

**Protocol between the State Food and Veterinary Service of the Republic of Lithuania, the
General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's
Republic of China and the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania on Veterinary
and Public Health Requirements for Dairy Products to be Exported from the Republic of
Lithuania to the People's Republic of China**

The State Food and Veterinary Service of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter referred to as SFVS), the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as AQSIQ) and the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania, through friendly consultation, have agreed on the following animal health and public health requirements of the dairy products exported from Lithuania to China:

Article 1

SFVS shall be responsible for the official control (inspection), quarantine and issuance of veterinary health export certificates of the dairy products to be exported to China.

Article 2

SFVS shall be responsible for providing AQSIQ with the laws and regulations governing dairy stock related animal health, dairy product producers, dairy product safety, hygiene and quality, as well as the official control (inspection) and methods, procedures and standards for export dairy products; SFVS shall provide official stamping mark, and sample of veterinary health export certificate on official anti-fake paper. SFVS shall notify AQSIQ of any modifications and changes to any of the above at least one month in advance.

Article 3

SFVS shall be responsible for providing information on the prevention and control system related to the diseases listed in Article 5 of this Protocol to AQSIQ as required by the latter and notifying AQSIQ of the animal disease situation listed in Article 5 and defined by the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) as notifiable.

SFVS shall annually provide AQSIQ with the annual residue monitoring plan and residue monitoring report.

If necessary, AQSIQ may send experts to Lithuania to conduct on-site inspection of the above-mentioned system and management status with the necessary assistance provided by Lithuania.

Article 4

SFVS confirms that:

- a) Lithuania has established effective system to ensure that the raw milk is from healthy dairy stocks and complies with the requirements of Article 5.
- b) The dairy products that are allowed for export to China only include cow milk and cow milk products.
- c) Lithuania currently implements effective traceability system to ensure that the dairy products can be traced back to the dairy product producers and farms that breed the dairy stock.
- d) If the dairy ingredients of the dairy products exported by Lithuania are from any country (region) other than Lithuania, the country of origin of dairy ingredients shall be eligible to export the relevant dairy ingredients to China.

Article 5

The dairy stock used to provide raw milk for the dairy products exported to China shall comply with the following conditions:

- a) Come from the farms that comply with the following conditions:
 1. The dairy farms on which no restrictions were applied due to FMD in the last 2 months.
 2. Rinderpest, Rift Valley Fever, and Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia have never been confirmed in the farms.
 3. The dairy farms on which no restrictions are applied due to Anthrax. Vaccination against Anthrax is prohibited in Lithuania.
 4. BSE has never been registered in Lithuania and full feed ban was imposed since 2001.
 5. Brucellosis, Paratuberculosis (also known as Johne's disease), and Tuberculosis have not been clinically observed in the dairy farms.
 6. The farms are under the supervision of SFVS or the third party recognized by SFVS;
 7. Farms and surrounding areas have not been placed under quarantine restrictions according to the OIE Code and official animal health regulations of Lithuania due to animal diseases.
- b) The animals have not been fed the feeds prohibited by Lithuania and China.
- c) The national residue monitoring plan developed by SFVS shall be implemented, and the manufacturers are required to test the raw milk. According to national residue monitoring plan and raw milk test results, the dairy products to be exported to China shall be free from drugs, chemical residues harmful to human health and residues of other toxic and hazardous substances.

Article 6

The manufacturers exporting dairy products to the People's Republic of China have been approved by SFVS and subjected to the control of SFVS, and shall comply with the requirements of the People's Republic of China and of the Republic of Lithuania on animal health and public health. The raw milk used by the manufacturers shall come from the farms complying with the requirements of Article 5. The dairy ingredients from other countries shall comply with the requirements of item d) of Article 4.

The manufacturers shall be registered with the Certification and Accreditation Administration of the People's Republic of China (CNCA) in accordance with the Administrative Provisions on Registration of Overseas Manufacturers of Import Foods. The products from the dairy product manufacturers not registered with CNCA are not allowed for export to China.

Article 7

SFVS shall ensure that:

a) The official veterinarians of SFVS implement the official control (inspection) and quarantine on the dairy farms, where the raw milk for dairy products to be exported to China originates from, according to the laws and regulations of Lithuania and China;

b) Certifying that all dairy farms comply with the requirements of Article 5 of this Protocol, and the animals are healthy;

c) Certifying that according to the test results of the national residue monitoring plan and raw milk test results of Lithuania, the residue levels of veterinary medicines, pesticides, as well as the residues of other toxic and hazardous substances in the raw milk used do not exceed the maximum limits stipulated by Lithuania and China.

d) Certifying that if the dairy ingredients used for the dairy products to be exported to China is from any country (region) other than Lithuania, the country of origin of the dairy ingredient is eligible for export of relevant dairy ingredient to China.

e) Certifying that the raw milk contains no colostrum, milk during the use of antibiotics and withdrawal period or deteriorated milk.

f) The milk-based infant formula contains no colostrum.

