

**COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 2294/2003**  
**of 23 December 2003**  
**amending Regulation (EC) No 1503/96 on the detailed rules for the application of Council**  
**Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 with regards to import duties on rice**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 of 22 December 1995 on the common organisation of the market in rice <sup>(1)</sup>, and in particular Article 11(4) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 4a of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1503/96 <sup>(2)</sup> provides for an import duty reduction for Basmati rice under CN code 1006 20 17 and 1006 20 98 of EUR 250 per tonne.
- (2) Quantities of rice imported under this regime have increased in significant quantities without information being given of the varieties that are being imported. This makes it necessary for the Commission to define in a very precise way which varieties should qualify for the reduction.
- (3) Basmati rice imported into the EU from India and Pakistan should comply with specific requirements in order to maintain the high quality of the product and limit the imported quantities to Basmati pure line varieties.
- (4) Checks should be reinforced to counter the risk of fraud linked to the origin of the rice as well as to the varieties imported.
- (5) It is also necessary to specify which Basmati rice varieties should be considered to be eligible for the reduction, after consultation of and examination of the matter with Indian and Pakistani authorities.
- (6) In view of the high level of demand for Basmati Rice from India and Pakistan and of the experience in the management of the regime, controls should be laid down to guarantee the quality of the imported product.

In that respect Member States may establish appropriate monitoring programmes which may include the use of DNA analysis.

- (7) The Management Committee for Cereals has not delivered an opinion within the time limit laid down by its chairman,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1*

Regulation (EC) No 1503/96 is amended as follows:

1. In Article 4a, paragraph 1 is replaced by the following:

'1. Basmati Rice as defined in Annex IV, falling within the CN codes ex 1006 20 17 and ex 1006 20 98, may benefit from an import duty reduction of EUR 250 per tonne.

This amount may be revised in response to market trends, in particular as regards the quantities imported.

The checks necessary to apply the present article should be undertaken on the basis of the certificates of authenticity delivered by the competent authorities from India and Pakistan listed in Annex III.'

2. Annex II is replaced by the text set out in Annex I to this Regulation.
3. A new Annex IV is added as set out in Annex II to this Regulation.

*Article 2*

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

It shall apply from 1 January 2004.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 329, 30.12.1995, p. 18. Regulation as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 411/2002 (OJ L 6, 5.3.2002, p. 27); it is repealed by Regulation (EC) No 1785/2003 (OJ L 270, 21.10.2003, p. 96) with effect from the day of applicability of that Regulation.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 189, 30.7.1996, p. 71. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1298/2002 (OJ L 189, 18.7.2002, p. 8).

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 23 December 2003.

*For the Commission*  
Franz FISCHLER  
*Member of the Commission*

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## ANNEX I

## ANNEX II

## MODEL B

1. Exporter (Name and full address)	<b>CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY B</b> <b>BASMATI RICE</b> <b>for export to the European Community</b>			
2. Consignee (Name and full address)			<b>No (1)</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>ORIGINAL</b></span> issued by (Name and full address of issuing body)	
3. Region or place of cultivation (2)				
4. FOB value in US dollars				
5. Number and date of invoice				
6. Marks and numbers — Number and kind of packages — Description of goods (3)	7. Gross weight (kg)			
	8. Net weight (kg)			
<b>9. DECLARATION BY EXPORTER</b> The undersigned declares that the information shown above is correct.  Place and date: _____ Signature: _____				
<b>10. CERTIFICATION BY THE ISSUING BODY</b> It is hereby certified that the rice described above is BASMATI RICE and that the information shown in this certificate is correct.  Place and date: _____ Signature: _____ Stamp: _____				
<b>11. CERTIFICATION BY COMPETENT CUSTOMS OFFICE OF COUNTRY OF EXPORT</b> Customs formalities for export to the European Economic Community of the rice described above have been completed.  Type, number and date of export document: _____ Name and country of customs office: _____  Signature: _____ Stamp: _____				
<b>12. FOR COMPETENT AUTHORITIES IN THE COMMUNITY</b>				
(1) The number of the certificate of authenticity shall be a number of a continuous series given by the country delivering the certificate. (2) One of the regions referred to in Annex IV shall be specified. (3) The operator shall specify — for Marks and numbers the reference and number of the batch, — for Number and kind of packages: the number and weight of packages, — for the description of goods: the information on the rice, the CN code as well as the variety, which shall be one on the list of Annex IV. The description of goods should correspond to the information included in the invoice, whose number and date is specified in Box 5.				

## ANNEX II

## 'ANNEX IV

## Regions

It has to be from the Indian and Pakistani specific areas of the Indo Gangetic Plains, which includes the Punjab, Haryana, Uttaranchal and Western Uttar Pradesh regions.

## Varieties

Traditional varieties (commonly referred to as "Basmati pure line varieties" in India and Pakistan)

India	Pakistan
Basmati 370	Kernel (Basmati Pakistan)
Basmati 386	Basmati 370
Type-3 (Dehradun)	
Taraori Basmati (HBC-19)	
Basmati 217	
Ranbir Basmati'	