

Decree N 761 from 28 September 2009 “On implementing harmonisation of the Russian sanitary-epidemiological, veterinary and phytosanitary measures in compliance with international standards”

With the goal of improving the system of legal regulation in the area of consumer safety, health of humans, animals and plants, further harmonisation of the existing Russian sanitary-epidemiological requirements, veterinary and phytosanitary regulations with international standards, the Russian government decrees the following:

1. Legal acts establishing sanitary-epidemiological requirements, veterinary and phytosanitary measures are subject to an expert review with the goal to establish their compliance to standards and recommendations and other documents of international organisations, including the World Health Organisation, Codex Alimentarius, the International Epizootic Bureau and relevant international and regional institutions, acting within the framework of the International Convention on quarantine and plant health.
2. Legal acts establishing sanitary-epidemiological requirements, veterinary and phytosanitary measures, found to be restrictive in comparison with the international standards upon the expert review, have to be brought in compliance with the international standards if there is no scientific evidence to substantiate such restrictions or level of risk for life and health of humans, animals and plants.
3. The Ministry of Health and Ministry of Agriculture are obliged:
In the next three months to develop and approve procedures for conducting the expert review within the scope of their respective competencies
Conduct the expert review on the basis of written requests from all interested parties, including foreign governments, with their possible participation in the review or upon their initiative. A relevant body of the federal government within 30 days since the date of submission of request informs the submitter of application of its acceptance.
4. The decree takes effect since the date of its official publication.