g) Certifying that the product shall adopt one of the following processing procedures:

i Adopting the sterilization procedure (ultra-high temperature UHT) at the minimum temperature of 132⁰C for at least 1s, or

ii If the pH value of milk is lower than 7.0, adopting the sterilization procedure (high temperature-short time HTST) at the minimum temperature of 72⁰C for at least 15s, or

iii If the pH value of milk is 7.0 or above, HTST procedure shall be carried out twice.

h) Certifying that the dairy product is produced by the manufacturer in Lithuania under the supervision of the competent authority of Lithuania, and complies with the laws and regulations of Lithuania and China.

i) Attesting that the product complies with the food safety standard of the People's Republic of China, and is safe, hygienic and fit for human consumption.

j) If any violation of the above-mentioned requirements is identified, SFVS shall immediately notify AQSIQ, and suspend the export of any products from the relevant manufacturer, trace and investigate the reasons and take appropriate corrective measures, including recalling the products likely to be contaminated.

Article 8

The dairy products not complying with the requirements in Article 5 and Article 7 of this Protocol shall not be processed together with the dairy products to be exported to China.

The dairy products to be exported to China should be readily identifiable at all stages of processing and storage to ensure that only the products meeting the requirements of this Protocol are allowed for export to China.

Article 9

The dairy products destined for China shall be wrapped and packaged with brand new materials complying with the international hygienic standards. The outer packing shall indicate specification, place of origin (specific to state/province/city), destination, commodity name, weight, name of manufacturer, registration number, production batch number, storage condition, production date and shelf-life in Chinese, the official language of Lithuania and English.

The inner packing shall comply with the relevant regulations of the People's Republic of China, and the label shall indicate country of origin, commodity name, approval number of manufacturer, name, address and means of contact of manufacturer, production date and shelf-life, and production batch number.

Article 10

During the whole process of packaging, storage and transportation, the dairy products to be exported to China shall meet the hygienic requirements and shall be protected from contamination by toxic and hazardous substances. The container should be sealed after the products are loaded into it, and the seal number shall be indicated in the veterinary health export certificate. The package of

the products shall not be unwrapped, opened or replaced during the transportation.

Article 11

Each consignment of dairy products to be exported to China shall be accompanied by an original official veterinary health export certificate attesting that the dairy products meet the requirements of this Protocol, as well as the regulations of Lithuania and China on animal health and public health. The official certificate of Lithuania shall apply only to the dairy products produced and processed by the manufacturer in Lithuania.

Veterinary health export certificate should be written in Chinese, official language of Lithuania and English. The format and content of the certificate should be mutually confirmed and agreed upon in advance by both sides.

The certificate shall not be altered, and shall bear the official seal and signature of official inspector, and the destination shall be the People's Republic of China.

Article 12

Once any infectious disease indicated in Article 5 of this Protocol occurs in the dairy farm, where the raw milk comes from, or a serious contamination incident threatening human health occurs in the processing establishment, Lithuania shall immediately stop exporting the dairy products derived from the abovementioned dairy farm or processing establishment to China, promptly recall any non-compliant products, and notify AQSIQ of the relevant information.

For resuming export to the People's Republic of China from the abovementioned dairy farm or processing establishment after the infectious disease is completely eliminated or the contamination incident is properly handled, SFVS should provide AQSIQ with a detailed report containing information on the occurrence of the infectious disease or contamination incident, retrospective investigation and prevention and control measures. AQSIQ may decide whether to resume import from the abovementioned dairy farm or processing establishment after reviewing the report provided by SFVS. These measures shall be only targeted at the abovementioned dairy farm or processing establishment.

If the imported dairy products are found non-compliant with the requirements of this Protocol by AQSIQ, it will immediately notify SFVS and seek the return, detention, destruction, or other treatment of the products. SFVS shall cooperate with AQSIQ in investigating the causes and seeking solutions, including notifying AQSIQ of any corrective actions taken, such as recalling other products likely to be contaminated, so as to prevent recurrence of such incident.

Article 13

The dairy product mentioned in this Protocol refers to the food processed from milk as the main raw material, and milk-based infant formula (excluding colostrum and colostrum products). SFVS should guarantee that the dairy products and milk-based infant formula (excluding colostrum and colostrum products) to be exported to China be properly thermally processed according to Article 7/g.

Article 14

This Protocol can be amended by mutual consent. The effective date of the amendment shall be decided through consultation between the two sides.

Article 15

Either side may terminate this Protocol by notifying the other side in writing six months in advance.

Article 16

Either side may request a consultation through official channel at any time. The time and venue of consultation shall be discussed and decided by both sides.

Article 17

This Protocol shall come into force on the date of signing.

This Protocol is done in duplicate in Chinese, Lithuanian and English languages, and signed in Vilnius on the 7th of July, 2016. All texts are equally authentic.

Should there be any deviation of interpretation, the English text is prevailing.

The State Food and
Veterinary Service of the
Republic of Lithuania

The General Administration
of Quality Supervision,
Inspection and Quarantine of
the People's Republic of
China

The Ministry of Agriculture
of the Republic of Lithuania

