

Article 6:

LESS RESTRICTIVE RULES:

Consistent with Article 7.1 of the 2007 Agreement, where an importing Party adopts or maintains for its market labelling laws, regulations, and requirements that are less restrictive than the provisions specified in this Protocol, nothing in this Protocol shall prevent exporters exporting to that market from labelling in accordance with the importing Party's laws, regulations, and requirements.

Article 7:

PARTIES AND ENTRY INTO FORCE

1. This Protocol shall be open for signature by Parties to the 2007 Agreement until 1 December 2013, or such longer period as the Council may decide.
2. This Protocol is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by signatory States. Instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with the depositary, which shall promptly communicate them to the other signatory States.
3. This Protocol shall enter into force on the first day of the second month following the date the depositary receives the second instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval. It shall enter into force for each subsequent signatory State thereafter on the first day of the second month following the date of deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval.
4. A signatory State shall seek to deposit its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval within 48 months of the date this Protocol enters into force, or such longer period as the Council may decide.

Article 8:

NEW PARTIES

1. Any State that has not signed this Protocol may by written application to the depositary seek to accede to it. The depositary may only accept written applications from States that are Party to the 2007 Agreement.
2. The depositary shall circulate to the Parties, within 30 days of its receipt, a State's application to accede to the Protocol. The Council shall consider any such application at its first meeting following its receipt, which shall be held no sooner than 60 and no later than 120 days from the date of circulation to the Parties. If the Council finds the application acceptable, it shall notify the State of its decision and may invite the State to accede to this Protocol.
3. Following receipt of the invitation, but in no case later than 30 months thereafter, the State concerned shall deposit its instrument of accession with the depositary. The Protocol shall enter into force for that State on the first day of the second month following the date of deposit of its instrument of accession.