



Bi-Weekly Report – EU Market Access

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Technical support to EU Market Access Team and Trade Analysis in Argentina²

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1. SANITARY EMERGENCY – COVID 19 RELATED MEASURES

1.1 Maximum prices for essential products. [Disposition No. 13/2020](#) issued by the Under-Secretariat of Actions to Defend Consumers authorizes price increases for essential products (food, personal care, and cleaning products, among others), ranging between 2 and 4%. The authorized increases shall be made taking into consideration the final consumer prices of those products on 6 March 2020, as set forth by Resolution No. 100/2020 issued by the Secretariat of Domestic Trade.

2. TARIFFS AND CUSTOMS PROCEDURES

2.1 Import and export certificates for controlled chemical substances. [Resolution No. 221/2020](#) issued by the Ministry of Security establishes that the import and export certificates for controlled chemical substances shall only be issued digitally through the “Electronic Documents Management” (*Gestión Documental Electrónica – GDE*) system.

3. TAXES AND FISCAL MEASURES

No relevant updates to report on.

4. COMPETITION AND STATE AID MEASURES (SUBSIDIES)

4.1 Financial assistance for Knowledge Economy companies. [Resolution No. 327/2020](#) issued by the Ministry of Productive Development creates the “Knowledge Economy Reactivation Programme” to provide financial aid to certain companies in order to promote economic reactivation through the development of innovative products or services destined to address sanitary, economic or productive issues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

To be benefited with this programme, the requesting company shall submit its project, consisting in:

- (i) Modifications of its productive process through technological and engineering developments to improve the competitiveness.
- (ii) Implementation of new productive processes.
- (iii) Incorporation of innovative technologies to improve the commercialization of its products.

The assistance consists in a non-reimbursement contribution of up to AR\$ 15 million (USD 200,000 approximately) per project, that may only be destined to the acquisition of fixed assets (machinery, equipment, building improvements), intangible assets (patents, trademarks), human resources training, among others.

4.2 Emergency assistance for labour and production. [Administrative Decision No. 1258/2020](#) issued by the Ministerial Chief of Staff includes the passenger transport companies among those that may request the benefits created by Decree No. 332/2020 in order to pay for the “Annual Complementary Salary” -or thirteenth annual salary- (*Sueldo Annual Complementario – SAC* in Spanish). This measure is implemented due to the turbulences faced by those companies as they are



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operating at a minimum capacity due to the prohibitions imposed by the Lockdown and Social Distancing Measures in all the country.

5. STANDARDS AND TECHNICAL REGULATIONS

5.1 New procedure for bioequivalence studies. [Disposition No. 4827/2020](#) issued by ANMAT establishes that, in the procedure to classify a medicine as a “reference product” for bioequivalence and *In-vitro* equivalence studies (according to ANMAT’s Disposition No. 1918/2013), the “Bioequivalence Advisory Committee” shall issue a technical opinion and, when applicable, recommend the update of Bioequivalence and *In-vitro* Equivalence Studies regulations.

5.2 Suspension of periodical checks on electrical safety certification. [Resolution No. 207/2020](#) issued by the Secretariat of Domestic Trade extends the suspension of terms of the Control System for those household electric devices with an electrical safety certificate that expires between 20 March and 31 May 2020, established by Resolution No. 119/2020 issued by the Secretariat of Domestic Trade.

It is worth recalling that Resolution No. 319/1999, issued by the former Secretariat of Industry, Trade and Mining, and its complementary regulations, establish a periodic Control System (check) of the electrical safety and efficiency certifications issued for home appliances and electric devices. Such checks are conducted by authorized certifying bodies and are mandatory in order to be able to commercialize such products.

6. GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

No relevant updates to report on.

7. SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY (SPS) MEASURES AND AGRICULTURE

7.1 Allocation of Hilton Quota. [Resolution No. 151/2020](#) issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries allocates 28,538 tons of high quality meat to be exported to the EU (corresponding to the Hilton Quota for Argentina), among the companies that timely filed the application for the period between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021.

7.2 Sanitary Certificate for certain exports to the EU. [Disposition No. 4908/2020](#) issued by ANMAT establishes that companies that wish to export to the European Union food products containing more than 20% of peanut or peanut butter originating in Argentina shall request an Official Sanitary Export Certificate issued by INAL (National Food Institute), which certifies the fulfilment of several EU sanitary regulations. In order to get this certificate, export companies shall comply with the requirements set forth in Annex I of the Disposition.

8. FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENTS (FDI)

No relevant updates to report on.



9. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR)

No relevant updates to report on.

10. FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

10.1 Regulation on the access to the foreign exchange market. [Communication A 7068](#) issued by the Central Bank of Argentina modifies the list of exceptions to the prior authorization of the Central Bank in order to access the foreign exchange market to pay for imports. In this sense, it establishes (i) how to apply the existing limit for the payment of imports taking into consideration the imported products and the payments made during 2020, (ii) that the payments of import external financings are exempted from the limit mentioned in (i), provided that they fulfil certain requirements, and (iii) a reduction on the limit for anticipated payments of imports to USD 1 - 2 million depending on the type of goods (the previous limit was up to USD 3 million).

11. TRADE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

11.1 Fishery: total allowable catch. [Resolution No. 8/2020](#) issued by the Federal Fisheries Council establishes the total allowable catch for Patagonian Scallops (*Zygochlamys patagonica*) for the period between 1 January and 31 December 2020.

12. TRADE-RELATED AGREEMENTS

No relevant updates to report on.

13. AGENDA

No relevant updates to report on.

ANNEX - TBT AND SPS NOTIFICATIONS OF ARGENTINA

TBT Notifications

1. [G/TBT/N/ARG/399](#) – Notifies a project, prepared by the National Food Commission (CONAL), which incorporates labelling requirements for food products. In this sense, the label shall include, in characters of size not less than 1mm, the National Food Products Registry number (*RNPA – Registro Nacional de Productos Alimenticios*).

SPS Notifications

No relevant updates to report on.