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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) .../...

of XXX

amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 on the temporary increase of official controls and emergency measures governing the entry into the Union of certain goods from certain third countries implementing Regulations (EU) 2017/625 and (EC)

No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council

(Text with EEA relevance)

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(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety¹, and in particular Article 53(1), point (b)(ii), thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2017 on official controls and other official activities performed to ensure the application of food and feed law, rules on animal health and welfare, plant health and plant protection products, amending Regulations (EC) No 999/2001, (EC) No 396/2005, (EC) No 1069/2009, (EC) No 1107/2009, (EU) No 1151/2012, (EU) No 652/2014, (EU) 2016/429 and (EU) 2016/2031 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Regulations (EC) No 1/2005 and (EC) No 1099/2009 and Council Directives 98/58/EC, 1999/74/EC, 2007/43/EC, 2008/119/EC and 2008/120/EC, and repealing Regulations (EC) No 854/2004 and (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Directives 89/608/EEC, 89/662/EEC, 90/425/EEC, 91/496/EEC, 96/23/EC, 96/93/EC and 97/78/EC and Council Decision 92/438/EEC (Official Controls Regulation)², and in particular Article 47(2), first subparagraph, point (b), and Article 54(4), first subparagraph, points (a) and (b), thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793³ lays down rules on the temporary increase of official controls at the entry into the Union on certain consignments of food and feed of non-animal origin from certain third countries listed in Annex I to that Implementing Regulation, and on the imposition of special conditions governing the entry into the Union of certain consignments of food and feed from certain third countries due to the risk of contamination by mycotoxins, including aflatoxins, pesticide residues, pentachlorophenol and dioxins,

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OJ L 31, 1.2.2002, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2002/178/oj.

OJ L 95, 7.4.2017, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2017/625/oj.

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 of 22 October 2019 on the temporary increase of official controls and emergency measures governing the entry into the Union of certain goods from certain third countries implementing Regulations (EU) 2017/625 and (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Commission Regulations (EC) No 669/2009, (EU) No 884/2014, (EU) 2015/175, (EU) 2017/186 and (EU) 2018/1660 (OJ L 277, 29.10.2019, p. 89, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2019/1793/oj).

- microbiological contamination, Sudan dyes, Rhodamine B and plant toxins listed in Annex II to that Implementing Regulation.
- (2) Article 12 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 lays down the obligation of the Commission to review at regular intervals not exceeding 6 months the lists set out in the Annexes to that Implementing Regulation, in order to take into account new information related to risks to human health and non-compliance with Union legislation. Such new information includes the data resulting from notifications received through the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed ('RASFF') established by Regulation (EC) No 178/2002, as well as data and information concerning consignments and the results of the documentary, identity and physical checks carried out by Member States and communicated to the Commission.
- (3) Recent notifications received through the RASFF indicate the existence of serious direct or indirect risk to human health deriving from certain food or feed. Additionally, official controls performed by the Member States on certain food and feed of non-animal origin in the second semester of 2023 indicate that the lists set out in Annexes I and II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 should be amended in order to protect human health in the Union.
- (4) In relation to consignments of aubergines/eggplants (*Solanum aethiopicum*) from Burkina Faso, data from RASFF notifications and information regarding official controls performed by the Member States indicate the emergence of new risks to human health, due to a possible contamination by pesticide residues. It is therefore necessary to require an increased level of official controls on entries of that commodity from Burkina Faso. That commodity should therefore be included in Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793, with a frequency of identity and physical checks set at 20 % of consignments entering the Union.
- (5) Brazil nuts in shell and mixtures of Brazil nuts or dried fruits containing Brazil nuts in shell from Brazil have been subjected to an increased level of official controls due to the risk of contamination by aflatoxins since January 2019. Those commodities have not been imported into the Union for more than 3 years. Therefore, their entry in Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 should be deleted.
- (6) Groundnuts and products produced from groundnuts from Brazil have been subjected to an increased level of official controls due to the risk of contamination by pesticide residues since October 2021. The official controls carried out on those commodities by the Member States indicate an overall satisfactory degree of compliance with the relevant requirements provided for in Union legislation. Therefore, an increased level of official controls is no longer justified for those commodities and their entry in Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 should be deleted.
- (7) Yardlong beans (*Vigna unguiculata* ssp. *sesquipedalis*, *Vigna unguiculata* ssp. *unguiculata*) from the Dominican Republic have been subjected to an increased level of official controls and to special conditions at their entry into the Union due to the risk of contamination by pesticide residues since January 2010. The official controls carried out by the Member States show improvement in compliance with the relevant requirements provided for in Union legislation. The results of those controls provide evidence that the entry of those foodstuffs into the Union does not constitute a serious risk for human health. Consequently, it is not necessary to continue to provide that each consignment is to be accompanied by an official certificate stating that all results of sampling and analysis show compliance with Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the

