

UK to host 93rd Interpol General Assembly in 2024

The UK will host the General Assembly of the international police organisation, Interpol, in 2024 – the largest global gathering of senior law enforcement officials and heads of ministries.

The announcement was made today (18 October) during the 88th Interpol General Assembly in Santiago, Chile following a vote by member countries.

Interpol is a crucial partner to the UK, facilitating international police cooperation between 194-member countries. The General Assembly is Interpol's highest governing body, comprising representatives from each of its member countries and responsible for major decisions affecting general policy and resources. It usually takes place over four days and is attended by approximately 2,500 delegates.

The General Assembly is a key opportunity to drive innovation and leadership in police cooperation and tackle major crime trends and security threats facing the world, including organised crime, terrorism and cybercrime.

Home Secretary Priti Patel said:

We are delighted to host the Interpol General Assembly in 2024 and this highlights the UK's strong commitment to make the world a safer place.

The UK is and will continue to be a global leader on security and justice. We are determined to build on that role by strengthening our international security relationships where it matters and enhancing our capabilities at a domestic, European and global level to protect the public. This includes investing in organisations like Interpol, that are best suited to tackling the security threats we face.

It also demonstrates our vision as a global security leader, looking to invest in strong relationships with those who matter most to our security.

Working alongside the UK's Interpol National Central Bureau, the National Crime Agency, we continue to cooperate on issues such as tackling child sexual exploitation and organised crime.

The UK has been a proud member of Interpol since 1928 and shares the organisation's vision for international law enforcement cooperation. The UK continues to work with them to lead and drive the agenda for positive change in security.

Guidance: Horse passport issuing organisations

List of organisations that issue horse passports.

Transparency data: Defra: senior officials' business expenses and hospitality, April to June 2019

Data on senior officials' business expenses and hospitality, and the permanent secretary's meetings with external organisations.

Press release: China opens doors to British Beef

The Chinese government has finalised details of a historic trade agreement, opening access for the UK beef industry to the Chinese market.

China opens doors to British Beef

The British beef industry is set to benefit from an estimated £230 million boost as the Chinese government today (18 October) finalised details of a historic UK-China agreement.

For the first time in over 20 years, UK farmers and beef producers will have full access to the Chinese market, marking the end of a ban imposed by China following the BSE outbreak in 1996.

Today's announcement follows extensive inspections by the Chinese authorities – who have confirmed that British beef producers meet the necessary standards to export to their market – and marks the final step in securing access.

The Chinese authorities have cleared four beef sites for export in the first instance – with further sites under review – and the first exports are expected to be shipped in the next few months.

Environment Secretary Theresa Villiers said:

Sealing this landmark agreement with China is huge news for our world-renowned food and farming industry, meaning more people across the globe can enjoy British beef.

Today's milestone marks another step towards unlocking the industry's full potential, and reflects our ambition to maximise trading opportunities for British produce across the world as the UK leaves the EU.

International Trade Secretary Liz Truss said:

Chinese diners can now enjoy the best beef in the world. I'm delighted that our dedicated UK producers can now sell quality products to one of the world's largest economies, supporting local jobs and bringing millions of pounds to the UK economy each year.

This is another step forward in realising our global trading ambitions with unbeatable British food. As we leave the European Union, we will continue to break down market access barriers to make it easier for UK businesses to trade across the world.

The China-UK beef agreement is the culmination of several years of engagement between UK and Chinese government officials. [China's ban was lifted in June last year](#) when market access engagement for UK beef exports began.

It follows a number of inspections and inward missions hosted by the [Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board](#) (AHDB), in partnership with Quality Meat Scotland (QMS) and Hybu Cig Cymru (Meat Promotion Wales HCC) and other industry bodies, as well as government departments and agencies.

AHDB International Market Development Director Dr Phil Hadley said:

This is a great end to a very successful year for our red meat exports. This new agreement is fantastic news for our beef processors who will now have access to another market outside of the EU.

We continue to work collaboratively with government to create new opportunities for our red meat exports and today's announcement is a testament to the persistence and hard work of all involved.

We look forward to seeing the first shipments of beef arrive in China and hope to replicate the success of our pork exports in the beef sector.

The announcement comes after China recently approved five British pork plants to export products to China, which will build on a market which is already worth £70 million per year. We look forward to further approval of qualified UK pork plants by the end of the 2019.

China is currently the UK's eighth largest export market for food and drink, with more than £610 million worth of products bought by Chinese consumers last year.

Additional information:

This agreement is the product of collaboration across government, across the Defra group including APHA, RPA and VMD, with collaboration from FSA and DAERA in Northern Ireland.