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Russian Federation

Trade Policy Monitoring

Export Tariffs for Certain Types of Wood

2009

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Report Highlights:

On December 24, 2008, the Russian Government issued Resolution number 982, stating the export tariff rate for certain categories of forest products for 2009-2010, including new rates for rare species of wood. The intent of these changes is to increase domestic processing of wood, curb exports of unprocessed wood, and combat illegal logging of rare species of wood.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Trade Report
Moscow [RS1]
[RS]

Summary

On December 24, 2008, the Russian Government issued Resolution Number 982, stating the export tariff rates for certain categories of forest products, including new rates for certain types of rare species of wood. The intent of these tariff changes is to increase domestic processing of wood and to curb export of unprocessed wood. In addition it intends to combat unregistered shipments of rare species of wood.

The Russian forestry industry reportedly welcomed the decision to delay the tariff increases since Russia still lacks modern domestic processing facilities and sufficient credit support from the government. According to Russian statistics there is some downward trend in exports of unprocessed wood in 2008, however, forestry experts believe that the Russian government needs to address policy factors other than tariff rates to improve the sustainability and competitiveness of the forestry sector. These experts call for government transparency in drafting and adopting legislation and specific regulations regarding foreign investment in the sector. They also agree that financing for the modernization of existing processing facilities is essential.

Russia is the world's leader in the export of round wood, accounting for nearly 26 percent of the global export value of this commodity. In response to recent government measures to curb exports of unprocessed wood, Russian exports of certain types of wood products decreased. According to the Russian Statistics Committee (Rosstat), during January-September, 2008, exports of wood (HTS 4403) reached \$2.75 billion, which represents a drop of 13 percent over the same period in 2007. However, plywood veneer (HTS 4412) exports increased 12 percent over the same period, totaling \$612 million.

Text of Resolution Number 982 of December 24, 2008

The Government of the Russian Federation decrees the following:

As partial amendment to Resolution Number 795 of the Government of the Russian Federation, from December 23, 2006 regarding "Approving export customs tariff rates for the goods, exported from the territory of the Russian Federation out of the boundaries of states – members of agreements of Customs Union and declaring invalid some resolutions of the Russian Federation Government (collection of Laws of the Russian Federation, 2007, Number 1, article 254; Number 7, article 896; Number 16, article 1917, Number 21, article 2511; number 45, Article 5503).

1. Approve the attached:
 - a. Export tariff rates for certain categories of unprocessed wood, exported out of the boundaries of states- members of agreements of Customs Union;
 - b. Export tariff rates for certain categories of hardwood and rare species of wood, exported out of the boundaries of states - members of agreements of Customs Union.
2. The present Resolution goes into effect starting January 1, 2009, except for subparagraph b) of Paragraph 1 that will be effective one month from the date of its official publication.

V. Putin
Prime Minister of the Government of the Russian Federation

Attachments

Approved by Resolution of the government of the Russian Federation #982 dated December 24, 2008

Export Customs Tariffs for certain categories of unprocessed wood, exported out of the boundaries of states - members of agreements of Customs Union

(in percent of customs value or in Euros)

Tariff Code ¹	Item	Starting from January 1, 2009	Starting from January 1, 2010
4403 20 110	Logs:		
4403 20 110 1	Not less than 15 cm in diameter, but not more than 24 cm, less than 1 meter in length	25, but not less than 15 Euro for 1 m ³	80, but not less than 50 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 20 110 2	More than 24 cm in diameter, less than 1 meter in length	25, but not less than 15 Euro for 1 m ³	80, but not less than 50 Euro for 1 m ³
440320190	Other:		
4403 20 190 1	Wood in the rough, whether or not stripped of bark, or sapwood, not broken down, less than 15 cm in diameter	25, but not less than 15 Euro for 1 m ³	80, but not less than 50 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 20 190 9	Other	25, but not less than 15 Euro for 1 m ³	80, but not less than 50 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 20 310	Logs:		
4403 20 310 1	Not less than 15 cm but not more than 24 cm in diameter, not less than 1 m in length	25, but not less than 15 Euro for 1 m ³	80, but not less than 50 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 20 310 2	More than 24 cm in diameter, not less than 1 meter in length	25, but not less than 15 Euro for 1 m ³	80, but not less than 50 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 20 390	Other:		
4403 20 390 1	Wood in the rough, whether or not stripped of bark, or sapwood, not broken down, less than 15 cm in diameter	25, but not less than 15 Euro for 1 m ³	80, but not less than 50 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 20 390 9	Other	25, but not less than 15 Euro for 1 m ³	80, but not less than 50 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 20 910	Logs:		
4403 20 910 1	From other spruce, except for fir spruce " <i>Picea abies Karst.</i> ", or from other fir-tree, except for white silver fir (<i>Abies alba Mill.</i>), not less than 15 cm but not more than 24 cm in diameter, not less than 1 meter in length	25, but not less than 15 Euro for 1 m ³	80, but not less than 50 Euro for 1 m ³

¹ The commodities are defined exclusively by codes of the Customs Nomenclature of the Russia's Foreign Trade Activity (in Russian TN VED).