European Parliament and of the Council⁴. However, Member States should continue to carry out official controls to ensure that the current level of compliance is maintained. Therefore, the entry on yardlong beans (*Vigna unguiculata* ssp. *sesquipedalis*, *Vigna unguiculata* ssp. *unguiculata*) from the Dominican Republic in point 1 of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 should be deleted and transferred to Annex I to that Implementing Regulation, with a frequency of identity and physical checks set, in light of the number of consignments in the last years, at 30 % of consignments entering the Union.

- (8) Hazelnuts, mixtures and products produced from hazelnuts from Georgia have been subjected to an increased level of official controls due to the risk of contamination by aflatoxins since February 2015. The official controls carried out by the Member States show improvement in compliance with the relevant requirements provided for in Union legislation. Therefore, while an increased level of official controls is still appropriate, the level of 30 % of consignments entering the Union is no longer justified for those commodities and the frequency of controls should be decreased to 20 % of consignments entering the Union in Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793.
- (9) Groundnuts and products produced from groundnuts from The Gambia have been subjected to an increased level of official controls due to the risk of contamination by aflatoxins since December 2019. Those commodities have not been imported into the Union for more than 3 years. Therefore, their entry in Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 should be deleted.
- (10) Groundnuts and products produced from groundnuts from Ghana have been subjected to an increased level of official controls and to special conditions at their entry into the Union due to the risk of contamination by aflatoxins since December 2019. Those commodities have not been imported into the Union for more than 3 years. However, Member States should continue to carry out controls to ensure that the current level of compliance is maintained. Therefore, the entry on groundnuts and products produced from groundnuts from Ghana in point 1 of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 should be deleted and transferred to Annex I to that Implementing Regulation, maintaining the level of frequency of identity and physical checks at 50 % of consignments entering the Union.
- (11) In relation to consignments of betel leaves (*Piper betle L*.) from India, a high rate of non-compliance with the relevant requirements provided for in Union legislation with respect to contamination by *Salmonella* was detected during official controls performed by the Member States in accordance with Articles 5 and 6 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793. It is therefore appropriate to increase the frequency of identity and physical checks to be performed on those consignments entering the Union to 50 % in Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793.
- (12) In relation to consignments of drumsticks (*Moringa oleifera*) from India, a high rate of non-compliance with the relevant requirements provided for in Union legislation with respect to contamination by pesticide residues was detected during official controls performed by the Member States in accordance with Articles 5 and 6 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793. It is therefore appropriate to increase the frequency of

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Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 February 2005 on maximum residue levels of pesticides in or on food and feed of plant and animal origin and amending Council Directive 91/414/EEC (OJ L 70, 16.3.2005, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2005/396/oj).

