1. http://evfta.moit.gov.vn/default.aspx?page=news&do=detail&category_id=13caec66-a1f8-4b9c-9066-b25657f4d36d&id=033ca8b3-c407-46da-85e8-0e099a73c022

EU regulations on the management and allocation of tariff quotas on rice products under the EVFTA Agreement

Within the EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement (EVFTA) framework, in Chapter 2, Annex 2-A, the EU commits to apply a tariff quota to Vietnam for rice product of 80,000 tons / year. Accordingly, shipments of fragrant rice when exported to the EU market must comply with EU enforcement regulations on opening and receiving imported tariff quota for rice originating from Vietnam.

Ministry of Industry & Trade provides detailed information about this mechanism as followed:

1. Application for import permit

- An application for an import license will be filed at the competent authority of the Member Countries for the first 7 days of each calendar month during the issuance period, except for December when no application is filed.
- An import license application with an effective date from January 1st will be submitted in the period from 23rd to 30th November of the previous year.
- The applicant must deposit a guaranteed amount of 30 Euro per ton at the time he/she applies for an import license.

2. Application rate and issuance of import license

- Import licenses will be issued based on quantities by product weight for each order.
- In case the registered number exceeds the allowed number under the Tariff quota for the period, the EU will fix an allocation rate.
- The application rate will be made public through an appropriate online publication, no later than the 22nd of each month. At the same time, the EU will announce the quotas available for later periods. In the case when applications are submitted between November 23rd and 30th, the allocation rate will be announced no later than December 14th.

3. Effective date of import licenses:

The import license will become effective:

- From the first calendar day of the month after the application is filed in case of filing an application for registration in the period of a tariff quota;- From January 1st of the following year in case of registration applications from November 23rd to November 30th of the previous year.

4. Some other provisions

- For lots of fragrant rice, when being exported into the EU market, in order to enjoy the tax rate of 0% according to the quotas, an authenticity certificate issued by a competent Vietnamese agency must be clearly stated. Rice belongs to one of the categories of rice mentioned above. Currently, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Ministry of Industry and Trade are working together to develop documents guiding the registration process of this certificate to issue right after the EVFTA Agreement comes into effect.
- Enterprises need to provide documents of certification of origin when carrying out customs procedures.

Enterprises can refer to the draft EU Regulation on the management and distribution of IRs for rice (English version (1) Regulation (2) Annex and Vietnamese translation (1) Regulations (2) Appendix). Official documents will be published in the Official Gazette before the EVFTA Agreement takes effect.