4403 20 910 2	From other spruce, except for fir spruce " <i>Picea abies</i> Karst.", or from other fir-tree, except for white silver fir (<i>Abies alba</i> Mill.), more than 24 cm in diameter, not less than 1 meter in length	25, but not less than 15 Euro for 1 m ³	80, but not less than 50 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 20 910 3	From other pine, except for common pine " <i>Pinus sylvestris</i> L.", not less than 15 cm but not more than 24 cm in diameter, not less than 1 meter in length	25, but not less than 15 Euro for 1 m ³	80, but not less than 50 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 20 910 3	From other pine, except for common pine " <i>Pinus sylvestris</i> L.", more than 24 cm in diameter, not less than 1 meter in length	25, but not less than 15 Euro for 1 m ³	80, but not less than 50 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 20 910 9	Other	25, but not less than 15 Euro for 1 m ³	80, but not less than 50 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 20 990	Other:		
4403 20 990 1	Wood in the rough, whether or not stripped of bark, or sapwood, not broken down, less than 15 cm in diameter	25, but not less than 15 Euro for 1 m ³	80, but not less than 50 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 20 990 9	Other	25, but not less than 15 Euro for 1 m ³	80, but not less than 50 Euro for 1 m ³
44 03 99	Other:		
4403 99 100 0	From poplar	25, but not less than 15 Euro for 1 m ³	80, but not less than 50 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 99 300 0	From eucalyptus	25, but not less than 15 Euro for 1 m ³	80, but not less than 50 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 99 510	Logs:		
4403 99 510 1	not less than 15 cm but not more than 24 cm in diameter, not less than 1 meter in length	25, but not less than 15 Euro for 1 m ³	80, but not less than 50 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 99 510 2	more than 24 cm in diameter, not less than 1 meter in length	25, but not less than 15 Euro for 1 m ³	80, but not less than 50 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 99 590	Other:		
4403 99 590 1	Wood in the rough, whether or not stripped of bark, or sapwood, not broken down, less than 15 cm in diameter	0	0
4403 99 590 9	Other	25, but not less than 15 Euro for 1 m ³	80, but not less than 50 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 99 950	Other:		
4403 99 950 2	From aspen	10, but not less than 5 Euro for 1 m ³	80, but not less than 50 Euro for 1 m ³

Approved by Resolution of the government of the
Russian Federation #982 dated December 24, 2008

**Export tariff rates for certain types of hard wood and rare species
exported out of the boundaries of states - members of agreements of
Customs Union.**

Tariff Code ²	Item	Export tariff customs rate (in percent of customs value or in Euros, or in US dollars)
4403 10 000	Treated with color, etching, creosoting or other preservatives:	
4403 10 000 1	From oak	100 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 10 000 2	From beech	100 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 10 000 2	From ash	100 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 10 000 9	Other	100 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 91	From oak (<i>Quercus</i> spp.):	
4403 91 100 0	Logs	100 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 91 900 0	Other	100 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 92	From beech (<i>Fagus</i> spp.):	
4403 92 100 0	Logs	100 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 92 900 0	Other	100 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 99 950 1	From ash	100 Euro for 1 m ³
4403 99 950 9	Other	100 Euro for 1 m ³
4407 91	From oak (<i>Quercus</i> spp.):	
4407 91 900 0	Other	100 Euro for 1 m ³
4407 92 000 0	From beech (<i>Fagus</i> spp.):	100 Euro for 1 m ³
4407 93	From maple (<i>Acer</i> spp.):	
4407 93 900 0	Other	100 Euro for 1 m ³
4407 94	From cherry (<i>Prunus</i> spp.):	
4407 94 900 0	Other	100 Euro for 1 m ³
4407 95	From ash (<i>Fraxinus</i> spp.):	
4407 95 900 0	Other	100 Euro for 1 m ³

Other Relevant Reports

RS8086 Solid Wood Products / Export Tariff Increase on Timber is Put on Hold
<http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200811/146306433.pdf>

RS8080 Solid Wood Products / International Forestry Forum
<http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200810/146296131.pdf>

² The commodities are defined exclusively by codes of the Customs Nomenclature of the Russia's Foreign Trade Activity (in Russian TN VED).