

**INSPECTION, QUARANTINE AND VETERINARY SANITARY PROTOCOL
BETWEEN
THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF CUSTOMS OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF CHINA
AND THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTS AND RURAL
DEVELOPMENT OF THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC ON PORK TO BE
EXPORTED FROM PORTUGAL TO CHINA**

The General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "GACC") and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Rural Development of the Portuguese Republic (hereinafter referred to as "MAS") through friendly negotiations, have agreed on the following inspection, quarantine and veterinary sanitary requirements on pork to be exported from the Portuguese Republic (hereinafter referred to as Portugal) to the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as China).

Article 1

MAS will be responsible for the inspection and quarantine of the pork to be exported to China and the issuance of the veterinary health certificates.

Article 2

MAS will provide GACC with laws and regulations governing the slaughter, cutting-up, processing and storage of pork to be exported to China, the relevant inspection and quarantine programs which consist of monitoring programs, laboratory testing methods and procedures; and the quarantine veterinary stamps or seals or inspection legend/marks for export eligibility.

MAS will regularly supply GACC with the following information every year:

- 1) A detailed national monitoring plan and annual report on residues, infectious diseases, undesirable substances and pathogenic agents.
- 2) A risk management program applied against the diseases listed in Articles 3 and 4 (especially the Aujeszky's disease) of this protocol and making available an annual report to GACC on Portugal's animal disease zoning, prevention and control status.

For each China listed slaughter, cutting, processing establishments covered by this protocol, MAS will provide on a regular and dynamic basis the following information:

- 1) The production and exportation volume exported to China.
- 2) The list of the formal veterinary authority's verification activities relating to Chinese import requirements.

Both sides will establish an efficient information reporting mechanism to cooperate with each other on investigating and handling issues, applying corrective and preventive measures to ensure the establishments satisfy the requirements of China.

MAS food safety administrative systems will meet the requirements of China and accept on-site, or retrospective inspection conducted by GACC. MAS will sustain the efficacy of the system and provide necessary assistance and convenience to enable the audit of GACC.

Article 3

MAS officially confirms freedom from classical swine fever, African swine fever, foot-and-mouth disease, swine vesicular disease, Nipah virus encephalitis in Portuguese territory.

Article 4

The live swine from which the pork to be exported to China is derived should:

- 1) have been kept and slaughtered in Portugal since birth; be permanently and solely identified so that they can be traced back to the born and raised farm;
- 2) originate from farms where have no clinical signs of anthrax, tuberculosis, paratuberculosis, Aujeszky's disease, brucellosis, Teschen disease, transmissible gastroenteritis, porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome for the past 12 months, no porcine cysticercosis and trichinosis, toxoplasmosis for the past 6 months;
- 3) originate from premises not under quarantine or movement restriction due to notified diseases which should be reported in accordance with the World Organisation for Animal Health(OIE) code, China's and Portugal's animal health regulations for the past 6 months.

Article 5

The manufacturing (including slaughtering, cutting-up, processing and storage) establishments for export of pork to China will be under the supervision of the competent authorities of MAS in compliance with the relevant laws and regulations of China and Portugal on veterinary health and public health.

The establishments for export of pork to China shall be registered with GACC as per the Food Safety Law of the People's Republic of China. Products from establishments that are not registered with GACC shall not be allowed to import into China.

Article 6

MAS official veterinarian will attest, through the veterinary certificate, that:

- 1) pork comes from swine that:
 - a.is born, raised and slaughtered in Portugal; is permanently and solely identified so that they can be traced back to the born and raised farm..

- b. have not been fed with restricted veterinary medicinal products or feed additives prohibited by China and Portugal;
 - c. have been slaughtered, processed and stored at corresponding establishments and cold stores approved by GACC;
 - d. is in conformity with Article 4 of this protocol; and
 - e. have been subjected to ante- and post-mortem inspections with favorable results in accordance with the relevant China's and Portugal's laws and regulations; and are healthy and free of clinical signs of infectious disease and parasite, no lesion has been found on the carcasses and viscera from which the major lymphatic nodes and gland tissue have been removed.
- 2) For pork to be exported to China, the National Chemical Residue Monitoring Program is implemented and certify that the residue level of the veterinary medicinal products, pesticides and environmental pollutant such as heavy metals, as well as other undesirable substances contained in the products do not exceed the maximum residue limits (MRLs) stipulated by China and Portugal.
- 3) the pork is free from the contamination of pathogenic agent prescribed in the laws and regulations of China and Portugal.
- 4) the pork is hygienic and safe, fit for human consumption.

Article 7

During the period of transportation (including transportation from the farm to, and at the place of, the slaughterhouse), the swine for slaughter and intended for export to China will not be allowed to contact with:

- 1) any live swine which do not comply with the animal health requirements in Articles 3 and 4 of this protocol;
- 2) any live swine or other species of animal belonging to the establishment which does not comply with the registration requirements in Article 5 of this protocol.

