
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations implement Regulation (EC) No. 1007/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on trade in seal products of 16 September 2009⁽¹⁾ as amended from time to time (“the EU Regulation”). In accordance with the EU Regulation Article 3, the placing on the market of seal products is allowed only if the seal products result from hunts traditionally conducted by Inuit and other indigenous communities and contribute to their subsistence. These conditions apply at the time or point of import for imported products.

The placing on the market of seal products is also allowed where the seal products result from by-products of hunting that is conducted for the sole purpose of the sustainable management of marine resources. Such placing on the market is only allowed on a not-for-profit basis. The nature and quantity of the seal products must not be such as to indicate that they are being placed on the market for commercial reasons (Article 3(2)(b) of the EU Regulation).

The import of seal products is allowed only where it is of an occasional nature and consists exclusively of goods for the personal use of travellers or their families. The nature and quantity of such goods must not be such as to indicate that they are being imported for commercial reasons (Article 3(2)(a)).

No powers of enforcement (including investigation, obstruction of an officer, forfeiture and destruction of goods) have been included in this instrument since all the necessary powers are already granted by the Customs and Excise Management Act 1979⁽²⁾.

A Regulatory Impact Assessment has been prepared and placed in the library of each House of Parliament. Copies can be obtained from the Animal Welfare Core Team of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 9 Millbank, London SW1P 3JR.

(1) OJ No L286, 31.10.2009, p.36.

(2) 1979 c. 2.

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Seal Products Regulations 2010.