



22 November 2024

Deputy Director Rachel Bailey
Food & Drink Quality and Partnerships Division
Agri-Food Chain Directorate
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Dear Deputy Director Rachel Bailey

In accordance with the Organic Equivalence Arrangement signed between the Republic of Korea and the European Union, Korea and the UK have mutually recognized equivalence of organic processed foods since 2015. However as the UK withdrew from the European Union, both countries agreed to recognize organic equivalence temporarily during the transition period.

The temporary measure that has been extended three times is expected to expire as of 31 December 2024. Also, the UK mentioned that the UK organics regime has been maintained without substantial changes made after the on-site review conducted by Korea in the UK in October 2023.

Based on this, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs agree on the suggestion of the UK that the mutual recognition of equivalence currently applied to the UK organic processed products appropriately produced and finally processed under the UK Organic Regulation will be extended for four years starting from 1 January 2025 until 31 December 2028 under Article 25 of the Act on the Promotion of Environment-friendly Agriculture and Fisheries and the Management of and Support for Organic Foods of Korea.

Also, I hope that the Korea-EU Organic Equivalence Arrangement signed in 2015 would be applied to the trade and management conditions of organic foods (including notification in case of making amendments to organic law, sharing of investigation results of non-compliance, exchange of annual reports), and that further details would be addressed through bilateral consultations.

I sincerely hope that the two countries continue to enhance bilateral cooperation going forward.



Ministry of Agriculture,
Food and Rural Affairs
Republic of Korea

Sincerely yours,

Noh Youngho

Director

Environment-Friendly Agriculture Division

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

Republic of Korea