with a view to achieving balanced agreements on the equivalence of the organic production standards and control systems.
2. The negotiations shall aim to facilitate trade in organic products, on a reciprocal and mutually beneficial basis.
3. The negotiations shall concern products as referred to in Article 2(1) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 which are obtained or produced in the territory of the Union and in the territory of the relevant third country.
4. The Commission shall endeavour to achieve a high level of respect of the objectives and principles of organic production and a high level of guarantee of the control system, including surveillance, as laid down in Regulation (EU) 2018/848.
5. The Commission shall aim at achieving protection of the terms, their derivatives or diminutives and the Union logo referring to organic production in order to reserve their use in the labelling of products in conformity with Regulation (EU) 2018/848.
6. The Commission shall take into consideration the principles and production rules of the Codex *alimentarius* guidelines CAC/GL 32.
7. Unless otherwise provided in the negotiating directives for a Free Trade Agreement with the third country concerned, the Commission shall apply the current negotiating directives to provisions relating to trade in organic products, when considering addressing organic trade matters in current or future Free Trade Agreement negotiations between the Union and third countries.
8. When conducting the negotiations on the basis of these negotiating directives, the Commission shall take into account in particular the principles and mechanisms of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and the obligations arising from World Trade Organization rules.
9. The agreement shall provide for the contracting parties to take appropriate measures in the event of lack of administrative co-operation or management.
10. Before initiating negotiations with the third countries concerned, the Commission shall inform the Special Committee referred to in Article 3.