

Methods of Analysis of the Association of Official Analytical Chemists," 15th edition, 1990, is incorporated by reference with the approval of the Director of the Federal Register in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. * * *

3. Section 318.21(b)(3)(viii) is republished and footnote number 5 is redesignated as footnote 4 to read as follows:

§ 318.21 Accreditation of chemistry laboratories.

* * * * *

(b) * * *

(3) * * *

(viii) Use official AOAC methods⁴ on official and check samples. The "Official Methods of Analysis of the Association of Official Analytical Chemists," 15th edition, 1990, is incorporated by reference with the approval of the Director of the Federal Register in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

* * * * *

PART 381—POULTRY PRODUCTS INSPECTION REGULATIONS

4. The authority citation for part 381 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 450; 21 U.S.C. 451-470; 7 CFR 2.17, 2.55.

5. Section 381.153(b)(3)(viii) is amended by revising footnote 4 and republishing paragraph (b)(3)(viii) to read as follows:

§ 381.153 Accreditation of chemistry laboratories.

* * * * *

(b) * * *

(3) * * *

(viii) Use official AOAC methods⁴ on official and check samples. The "Official Methods of Analysis of the Association of Official Analytical Chemists," 15th edition, 1990, is incorporated by reference with the approval of the Director of the Federal Register in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

* * * * *

Office of the Federal Register, and may be purchased from the Association of Official Analytical Chemists, Inc., 2200 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 400, Arlington, Virginia 22201.

⁴A copy of the "Official Methods of Analysis of the Association of Analytical Chemists," 15th edition, 1990, is on file with the Director, Office of the Federal Register, and may be purchased from the Association of Official Analytical Chemists, Inc., 2200 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 400, Arlington, Virginia 22201.

Done at Washington, DC, on February 14, 1995.

Michael R. Taylor,

Acting Under Secretary for Food Safety.

[FR Doc. 95-4522 Filed 2-23-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

9 CFR Part 327

[Docket No. 94-010F]

Imported Product: Withdrawal of Czechoslovakia; Addition of the Czech Republic to the List of Eligible Countries

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Direct final rule.

SUMMARY: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is amending the Federal meat inspection regulations (9 CFR 327.2) to affirm that the newly formed country of the Czech Republic continues to be eligible to have its meat products imported into the United States. The regulations are also amended to delete Czechoslovakia from the list of countries eligible to have their meat products imported into the United States.

Based on mutual agreement, Czechoslovakia peacefully divided into the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic on January 1, 1993. The meat inspection program recognized by the United States as meeting the requirements of the Federal meat inspection regulations and eligible to have its meat products imported into the United States is a program of the Czech Republic.

DATES: This rule will be effective on April 25, 1995 unless we receive written adverse comments or written notice of intent to submit adverse comments on or before March 27, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Adverse comments or notice of intent to submit adverse comments should be sent in triplicate to Regulations Development, Policy, Evaluation and Planning Staff, Attention: Diane Moore, FSIS Docket Clerk, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Room 3171, South Agriculture Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250. Comments should refer to Docket No. 94-010F. All comments will be available for public inspection from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, in Room 3171, South Agriculture Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. John C. Prucha, Deputy Administrator, International Programs, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA, Washington, DC 20250 (202) 720-2644.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

In 1972, Czechoslovakia completed the eligibility process for importation of meat products into the United States. The country maintained its eligibility until it split into two separate republics on January 1, 1993: the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic.

In October 1993, inspection officials of the Czech Republic notified FSIS that the new country continues to maintain a meat inspection system under the same laws and regulations as existed when it was a part of Czechoslovakia. These laws and regulations were previously determined by FSIS to be "at least equal to" the meat inspection standards applied to products produced in the United States. Further, FSIS recently determined that the Czech Republic employs qualified and competent inspectors to ensure that the standards are effectively enforced for products prepared for importation into the United States.

The part of Czechoslovakia which became the Slovak Republic has never had any certified meat inspection plants nor had any meat or meat products imported into the United States. Due to this history and absence of other pertinent information, FSIS is uncertain if the Slovak Republic's meat inspection system is "at least equal to" that of the United States. Therefore, the Slovak Republic will be required to request and receive approval from FSIS before it will be deemed eligible to have its meat and meat products imported into the United States.

Effective Date

We are publishing this rule without a prior proposal because we view this action as noncontroversial and anticipate no adverse public comment. This rule will be effective, as published in this document, April 25, 1995 unless we receive written adverse comments or written notice of intent to submit adverse comments by March 27, 1995. Adverse comments are comments that suggest the rule should not be adopted or that suggest the rule should be changed.

