

**PROTOCOL BETWEEN
THE FEDERAL AGENCY FOR THE SAFETY OF THE FOOD CHAIN OF
THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM AND THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
OF QUALITY SUPERVISION, INSPECTION AND QUARANTINE OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON VETERINARY AND HEALTH
REQUIREMENTS FOR PORK TO BE EXPORTED FROM BELGIUM TO
CHINA**

The Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain of the Kingdom of Belgium (FASFC, hereinafter referred to as Belgian side) and the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China (AQSIQ, hereinafter referred to as Chinese side) through friendly negotiations, have agreed the following veterinary and health requirements for pork to be exported from Belgium to China:

Article 1

Belgian side shall be responsible for inspection and quarantine (official control of veterinary and health requirements) of pork to be exported to China, and the issuance of health certificates.

Article 2

Belgian side shall provide Chinese side with the managing regulations on slaughtering and processing plants, the inspection and testing items, methods, procedures as well as the standards for the exported pork.

Belgian side shall provide Chinese side with the prevention and control system related with the diseases listed in article 3 and 4, and provide Chinese side with disease bulletin periodically, and Belgium residue control and monitoring program and its annual report, as well as the pathogen reducing control program and its annual report etc.

Before the first exportation and the following operation if necessary, Chinese side may designate experts to Belgium to do on-site inspection visit of the above-mentioned control system and management status within the obligatory assistance provided by Belgian side.

Article 3

The Belgian side officially confirms that its territory is free from Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Classical Swine Fever, African swine fever, Swine Vesicular Disease and Teschen Disease.

Article 4

The slaughtered swine for pork exported to the People's Republic of China shall:

- a) be born, raised and slaughtered in Belgium;

- b) come from farms on which there have been no occurrence of Anthrax, Porcine Brucellosis, Aujeszky's Disease, Atrophic rhinitis of swine, Tuberculosis and Trichinellosis for the last twelve (12) months;
- c) originate from farms on which there has been no clinical occurrence of Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS) for the last twelve (12) months;
- d) originate from farms where no restriction or surveillance zone has been established due to notifiable diseases in swine, which should be reported in accordance with the relevant Belgian and European animal health regulations.

Article 5

The slaughtering and processing plants for exporting pork to the People's Republic of China shall meet the requirements on veterinary health and public health of Chinese, Belgian and European laws and regulations.

Registration of establishments intended to export to the People's Republic of China is handled according to the Regulations for Administration of Registration of Foreign Food Establishments by the Certification and Accreditation Administration of the People's Republic of China (CNCA). Products from manufacturing establishments that have not got the registration from CNCA must not be imported into the People's Republic of China.

Article 6

The Belgium official veterinarian shall carry out the following functions:

- a) ante-mortem and post-mortem quarantine and inspections to the swine from which the exporting pork originated in accordance with the related Chinese, Belgian and EU laws and regulations;
- b) certify that the slaughtered swine are healthy, no clinical signs of infectious disease have been found, no lesion has been found on the carcass and viscera.
- c) certify that the residue level of veterinary medicine, pesticides, heavy metals, poisonous, hazardous articles contained in the products is below the limits stipulated by China, Belgium and EU.
- d) certify that the pork products are free from the pollution of pathogenic agent in conformity with the Chinese, Belgian and EU laws and regulations.
- e) certify the hygiene and safety of the pork products and fit for human consumption.

Article 7

The slaughtering and processing plants for exporting pork to the People's Republic of China, shall not slaughter swine not complying with the requirements in Article 4 and shall not process pork not complying with the requirements in Article 6 of this protocol at the same time. A specific area within a cold store house shall be available exclusive for the storage of pork exported to the People's Republic of China.

Article 8

The exported pork shall be wrapped in the new packaging materials complying with the international hygienic standards. The names, weight of the product, name and address of manufacturer, its approval number, storage conditions, production date should be labeled on the outside package at least in Chinese and in English. The surface of the package shall have the identification mark containing the approval number (obtained after official control of veterinary and health requirements) as filed to and registered by Chinese side. The name of the product and approval number of the slaughterhouse/plant shall be marked on the internal final package at least in English and Chinese. 'Only for sale in mainland China' should be noted on the outer and inner packaging.

Article 9

During the package, storage and transportation, the pork to be exported to the People's Republic of China shall meet the veterinary hygienic requirements, and shall be prevented from being contaminated by poisonous and harmful substances.

The pork should be stored under the core temperature below -18°C .

After it has been loaded with the products, the container should be sealed under the supervision of Belgian veterinary officer. The seal number should be indicated in the health certificate. The package of the products cannot be unwrapped or changed during the transportation.

Article 10

Each container of the pork intended for the export to the People's Republic of China shall be accompanied by an original veterinary health certificate, having a statement that the shipment complies with Chinese, Belgian and European laws and regulations on veterinary and public health as well as this protocol.

The health certificate should be done at least in Chinese and English, the formula and content of the certificate should be agreed by both sides.

Belgian side shall provide to Chinese side, for filing purposes, a sample of the stamping mark, the health certificate, and a list of authorized veterinarians with their signature and individual stamping mark.

Chinese side shall be notified of any possible modifications and changes to any of the above at least one month before the changes take effect.

Article 11

If there is any occurrence in Belgium of infectious and contagious disease(s) listed in Article 3 of this protocol and present in the former list A of OIE which will contaminate the pork potentially or possibly, Belgian side shall immediately stop exporting pork to the People's Republic of China and notify Chinese side, provide the detailed information about the occurrence and the elimination of the disease(s). If there is any occurrence in Belgium of infectious and contagious disease(s) listed in Article 4 of this protocol and present in the former list B of OIE, and any contamination crisis, Belgian side shall immediately notify Chinese side, provide the detailed information about the occurrence of the disease(s) and its control measures, and the contamination crisis, stop exporting pork from the relevant crisis area

to the People's Republic of China. When disease(s) has/have been eliminated completely or the contamination crisis is over and if the export of products need to be resumed, Belgian side shall consult with Chinese side for approval in advance.

Article 12

If pork imported by China is found by Chinese side not to be in compliance with the requirements of this Protocol, Chinese side will immediately notify Belgian side, and should seek the return, detention, destruction, or other disposal of the product. Belgian side will cooperate with Chinese side to investigate in addressing any problems, including notifying Chinese side of any corrective actions to be taken, such as the recall of any other potentially affected products and to prevent recurrence of the non-compliance.

Article 13

For the purposes of this Protocol, pork refers to any edible parts, including the offal and internal organs.

Article 14

This Protocol can be amended with the mutual consent of both sides.

Article 15

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

Article 16

This protocol is signed in Beijing, on 7 April, 2009, done in duplicate in Chinese and English, two versions being equally authentic.

On behalf of The Federal Agency for the
Safety of the Food Chain of the Kingdom of
Belgium



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

