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WORKING DOCUMENT

From:	Presidency
To:	Trade Policy Committee (Generalised System of Preferences)
Subject:	State of play on negotiations concerning the GSP-review - Presentation by the Danish Presidency at the informal video conference of the members of the TPC (GSP) on 26 September 2025

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TRADE POLICY COMMITTEE

GSP

State of play on negotiations concerning the GSP-review

Danish Presidency 2025, 26 September 2025

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Dialogue with EP

- Productive informal 3-way meeting on 19 September.

- **Readmission:** Shared the written proposal from EP with delegations. Have emphasized that this is not an acceptable proposal for the Council.

- **Rice:** There seems to be agreement on the core principles of a TRQ mechanism:

1. Aiming to preserve the current levels of historical rice imports
2. Acting only in exceptional circumstances
3. Being automatic in its application

A draft proposal on TRQs for rice

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- Circulated **draft legal presidency proposal** Wednesday

- Still need to decide on the numbers for the **TRQ and surge**
- Eager to hear your initial reactions to the proposal
- Deadline for written comments 30 September COB.

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Draft legal text on the tariff-rate quota system for rice

(GSP Regulation – Review)

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Article 29a

(1) When imports of products falling under Combined Nomenclature codes 100 610, 100 620, and 100 630 originating in a beneficiary country exceed, cumulatively and at any point of a calendar year, the yearly import volumes specified in point 1 of Annex Y by at least the percentage specified in point 2 of Annex Y, the Commission shall:

i) suspend, with immediate effect, the tariff preferences referred to in Article 1(2) for imports of products falling under Combined Nomenclature codes 100 610, 100 620, and 100 630 originating in the beneficiary country concerned for the remainder of the calendar year; and

ii) introduce a tariff-rate quota at the import volumes specified in point 1 of Annex Y for the duration of the following calendar year. Only imports up to the import volume specified in point 1 of Annex Y shall continue to benefit from the tariff preferences referred to in Article 1(2).

(2) Paragraph 1 of this Article shall not apply to beneficiary countries with a share for products falling under Combined Nomenclature codes 100 610, 100 620, and 100 630, considered cumulatively, not exceeding the share of total Union imports specified in point 3 of Annex Y.

(3) To implement paragraph 1, the Commission shall adopt an implementing act which shall enter into force on the date of application of this Regulation, laying down the arrangements for monitoring the import volumes, for suspending the tariff preferences, and for applying the present mechanism. That implementing act shall be adopted in accordance with the advisory procedure referred to in Article [39(2)].

(4) The Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts, in accordance with Article [36], to amend the modalities set out in Annex Y to take into account significant developments in the rice market, including import levels to the EU, or relevant changes related to the beneficiary countries. The Commission may do so on its own initiative or following a reasoned request by a Member State.

(5) The report on the application of this Regulation provided for in the second paragraph of Article 40, due on 1 January 2032, shall include an assessment of the need for and the functioning of the present mechanism.

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Way forward

- Tentatively scheduled **an ITM on 2 October 2025**
- Try to **test the legal draft proposal** if allowed based on today's discussion
- Debrief at working party level afterwards
- Reassess timeline and plan after technical trilogue
- **Poss. Coreper on 8 October** in preparations for a **political trilogue on 15 October**