If we receive written adverse comments or written notice of intent to submit adverse comments, we will publish a notice in the **Federal Register**

withdrawing this rule before the effective date and publish a proposed rule for public comment.

As discussed above, if we receive no written adverse comments or written notice of intent to submit adverse comments within 30 days of publication of this direct final rule, this direct final rule will become effective 60 days following its publication.

Executive Order 12866

This rule has been determined not to be significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866 and therefore has not been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget.

Executive Order 12778

This direct final rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12778, Civil Justice Reform. This rule: (1) Preempts all State and local laws and regulations that are inconsistent with this rule; (2) has no retroactive effect; and (3) does not require administrative proceedings before parties may file suit in court challenging this rule.

Effects on Small Entities

The Administrator has made a determination that this direct final rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities, in accordance with the requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601). This action adds the Czech Republic to the list of countries eligible to have their meat products imported into the United States and removes Czechoslovakia. The current amount of product exported to the United States from the Czech Republic is expected to remain the same as was exported to the United States from the former Czechoslovakia.

List of Subjects in 9 CFR Part 327

Imported products; Meat inspection.

PART 327—IMPORTED PRODUCTS

1. The authority citation for part 327 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 21 U.S.C. 601-695; 7 CFR 2.17, 2.55.

§ 327.2 [Amended]

2. Paragraph (b) of § 327.2 is amended by removing "Czechoslovakia" and adding the "Czech Republic" to the alphabetical list of countries eligible to have their products from cattle, sheep, swine, and goat imported into the United States.

Done at Washington, DC, on February 14, 1995.

Michael R. Taylor,

Acting Under Secretary for Food Safety.

[FR Doc. 95-4520 Filed 2-23-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

12 CFR Part 265

[Docket No. R-0871]

Rules Regarding Delegation of Authority

AGENCY: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This rule delegates to the General Counsel of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Board) the authority to approve requests for assistance from, and to share information with, foreign banking authorities pursuant to the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (FDI Act). This delegation of authority is intended to aid in the expeditious processing of requests for assistance from foreign banking authorities.

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 17, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul A. Vogel, Attorney (202/452-3428), Legal Division, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. For the hearing impaired only, Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD), contact Dorthea Thompson (202/452-3544), Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 20th & C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20551.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 8(v) of the FDI Act (12 U.S.C. 1818(v)) permits the Board to provide assistance to a foreign banking authority if such authority states that it is conducting an investigation to determine whether any person has violated, is violating, or is about to violate any banking or currency transaction law or regulation administered or enforced by the requesting authority. Section 8(v) of the FDI Act permits the Board, in its discretion, to investigate and to collect and disclose information to a foreign banking authority upon the request of such authority. Any such investigation shall comply with the laws of the United States and the policies and procedures adopted by the Board. In deciding whether to provide assistance to the foreign banking authority, the FDI Act requires the Board to consider (1) whether the requesting authority has agreed to provide reciprocal assistance to the Board and to the other Federal

banking agencies and (2) whether compliance with the request would prejudice the public interest of the United States.

The Board has delegated to its General Counsel the authority to approve requests for assistance from foreign banking authorities pursuant to section 8(v) of the FDI Act. This delegation of authority is consistent with previous Board action with respect to cooperation with foreign supervisors. On January 28, 1993, (58 FR 6348) the Board issued a final rule implementing portions of the Foreign Bank Supervision Enhancement Act of 1991 (FBSEA). The final rule included a provision delegating to the General Counsel the authority to make the determinations necessary to disclose information to foreign bank supervisory authorities pursuant to the FBSEA. Section 206 of the FBSEA (12 U.S.C. 3109) permits the Board to share supervisory information with its foreign counterparts after, among other things, obtaining an agreement to maintain the confidentiality of the information when necessary under applicable law. Because the cooperation authorities under the FDI Act and the FBSEA are overlapping, the Board has delegated to the General Counsel the authority to approve requests for assistance from foreign banking authorities pursuant to section 8(v) of the FDI Act.

The provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) (5 U.S.C. 553) relating to notice, public participation, and deferred effective date have not been followed in connection with the adoption of this amendment because the change to be effected is procedural in nature and does not constitute a substantive rule subject to the requirements of that section. The APA grants a specific exemption from its requirements relating to notice and public participation in this instance (12 U.S.C. 553(b)(3)(A)), and good cause exists to find that the nature of this amendment makes a notice and public comment procedure unnecessary.

Regulatory Flexibility Act Analysis

Pursuant to the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601-612), the Board hereby certifies that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

List of Subjects in 12 CFR Part 265

Authority delegations (Government agencies), Banks banking, Federal Reserve System.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, the Board is amending 12 CFR Part 265 as set forth below: