

**PROTOCOL
BETWEEN
THE NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE AND FOOD
AND
THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF
CUSTOMS OF
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
ON
INSPECTION, QUARANTINE AND FOOD
SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR DAIRY
PRODUCTS
EXPORTED FROM THE KINGDOM OF
NORWAY TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
CHINA**

The Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food (hereinafter referred to as MAF) and the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as GACC) through friendly consultations, have agreed to the following inspection, quarantine and food safety requirements of the dairy products exported from the Kingdom of Norway (hereinafter referred to as **Norway**) to the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as **China**).

Article 1

The Norwegian Food Safety Authority (hereinafter referred to as NFSA), under the MAF, will be responsible for inspection, quarantine and food safety requirements, and also issuance of health certificates for dairy products to be exported to China.

Article 2

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

Article 3

NFSA shall be responsible for providing information on the prevention and control system related to the diseases listed in Article 5 of this Protocol to GACC as required by the latter. In the case of an animal disease defined by the World Organisation for Animal Health (hereinafter referred to as WOAH) as notifiable, Norway will notify WOAH through the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS). In the case of a situation described in Article 12 of this Protocol, NFSA will notify GACC directly.

NFSA shall annually provide GACC with the national annual residue monitoring plan and residue monitoring report.

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

Article 4

NFSA confirms that:

- (1) Norway has established effective control systems to ensure that raw milk is from healthy dairy stocks and complies with the requirements of Article 5 of this Protocol.
- (2) The dairy products that are allowed for export to China are processed from cow milk, sheep milk or goat milk.
- (3) Norway has an 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.
- (4) The raw milk of the dairy products exported by Norway to China is only from Norway. If the dairy ingredients of the dairy products exported by Norway are from any country (region) other than Norway, it shall be ensured that the country of origin is 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:

- (1) Come from farms that comply with the following conditions:
 - a) The dairy farms on which the Foot and Mouth Disease quarantine restrictions have been lifted for at least 2 months.
 - b) Anthrax has not been confirmed in the farms in the past 12 months when raw milk is collected.
 - c) The dairy farms are free from Bovine tuberculosis, Paratuberculosis, Rinderpest, Rift valley fever, Peste des petits ruminants, Sheep pox, Goat pox, Scrapie, Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia.
 - d) The farms are under the supervision of NFSA.
 - e) Farms and surrounding areas have not been placed under quarantine restrictions according to the WOAH

Code and official animal health regulations of Norway due to animal diseases.

- f) Norway has implemented the relevant regulations of WOAH, which should continuously monitor and report the animal diseases to WOAH.

(2) The animals have not been fed the feeds and medicines prohibited by Norwegian and Chinese food safety legislation and standards.

(3) The national annual residue monitoring plan developed by NFSA shall be implemented and the manufacturers are required to test the raw milk. According to the national annual residue monitoring plan and raw milk test results, the residue levels of veterinary medicines, pesticides, as well as the residues of other toxic and hazardous substance in the dairy products to be exported to China do not exceed the maximum limits stipulated by Chinese national food safety standards.

Article 6

The manufacturers exporting dairy products to China should be approved or registered and controlled by NFSA and will comply with the requirements of Norway and China on animal health and public health. The raw milk used by the manufacturers will come from farms complying with the requirements of Article 5 of this Protocol. If the dairy ingredients of the dairy products exported by Norway are from any country (region) other than Norway, they must comply with the requirements of Article 4(4) of this Protocol.

The manufacturers will be registered with GACC in accordance with the Food Safety Law of the People's Republic of China and Administrative Provisions on Registration of Overseas Manufacturers of Import Foods of the People's Republic of China. The products from the dairy product manufacturer not registered with GACC are not allowed for export to China.

Article 7

The dairy products exported from Norway to China shall satisfy the following requirements:

- (1) The state inspector for veterinary inspection of Norway implements the 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 Norway.
- (2) All dairy farms comply with the requirements of Article 5 of this Protocol, and the animals are healthy.
- (3) According to the test results of the national annual residue monitoring plan and raw milk test results of Norway, 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 Chinese national food safety standards.
- (4) If the dairy ingredients used for the dairy products to be exported to China is from any country (region) other than Norway, the country of origin of the dairy ingredient is eligible for export of relevant dairy ingredient to China.
- (5) The raw milk used to process dairy products contains no milk during the use of antibiotics and withdrawal period or deteriorated milk, and colostrum (except for processing bovine colostrum powder).
- (6) The milk-based infant formula contains no colostrum.
- (7) The product shall adopt one of the following processing procedures:
 - a) Applying a minimum temperature of 72°C for at least 15 seconds (high temperature-short time pasteurization, HTST) if Norway is recognized by WOAH as free from Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD);
 - b) Otherwise applying the sterilization procedure (ultrahigh temperature UHT) at the minimum temperature of 132°C for at least 1s, or applying a minimum temperature of 72°C for at least 15 seconds (high temperature-short time pasteurization, HTST) twice.

- (8) The dairy product is produced by the manufacturers in Norway under the supervision of NFSA and complies with the laws and regulations of Norway.
- (9) The product complies with Norwegian and Chinese national food safety standards, and is safe, hygienic and fit for human consumption.
- (10) If a serious violation of the above-mentioned requirements which may cause significant risk to public health is identified, NFSA will immediately notify GACC, and suspend the export of any products from the relevant manufacturers, 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 of 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 Chinese 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 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 will be accompanied by an original official health certificate attesting that the dairy products meet the requirements of this Protocol, as well as the regulations of Norway and China on animal health and public health. The official certificate of Norway shall apply only to the dairy products produced and processed by the manufacturers in Norway.

Veterinary health export certificate should be written in Chinese 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 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, Norway shall immediately stop exporting the dairy products derived from the abovementioned dairy farm or processing establishment to China, promptly recall any affected products, and notify GACC of the relevant information.

For resuming export to China from the above-mentioned dairy farm or processing establishment after the infectious disease is completely eliminated or the contamination incident is properly handled, NFSA should provide GACC with a detailed report containing information on the occurrence of the infectious disease or contamination incident, retrospective investigation and prevention & control measures. GACC may decide whether to resume import from the above-mentioned dairy farm or processing establishment after reviewing the report provided by NFSA. These measures shall only target the above-mentioned dairy farm or processing establishment.

If the imported dairy products are found non-compliant with the requirements of this Protocol by GACC, it will immediately notify NFSA and seek the return, destruction, or other treatment of the products. NFSA will cooperate with GACC in investigating the causes and seeking solutions, including notifying GACC 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 products mentioned in this Protocol refers to the food processed from cow milk, sheep milk or goat milk as the main raw material, which meet the requirements of Chinese national food safety standards.

NFSA should guarantee that the dairy products to be exported to China are properly thermally processed according to Article 7/(7) of this Protocol.

Article 14

This Protocol can be amended by mutual consent in written form; the effective date of the amendment will be decided through consultation between the two sides. Such amendment will form an integral part of this Protocol.

Article 15

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

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

Article 16

This Protocol will come into force on the date of signing. It will remain effective for 5 years and be automatically extended for periods of 5 years unless either side formally notifies the other side in written form its intention to terminate the Protocol at least 6 months prior to the end of the expiration date.

Article 17

This Protocol is signed in Shanghai on 6 November in the year of 2025, in two original copies, each in Chinese and English, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence in interpretation, the two parties may settle it by consultation.

Hanne-Bent Brekke

**On behalf of
the Norwegian Ministry of
Agriculture and Food**



**On behalf of
the General Administration of
Customs of the People's
Republic of China**