- identity and physical checks to be performed on those consignments entering the Union to 30 % in Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793.
- (13) Locust beans (carob), locust beans seeds, not decorticated, crushed or ground and mucilages and thickeners, whether or not modified, derived from locust beans or locust beans seeds from India have been subjected to an increased level of official controls due to the risk of contamination by ethylene oxide since December 2021. The official controls carried out on those commodities by the Member States indicate an overall satisfactory degree of compliance with the relevant requirements provided for in Union legislation. Therefore, an increased level of official controls is no longer justified for those commodities and their entry in Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 should be deleted.
- (14) Guar gum from India has been subjected to an increased level of official controls due to the risk of contamination by pentachlorophenol and dioxins since February 2015 and due to the risk of contamination by ethylene oxide since December 2021. The official controls carried out on that commodity by the Member States indicate an overall satisfactory degree of compliance with the relevant requirements provided for in Union legislation. Therefore, an increased level of official controls is no longer justified for that commodity and its entry in Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 should be deleted.
- (15)Mixtures of food additives containing locust bean gum or guar gum, vanilla and cloves (whole fruit, cloves and stems) from India, have been subjected to an increased level of official controls and to special conditions at their entry into the Union due to the risk of contamination by ethylene oxide since January 2022. The official controls carried out by the Member States show improvement in compliance with the relevant requirements provided for in Union legislation. The results of those controls provide evidence that the entry of those foodstuffs into the Union does not constitute a serious risk for human health Consequently, it is not necessary to continue to provide that each consignment is to be accompanied by an official certificate stating that all results of sampling and analysis show compliance with Regulation (EC) No 396/2005. However, Member States should continue to carry out controls to ensure that the current level of compliance is maintained. Therefore, the entries on mixtures of food additives containing locust bean gum or guar gum, vanilla and cloves (whole fruit, cloves and stems) from India in point 1 of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 should be deleted and transferred to Annex I to that Implementing Regulation, with a frequency of identity and physical checks set, in light of the number of consignments in the last years, at 20 % of consignments entering the Union.
- (16) Instant noodles containing spices/seasonings or sauces from South Korea have been subjected to an increased level of official controls due to the risk of contamination by ethylene oxide since December 2021. The official controls carried out on that commodity by the Member States indicate an overall satisfactory degree of compliance with the relevant requirements provided for in Union legislation. Therefore, an increased level of official controls is no longer justified for that commodity and its entry in Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 should be deleted.
- (17) Gotukola (*Centella asiatica*) from Sri Lanka has been subjected to an increased level of official controls due to the risk of contamination by pesticide residues since December 2021. The official controls carried out on that commodity by the Member States show a persistently high rate of non-compliance since the establishment of the

increased level of official controls. Those controls provide evidence that the entry of that commodity into the Union constitutes a serious risk for human health. It is therefore necessary, in addition to the increased level of official controls, to provide for special conditions in relation to the importation of gotukola (*Centella asiatica*) from Sri Lanka. In particular, all consignments of gotukola (*Centella asiatica*) from Sri Lanka should be accompanied by an official certificate stating that all the results of sampling and analyses show compliance with Union requirements. The results of sampling and analyses should be attached to that certificate. Therefore, the entry on gotukola (*Centella asiatica*) from Sri Lanka in Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 should be deleted and transferred to point 1 of Annex II to that Implementing Regulation, with a frequency of identity and physical checks set at 50 % of consignments entering the Union.

- Mixtures of food additives containing locust bean gum from Malaysia have been (18)subjected to an increased level of official controls and to special conditions at their entry into the Union due to the risk of contamination by ethylene oxide since May 2022. The results of the official controls carried out by the Member States provide evidence that the entry of those foodstuffs into the Union does not constitute a serious risk for human health. Consequently, it is not necessary to continue to provide that each consignment is to be accompanied by an official certificate stating that all results of sampling and analysis show compliance with Regulation (EC) No 396/2005. However, Member States should continue to carry out controls to ensure that the current level of compliance is maintained. Therefore, the entry on mixtures of food additives containing locust bean gum from Malaysia in point 1 of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 should be deleted and transferred to Annex I to that Implementing Regulation, with a frequency of identity and physical checks set, in light of the number of consignments in the last years, at 30 % of consignments entering the Union.
- (19) Spice mixes from Pakistan have been subjected to an increased level of official controls due to the risk of contamination by aflatoxins since May 2020. The official controls carried out by the Member States show improvement in compliance with the relevant requirements provided for in Union legislation. Therefore, while an increased level of official controls is still appropriate, the level of 50 % of consignments entering the Union is no longer justified for that commodity and the frequency of controls should be decreased to 30 % of consignments entering the Union in Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793.
- (20) Peppers of the genus *Capsicum* (other than sweet) from Pakistan have been subjected to an increased level of official controls due to the risk of contamination by pesticide residues since January 2019. That commodity has not been imported into the Union for more than 3 years. Therefore, its entry in Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 should be deleted.
- (21) Groundnuts and products produced from groundnuts from Sudan have been subjected to an increased level of official controls due to the risk of contamination by aflatoxins since January 2019. Those commodities have not been imported into the Union for more than 3 years. Therefore, their entry in Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 should be deleted.
- (22) Grapefruits from Türkiye have been subjected to an increased level of official controls due to the risk of contamination by pesticide residues since December 2021. The official controls carried out by the Member States show improvement in compliance

