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Attachments:

5 RV: Exports of New Basel Convention Code B3011 plastic wastes from Great Britain

12 March 2021 21:22:19

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Dear █

I hope this email finds you well.

Regarding your enquiry I am pleased to provide general information on the controls that apply to the import of plastic waste in Colombia:

In accordance with Annex 1 of Decree 925 of 2013 "by which dispositions related to the application of registration and import license, are established", Colombia has two regimes for the import of goods: Free Import Regime and Prior License Regime.

The Prior License Regime is the one through which goods enter the country through a free zone. Those cannot be freely imported by natural or legal persons, because the goods of this regime generally have to accomplish some special requirements in conformity with the criteria indicated by the National Government.

With regard to controls to the import of non-hazardous plastic waste, entry B3010, it should be pointed out that this waste is included in the category of goods subject to the Prior License Regime.

The import license gives rise to an administrative act by which authorization is granted to the imports of goods under the prior license regime, which constitutes the supporting document for submitting the import declaration to the customs authority. The license application must be submitted through the single window for foreign trade -VUCE- (its acronym in Spanish)

To date, waste under the Prior License Regime (Annex 1 of Decree 925 of 2013) corresponds to plastic waste described under the following customs authority subheadings:

No.	Subheading	Description of goods
96	3915100000	Waste, parings and scrap, of plastics, of polymers of ethylene
97	3915200000	Waste, parings and scrap, of plastics, of polymers of styrene
98	3915300000	Waste, parings and scrap, of plastics, of polymers of vinyl chloride
99	3915900000	Waste, parings and scrap, of plastics, of other plastics

Regarding Article 5 of Decree 925 of 2013, it establishes that dealing with products under special market conditions or balances (as in the case of plastic waste), it can be requested the proof of functionality, certification of its useful life, its environmental effects or any other document that identifies that the good to be imported will contribute to the

technological development of the country.

In order to obtain the import license and in accordance with article 3 of Decree 925 of 2013, in the import license application, the interested party must describe the merchandise(s) in such a way that its identification is clear, precise and unmistakable, indicating its commercial name, technical or scientific name, brand, model, size, material, use, technical characteristics, year of manufacture, as well as the condition of the merchandise (used, balance, repaired, remanufactured).

These import license application, as well as applications for their modifications, must be filed out in Spanish, with the exception of names, trademarks, patents, titles or foreign language terms that are impossible to translate. Likewise, the values will be indicated in dollars of the United States of America in terms FOB.

Additionally, in accordance with article 5 of Decree 925 of 2013, in order to decide on the applications, the entities may request additional information if they consider it necessary.

The link for the import license application is the following: <https://www.vuce.gov.co/servicios/importaciones/importaciones-vuce-2-0>.

On the other hand, a Party interested in importing waste that correspond or are included in the description of the entry Y48 of Annex II of Basel and therefore classified either in the tariff subheading 3915900000 "Waste, parings and scrap, of other plastics", or in the 3915300000 "Waste, parings and scrap, of polymers of vinyl chloride", in addition to requesting an import license, must carry out the authorization for transboundary movement of hazardous waste and its disposal with the National Environmental Licensing Authority (ANLA by its Spanish acronym), through the Online Environmental Procedures Window (VITAL by its Spanish acronym), which is available at the following link: <https://www.minambiente.gov.co/index.php/tramites-minambiente/vital>.

- For both export and import, the Authorization for Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Waste and their disposal do not apply to non-hazardous waste that is part of the B3010 stream, including those non-hazardous plastics that are destined for subheading 3915900000, as well as to ethylene polymer and styrene polymer wastes included in tariff subheadings 3915100000 and 3915200000, respectively.
- In the case of polymers of vinyl chloride waste, included in subheading 3915300000, these are considered included in Annex II of Basel Convention, therefore the Party interested in importing or exporting this type of waste must apply the procedure Authorization for Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Waste.
- In compliance with the amendment of the prohibition of the Basel Convention entry into force on December 5, 2019, each Party listed in Annex VII of Basel Convention (includes member States of OECD, European Union and Liechtenstein) shall prohibit all transboundary movements of hazardous plastic waste to States not listed in that Annex VII.
- In accordance with Law 1252 of 2018, the entry of hazardous plastic waste (Entry A3210) into the national territory, is prohibited.

Lastly, it is necessary to point out that the Government of Colombia is evaluating other measures in addition to those indicated in this communication.

We remain at your disposal for any further information.

Best regards,

[Redacted signature block]

Tel: [Redacted]

[www.cancilleria.gov.co](http://www.cancilleria.gov.co)



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**Asunto:** Exports of New Basel Convention Code B3011 plastic wastes from Great Britain

Dear [Redacted]

A new code for non-hazardous plastic waste exports, B3011, was introduced through an amendment to Annex IX of the Basel Convention in May 2019 and came into force globally on 1 January 2021.

The controls for exporting B3011 waste to countries that are not members of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) have not been included in our legislation. We are therefore writing to you to understand **what controls should be applied when moving B3011 plastic wastes from Great Britain to your country.** Your response will allow British companies exporting waste to comply with the import control procedures in your country.

To assist us in the above assessment, we would be grateful if you could answer the short questionnaire included in Appendix B.

We would be grateful for a response by the 12<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

If you are unable to complete the form digitally, please print out the form, tick the appropriate boxes, sign the form, scan the form and email the scanned form to this

[Redacted]

Or alternatively, please post the completed form to:

[Redacted]

Do let me know if you require this form in Word format.

Thank you in advance for your assistance,

Kind Regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

[Redacted]

Ph

[Redacted]



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