

Prepared by: New Zealand Embassy, Seoul

Summary

- The Korean government has temporarily removed all tariffs on imported eggs and processed egg products in response to shortages caused by avian influenza.
- A tariff free quota of 14,500 tonnes for fresh eggs and 35,500 tonnes for processed egg products has been established and will remain in place until 30 June 2021 (unless the quota is filled beforehand).
- Exporters interested in taking up the offer will need to lodge their request for in-quota tariff exemption before the end of February. Contact details are provided below.

Report

The Korean government has unilaterally and temporarily removed all tariffs (duties of 8-30%) on imported eggs and processed egg products in response to shortages caused by the outbreak of avian influenza (H5N8 strain) in the Republic of Korea.

2 Since November 2019, Korea has slaughtered more than 20 million poultry to help contain the outbreak of the virus. As a consequence, the domestic supply of eggs has dropped by 11% and driven egg prices up by more than 20%. The government is seeking to stabilise egg prices ahead of the Lunar New Year holiday (11 – 14 February) when consumption of eggs usually rises.

3 Korea has established a quota for 14,500 tonnes of fresh eggs and 35,500 tonnes of processed egg products for tariff-free entry. This will remain in place until 30 June 2021 (unless the quota is filled beforehand). Importers (and exporters) interested in taking up the offer are being asked to lodge their request for in-quota tariff exemption before the end of February.

4 New Zealand and Korea have an agreed export certificate in place for eggs and processed egg products. Exporters interested in pursuing these opportunities can contact Jim Guo or Nick Oh:

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