- with the relevant requirements provided for in Union legislation. Therefore, while an increased level of official controls is still appropriate, the level of 30 % of consignments entering the Union is no longer justified for that commodity and the frequency of controls should be decreased to 20 % of consignments entering the Union in Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793.
- (23) Locust beans (carob), locust beans seeds, not decorticated, crushed or ground and mucilages and thickeners, whether or not modified, derived from locust beans or locust beans seeds from Türkiye have been subjected to an increased level of official controls due to the risk of contamination by ethylene oxide since December 2021. The official controls carried out on those commodities by the Member States indicate an overall satisfactory degree of compliance with the relevant requirements provided for in Union legislation. Therefore, an increased level of official controls is no longer justified for those commodities and their entry in Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 should be deleted.
- Mixtures of food additives containing locust bean gum from Türkiye have been (24)subjected to an increased level of official controls and to special conditions at their entry into the Union due to the risk of contamination by ethylene oxide since May 2022. The results of the official controls carried out by the Member States provide evidence that the entry of those foodstuffs into the Union does not constitute a serious risk for human health. Consequently, it is not necessary to continue to provide that each consignment is to be accompanied by an official certificate stating that all results of sampling and analysis show compliance with Regulation (EC) No 396/2005. However, Member States should continue to carry out controls to ensure that the current level of compliance is maintained. Therefore, the entry on mixtures of food additives containing locust bean gum from Türkiye in point 1 of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 should be deleted and transferred to Annex I to that Implementing Regulation, with a frequency of identity and physical checks set, in light of the number of consignments in the last years, at 30% of consignments entering the Union.
- Peppers of the genus Capsicum (other than sweet) from Vietnam have been subjected (25)to an increased level of official controls due to the risk of contamination by pesticide residues since January 2013. The official controls carried out on that commodity by the Member States show a persistent high rate of non-compliance since the establishment of the increased level of official controls. Those controls provide evidence that the entry of that commodity into the Union constitutes a serious risk for human health. It is therefore necessary, in addition to the increased level of official controls, to provide for special conditions in relation to the importation of peppers of the genus Capsicum (other than sweet) from Vietnam. In particular, all consignments of peppers of the genus Capsicum (other than sweet) from Vietnam should be accompanied by an official certificate stating that all the results of sampling and analyses show compliance with Union requirements. The results of sampling and analyses should be attached to that certificate. Therefore, the entry on peppers of the genus Capsicum (other than sweet) from Vietnam in Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 should be deleted and transferred to Annex II to that Implementing Regulation, with a frequency of identity and physical checks set at 50% of consignments entering the Union.
- (26) Instant noodles containing spices/seasonings or sauces from Vietnam have been subjected to an increased level of official controls due to the risk of contamination by ethylene oxide since December 2021. The official controls carried out on that

- commodity by the Member States indicate an overall satisfactory degree of compliance with the relevant requirements provided for in Union legislation. Therefore, an increased level of official controls is no longer justified for that commodity and its entry in Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 should be deleted.
- Pepper of the genus *Piper*, dried or crushed or ground fruit of the genus *Capsicum* or of the genus *Pimenta*, ginger, saffron, turmeric (curcuma), thyme, bay leaves, curry and other spices from Ethiopia have been subjected to an increased level of official controls and to special conditions at their entry into the Union due to the risk of contamination by aflatoxins since December 2019. The official controls carried out by the Member States show improvement in compliance with the relevant requirements provided for in Union legislation. Therefore, while an increased level of official controls is still appropriate, the level of 50 % of consignments entering the Union is no longer justified for those commodities and the frequency of controls should be decreased to 30 % of consignments entering the Union in point 1 of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793.
- (28) In relation to consignments of nutmeg (*Myristica fragrans*) from Indonesia, a high rate of non-compliance with the relevant requirements provided for in Union legislation with respect to contamination by aflatoxins was detected during official controls performed by the Member States in accordance with Articles 7 and 8 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793. It is therefore appropriate to increase the frequency of identity and physical checks to be performed on those consignments entering the Union to 50 % in point 1 of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793.
- (29) In relation to consignments of nutmeg, mace and cardamoms from India, a high rate of non-compliance with the relevant requirements provided for in Union legislation with respect to contamination by ethylene oxide was detected during official controls performed by the Member States in accordance with Articles 7 and 8 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793. It is therefore appropriate to increase the frequency of identity and physical checks to be performed on those consignments entering the Union to 30 % in point 1 of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793.
- (30) Dried figs, mixtures and products produced from dried figs from Türkiye have been subjected to an increased level of official controls and to special conditions at their entry into the Union due to the risk of contamination by aflatoxins since August 2014. The official controls carried out by the Member States show improvement in compliance with the relevant requirements provided for in Union legislation. Therefore, while an increased level of official controls is still appropriate, the level of 30 % of consignments entering the Union is no longer justified for those commodities and the frequency of controls should be decreased to 20 % of consignments entering the Union in point 1 of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793.
- (31) Pistachios, mixtures and products produced from pistachios from Türkiye have been subjected to an increased level of official controls and to special conditions at their entry into the Union due to the risk of contamination by aflatoxins since August 2014. The official controls carried out by the Member States show improvement in compliance with the relevant requirements provided for in Union legislation. Therefore, while an increased level of official controls is still appropriate, the level of 50 % of consignments entering the Union is no longer justified for those commodities and the frequency of controls should be decreased to 30 % of consignments entering the Union in point 1 of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793.

