

EN
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Answer given by Mr Andriukaitis
on behalf of the Commission
(11.6.2018)

The Commission is duly implementing the judgement of the Court of Justice of the European Union of 21 December 2016, which clarified that preferential tariff rates granted to Moroccan products under the European Union (EU) – Morocco Agreement do not apply to Western Sahara.

The listing of food processing establishments is, however, not linked to the question of whether preferential tariff access is granted. It is performed in line with the EU's sanitary and phytosanitary legislation and in particular with Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No 854/2004¹. It is independent from the implementation of the Association Agreement and aims to ensure that the products imported from any third country or territory into the EU come from establishments meeting EU hygiene requirements.

¹ Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 laying down specific rules for the organisation of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption, OJ L 139, 30.4.2004, p. 206–320.