

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: April 02,2020

Report Number: TC2020-0011

Report Name: Qatar Exempts Food Products From Customs Duty For Six Months

Country: Qatar

Post: Dubai

Report Category: FAIRS Export Certificate Report, FAIRS Annual Country Report, FAIRS Subject Report, Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Certification, Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Narrative

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Report Highlights:

On March 15, 2020, Qatar's Crisis Management Committee within the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) implemented a stimulus package to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 outbreak on economic and financial sectors in the country. As part of this package, the Ministry exempted all food and medical products from the country's five percent customs duty for a period of six months. This relief must be applied to the final selling price offered to the consumer.

On March 15, 2020, the Crisis Management Committee in Qatar's MoPH implemented a \$23 billion stimulus package announced by HH The Amir Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al Thani to mitigate the negative impact of COVID-19 on economic and financial sectors in the country. As part of this package, the Ministry exempted all food and medical products from the five percent customs duties for a period of months. To help alleviate potential food price increases in the market, this duty exemption stipulates the relief must be incorporated into the final price borne by the consumer.

Additionally, MoPH has temporarily waived legalization requirements for health certificates from the Qatar Embassy in the United States to facilitate food imports and reduce costs.

In 2019, U.S. Agricultural and related products exports to Qatar reached the second highest level on record, with a total export value of nearly \$144 million. Major export categories include poultry, beef, dairy, soybean meal, tree nuts, and snack foods.



MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH
CRISIS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE STATEMENT
15 MARCH 2020

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SECTOR

- HIS HIGHNESS SHALL SUPPORT AND PROVIDE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC INCENTIVES AMOUNTING TO 75 BILLION QATARI RIYALS TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR.
- THE CENTRAL BANK SHALL PUT IN PLACE THE APPROPRIATE MECHANISM TO ENCOURAGE BANKS TO POSTPONE LOAN INSTALLMENTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR WITH A GRACE PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS.
- QATAR DEVELOPMENT BANK SHALL POSTPONE THE INSTALLMENTS OF ALL BORROWERS FOR A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS.
- GOVERNMENT FUNDS SHALL INCREASE THEIR INVESTMENTS IN THE STOCK EXCHANGE BY 10 BILLION RIYALS.
- CENTRAL BANK SHALL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL LIQUIDITY TO BANKS OPERATING IN THE COUNTRY
- FOOD AND MEDICAL GOODS SHALL BE EXEMPTED FROM CUSTOMS DUTIES FOR A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS, PROVIDED THAT THIS IS REFLECTED IN THE SELLING PRICE TO THE CONSUMER.

Attachments:

No Attachments.