# DECISION No. 1/2024 OF THE JOINT SWITZERLAND-UNITED KINGDOM COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

## of 17 December 2024

## on modification of Annex 9 to the Incorporated Agriculture Agreement

## THE JOINT SWITZERLAND-UNITED KINGDOM COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

RECALLING that the Agreement between the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on trade in agricultural products, done at Luxembourg on 21 June 1999 ("the Incorporated Agriculture Agreement"), is incorporated into and made part of the Trade Agreement between the Swiss Confederation and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ("the Trade Agreement"), which was done at Bern on 11 February 2019 and entered into force on 1 January 2021;

CONSIDERING that Article 6 of the Trade Agreement provides for the establishment of a Joint Switzerland-United Kingdom Committee on Agriculture ("the Joint Committee"), pursuant to Article 6 of the Incorporated Agriculture Agreement;

CONSIDERING that Annex 9 to the Incorporated Agriculture Agreement, as set out in Appendix C of Annex 4 to the Trade Agreement ("Annex 9"), which is currently applicable between the Swiss Confederation and the United Kingdom, was introduced by Joint Committee Decision No. 1/2021 and later amended by Joint Committee Decision No. 1/2022;

CONSIDERING that Paragraph 1 of Article 6 of Annex 9 provides that Annex 9 shall apply for a transitional period, which shall end on 31 December 2024, and that Annex 9 therefore would no longer be applicable after that date;

RECALLING that discussions between the Swiss Confederation and the United Kingdom regarding the modernisation of the Trade Agreement, including in relation to the substance of the Incorporated Agriculture Agreement, started in 2021 and are continuing in relation to a comprehensive new free trade agreement;

RECALLING that Paragraph 4 of Article 6 of Annex 9 records the desire of the Swiss Confederation and the United Kingdom to strengthen cooperation on equivalence and to aim to maintain and develop their close trade and economic relations;

HAVING REGARD to Article 11 of the Incorporated Agriculture Agreement, empowering the Joint Committee to amend the Annexes to that Agreement, and to Paragraph 2 of Article 6 of Annex 9, which empowers the Joint Committee, upon recommendation of the Working Group, to decide on continuous application of Annex 9, with or without modifications, for an extended transitional period, or to replace it;

#### HAS DECIDED:

- 1. Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 6 of Annex 9 to the Incorporated Agriculture Agreement, as set out in Appendix C of Annex 4 to the Trade Agreement, shall be replaced by the following:
  - "1. This Annex shall apply for a transitional period, which shall end at the earlier of:
    - (a) the date on which a modernised Free Trade Agreement, which supersedes the Trade Agreement and which deals with matters in this Annex, enters into force;
    - (b) the date on which any other agreement between the Swiss Confederation and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland dealing with matters in this Annex and superseding this Annex enters into force.
  - 2. Notwithstanding Paragraph 1, the Joint Committee, upon recommendation of the Working Group, may at any time vary the transitional period and may decide on continuous application of this Annex, with or without modifications, for an alternative transitional period, or on replacement of this Annex".
- 2. The following text shall be removed from Appendix III of Annex 9:
  - "9) Global Trust Certification Ltd (GB-ORG-16)

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3. This Decision shall enter into force on 31 December 2024.

For the Joint Switzerland-United Kingdom Committee on Agriculture

Corinne Roux

..... Nathalie Mullally