NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

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| **1.** | **Notifying Member:** SWITZERLAND  **If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):** |
| **2.** | **Agency responsible:**  Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO)  **Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:**  State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO  Holzikofenweg 36  3003 Berne  [tbt@seco.admin.ch](mailto:tbt@seco.admin.ch)  www.seco.admin.ch |
| **3.** | **Notified under Article 2.9.2 [****X],** **2.10.1 [****],** **5.6.2 [****],** **5.7.1 [****], 3.2 [****], 7.2 [****],** **other****:** |
| **4.** | **Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable):** Furs and fur products that have been produced using methods that are cruel to animals (HS code(s): 43; ICS code(s): 59.140) |
| **5.** | **Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:** Ordinance on import, transit and export trade in animals and animal products with third countries / Ordinance on import, transit and export trade in animals and animal products with EU Member States, Iceland and Norway and Northern Ireland / Ordinance on the list of countries related to the import of furs and fur products; (16 page(s), in French), (16 page(s), in German) |
| **6.** | **Description of content:** The draft ordinance foresees to prohibit the import of fur and fur products produced using methods cruel to animals. The term "cruel to animals" is defined based on the guiding principles of the World Organisation for Animal Health WOAH in the area of animal welfare, in particular the principles of "freedom from pain, injury and disease" and "freedom from fear and distress". The import ban is considered necessary because the declaration obligation for fur that has been in force since 2014 has been persistently disregarded. The import ban does not apply to furs and fur products that originate from a country that prohibits cruel methods of production or if a certificate confirms that these products were not produced using the prohibited production methods. During a two-year transitional period, a list of countries that prohibit cruel methods of fur production will be drawn up. |
| **7.** | **Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable:** Protection of public morals, animal welfare; Prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection |
| **8.** | **Relevant documents:**  Link to ordinances currently in force:  [Ordinance on import, transit and export trade in animals and animal products with third countries](https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/2015/843/fr)  [Ordinance on import, transit and export trade in animals and animal products with EU Member States, Iceland and Norway and Northern Ireland](https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/2015/846/fr)  Link to regulatory impact assessment on the introduction of declaration obligations and import restrictions for animal and plant products - [Final report](https://www.blv.admin.ch/blv/fr/home/lebensmittel-und-ernaehrung/lebensmittelsicherheit/naehrwertinformationen-und-kennzeichnung.html) (in German with French summary)   * [G/TBT/N/CHE/156](https://eping.wto.org/en/Search/Index?viewData=G/TBT/N/CHE/156) |
| **9.** | **Proposed date of adoption:** 22 April 2025  **Proposed date of entry into force:** 1 July 2025; After entry into force there will be a two-year transition period. |
| **10.** | **Final date for comments:** 60 days from notification |
| **11.** | **Texts available from: National enquiry point [****]** **or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:**  State Secretariate for Economic Affairs SECO  Holzikofenweg 36, 3003 Bern  Switzerland  E-mail: [tbt@seco.admin.ch](mailto:tbt@seco.admin.ch)  <https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2024/TBT/CHE/24_02597_00_f.pdf>  <https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2024/TBT/CHE/24_02597_01_f.pdf>  <https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2024/TBT/CHE/24_02597_02_f.pdf> |