The pork for export to China is not allowed to be processed together with:

- 1) any product of other species origin;
- 2) animal products not in conformity with Articles 3 and 4 of this protocol;
- 3) products which do not belong to this registered establishment.

A specific area with clear identification within the cold store will be available exclusively for the storage of the pork intended for export to China.

Article 8

The pork to be exported to China must be packed with unused new packaging materials in compliance with China's and the international hygienic standards.

The pork to be exported to China will be labeled with the name, country of origin, establishment registration number and the batch numbers on the independent interior package.

The country of origin, commodity name, specifications, place of origin (specific to state/province/city), establishment registration number, batch numbers, destination (should be the People's Republic of China only), production date(year/month/day), shelf life and storage temperature should be labeled on the exterior package in Chinese. The inspection and quarantine legend/marks/stamps of Portugal's competent authority should be identified on the package as well.

The labels of prepackaged meat products will comply with the standards and regulatory requirements of China on pre-packaged food labeling.

Article 9

To prevent from contamination of undesirable substances, the pork to be exported to China will meet the veterinary health requirements of China and Portugal during the packaging, storage and transportation.

The storage and transportation will be under suitable temperatures maintaining the core temperature of the frozen pork not higher than minus 15 degrees Celsius.

Prior to shipment, the container should be sealed under the supervision of the Portugal's veterinary officer. The seal number would be indicated in the veterinary health certificate. During transportation, the package of the products should not be unwrapped or changed.

Article 10

Each container of pork to be exported from Portugal to China will be accompanied with at least one original veterinary health certificate attesting that the products comply with the veterinarian and public health rules and regulations of China, Portugal and relevant requirements in this protocol.

The veterinary health certificate should be typed in Chinese, Portuguese and English (English version is compulsory when filling out the certificate) . The format and content of the certificates should be mutually determined in advance by both sides.

To put on record, MAS will provide GACC with samples of the official quarantine legends/stamps and veterinary health certificate, a list of authorized signatory veterinarians with their corresponding signatures, instructions on the anti-fake label and the email address through which the electronic certificates data will be delivered. If there are any modification and changes of the above, MAS will notify GACC at least one month prior to the changes coming into effect.

To facilitate the border inspection of GACC in China, MAS will deliver the electronic data

of each veterinary health certificate issued to GACC through official channels in a timely manner. MAS will guarantee the electronic data is correct and safe.

Article 11

If there is any outbreak of infectious or parasitic diseases in Portugal relevant to swine, might spread via pork, which are defined as the list A diseases in the List of Quarantine Diseases for the Animals Imported to the People's Republic of China or stipulated in Article 3 of this protocol, MAS will stop the exportation of pork to China, recall of the products and other products with potential risks, inform GACC, and provide GACC with information on how the incident happened and was controlled.

When there is any occurrence in Portugal of the infectious or parasitic diseases relevant to swine ,might spread via pork, which are listed in Article 4 of this protocol or defined as list B diseases in the List of Quarantine Diseases for the Animals Imported to the People's Republic of China, or any other significant food contamination which may likely to contaminate the pork, MAS will stop the exportation of pork produced in relevant zones/compartments, recall of the products and other products with potential risks, inform GACC and provide information on how the incidents happened and were dealt with.

At the end of the contamination issue or elimination of the infectious or parasitic diseases, to reinstate the trade, negotiation should be conducted between GACC and MAS based on the international practice.

Article 12

If the pork for export to China is found out to be non-compliant with the requirements stated in this protocol, GACC will notify MAS in a timely manner of the return, destruction or other disposals of the non-compliant products in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations of China. Both the import and export country will cooperate with each other to investigate the causes and take corrective actions and rectifications to prevent recurrence of the non-compliance.

Article 13

For the purposes of this protocol, pork refers to frozen meat derived from swine carcass which has been slaughtered and bleeding with the removal of bristles, thoracic and abdominal viscera/offal, head and tail.

Lower part of the limb (below the ankle and joint), which meet the Chinese inspection and quarantine requirements and the requirements of the Protocol, are eligible to export to China.

The ground pork, minced pork, scrap, mechanically separated meat from pork, and other

by-products are ineligible for export to China.

Article 14

This protocol may be amended upon mutual written consent from time to time. Any side may terminate this protocol by giving written notice to the other side 6 months in advance of the date of termination.

Article 15

The protocol is signed in the city of Lisbon, on the date of May 28th in duplicate, each in Chinese, Portuguese and English languages. All the three languages have equal legal effect. In case of differences in the interpretation, the English version shall govern. This protocol will take effect on the date of its last signature by the two sides. The term of validity shall be five years. Without written notice from one party to the other to terminate or amend this Protocol, the expiration shall be postponed automatically for another five years.

On behalf of
The State General Administration
of Customs of People's Republic
of China

On behalf of
The Ministry of Agriculture,
Forests and Rural Development
of the Portuguese Republic