

23 October 2020

The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP

Secretary of State for International Trade

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Excellency,

In relation to the negotiations for the Agreement between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Japan for a Comprehensive Economic Partnership, I have the honour to confirm the following understanding of the Government of Japan regarding ongoing cooperation to support various agri-food exports from the United Kingdom to Japan.

- The Government of Japan commits to take all reasonable steps to maximise the utilisation of the scheme as set out in Annex 2-A Part 3 Section B of the Agreement (“the scheme”) and mitigate unnecessary costs or burdens for potential users. This will include, but is not limited to: proactively publicising the availability and operation of this scheme; proactively communicating the availability of the UK-Japan Preferential Import Certificates on the website of the Government of Japan; providing a dedicated contact point for United Kingdom exporters and Japanese importers within the Government of Japan to respond to queries or requests for information; and providing upon request in a timely manner any data available on the volume and timing of imports registered under the scheme.
- The Government of Japan commits to collaborate closely with the Government of the United Kingdom on the design and operation of the scheme and will proactively engage with any feedback provided by relevant stakeholders to ensure that importers of goods from the United Kingdom under the scheme make maximal use of the market access it can provide.
- Prior to the issuance of the UK-Japan Preferential Import Certificates, the Government of Japan will, in response to a request from an importer who imported goods from the United Kingdom under the scheme in the fiscal year, provide all relevant information about the scheme, which could encourage such importers of such goods to apply for a UK-Japan Preferential Import Certificates for these imports.

- The Government of Japan will operate the scheme in a way to provide the best possible market access for cheese imports from the United Kingdom.
- The Government of Japan commits that if, in a given year, under the scheme, preferential rate cheese imports from the United Kingdom fall lower than the preferential rate imports in previous years, Japan and the United Kingdom will examine whether the reasons for the fall are because of the design of the scheme, and if so review the scheme as it relates to cheese imports with a view to ensuring improved market access for the United Kingdom.

I would be grateful if you would confirm that this understanding is shared by your Government.

Sincerely,

MOTEGI Toshimitsu

Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan

23 October 2020

Mr. MOTEGI Toshimitsu  
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan

Dear Minister Motegi,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of this date, which reads as follows:

In relation to the negotiations for the Agreement between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Japan for a Comprehensive Economic Partnership, I have the honour to confirm the following understanding of the Government of Japan regarding ongoing cooperation to support various agri-food exports from the United Kingdom to Japan.

- The Government of Japan commits to take all reasonable steps to maximise the utilisation of the scheme as set out in Annex 2-A Part 3 Section B of the Agreement (“the scheme”) and mitigate unnecessary costs or burdens for potential users. This will include, but is not limited to: proactively publicising the availability and operation of this scheme; proactively communicating the availability of UK-Japan Preferential Import Certificates on the website of the Government of Japan; providing a dedicated contact point for United Kingdom exporters and Japanese importers within the Government of Japan to respond to queries or requests for information; and providing upon request in a timely manner any data available on the volume and timing of imports registered under the scheme.
- The Government of Japan commits to collaborate closely with the Government of the United Kingdom on the design and operation of the scheme and will proactively engage with any feedback provided by relevant stakeholders to ensure that importers of goods from the United Kingdom under the scheme make maximal use of the market access it can provide.
- Prior to the issuance of UK-Japan Preferential Import Certificates, the Government of Japan will, in response to a request from an importer who imported goods from the United Kingdom under the

scheme in the fiscal year, provide all relevant information about the scheme, which could encourage such importers of such goods to apply for a UK-Japan Preferential Import Certificates for these imports.

- The Government of Japan will operate the scheme in a way to provide the best possible market access for cheese imports from the United Kingdom.
- The Government of Japan commits that if, in a given year, under the scheme, preferential rate cheese imports from the United Kingdom fall lower than the preferential rate imports in previous years, Japan and the United Kingdom will examine whether the reasons for the fall are because of the design of the scheme, and if so review the scheme as it relates to cheese imports with a view to ensuring improved market access for the United Kingdom.

I would be grateful if you would confirm that this understanding is shared by your Government.

I have the further honour to confirm that Her Majesty's Government shares this understanding.

Sincerely,  
The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP  
Secretary of State, Department for  
International Trade  
& President of the Board of Trade  
United Kingdom of Great Britain and  
Northern Ireland