- (32) In relation to consignments of *Sesamum* seeds from Uganda, a high rate of non-compliance with the relevant requirements provided for in Union legislation with respect to contamination by *Salmonella* was detected during official controls performed by the Member States in accordance with Articles 7 and 8 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793. It is therefore appropriate to increase the frequency of identity and physical checks to be performed on those consignments entering the Union to 30 % in point 1 of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793.
- (33) In relation to consignments of pitahaya (dragon fruit) from Vietnam, a high rate of non-compliance with the relevant requirements provided for in Union legislation with respect to contamination by pesticide residues was detected during official controls performed by the Member States in accordance with Articles 7 and 8 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793. It is therefore appropriate to increase the frequency of identity and physical checks to be performed on those consignments entering the Union to 30 % in point 1 of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793.
- (34) Pistachios, mixtures and products produced from pistachios originating in the United States and dispatched to the Union from Türkiye have been subjected to an increased level of official controls and to special conditions at their entry into the Union due to the risk of contamination by aflatoxins since June 2023. The official controls carried out by the Member States show improvement in compliance with the relevant requirements provided for in Union legislation. Therefore, while an increased level of official controls is still appropriate, the level of 50 % of consignments entering the Union is no longer justified for those commodities and the frequency of controls should be decreased to 30 % of consignments entering the Union in point 3 of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793.
- (35) To allow for a more precise identification of commodities subject to increased official controls and special conditions, it is appropriate to specify the TARIC sub-division for several CN codes in entries for tahini and halva from *Sesamum* seeds from Syria and *Sesamum* seeds from Türkiye in Annex I and for aubergines (*Solanum melongena*) from Dominican Republic and for *Sesamum* seeds from Ethiopia, India, Nigeria, Sudan and Uganda in Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793.
- (36) In order to ensure legal certainty for the entry into the Union of consignments that have already been dispatched from the country of origin or from another third country if that country is different from the country of origin, when this Regulation enters into force, it is appropriate to provide for a transitional period for consignments of gotukola (*Centella asiatica*) from Sri Lanka and peppers of the genus *Capsicum* (other than sweet) from Vietnam, which are not accompanied by the results of sampling and analyses and an official certificate. Public health protection is ensured for those consignments, since those commodities are subject to identity and physical checks at a frequency of 50 % of consignments entering the Union.
- (37) Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (38) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 is amended as follows:

1. Article 14 is replaced by the following:

'Article 14 **Transitional periods**

Consignments of gotukola (*Centella asiatica*) from Sri Lanka and peppers of the genus *Capsicum* (other than sweet) from Vietnam, which have been dispatched from the country of origin, or from another third country if that country is different from the country of origin, before the date of entry into force of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) ...*, may enter the Union until ... [2 months after the date of entry into force of this Regulation] without being accompanied by the results of sampling and analyses and the official certificate provided for in Articles 10 and 11. [OJ: Please insert in the text the number of this Regulation and insert the number, date, OJ reference and ELI number of this Regulation in the footnote, underneath.]

- * Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) ... of ... amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 on the temporary increase of official controls and emergency measures governing the entry into the Union of certain goods from certain third countries implementing Regulations (EU) 2017/625 and (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L, ..., ELI: ...).';
- 2. Annexes I and II are replaced by the text set out in the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States. Done at Brussels,

For the Commission The President Ursula VON DER LEYEN