# PROTOCOL BETWEEN

# THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF CUSTOMS OF THE PEOPLES' REPUBLIC OF CHINA

AND

THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY AND RESEARCH OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN

ON

INSPECTION AND QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS FOR DAIRY PRODUCTS EXPORTED FROM THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN TO THE PEOPLES' REPUBLIC OF CHINA

The General Administration of Customs of the Peoples' Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as GACC) and the Ministry of National Food Security and Research of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan (hereinafter referred to as MNFSR) through friendly consultations, have agreed to the following inspection and quarantine requirements of the dairy products exported from the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the Peoples' Republic of China.

#### **Article 1**

MNFSR who will be responsible for inspection, quarantine and issuance of health certificates for dairy products to be exported to China.

### Article 2

MNFSR shall be responsible for providing GACC with the laws and regulations 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 dairy products. MNFSR shall provide official stamping mark, and sample of veterinary health certificate on official anti-fake paper. MNFSR shall notify GACC of any modifications and changes to any of the above at least one month in advance.

# Article 3

- 1. MNFSR 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 and notify GACC immediately of the animal disease situation listed in Article 5 and defined by the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) as notifiable.
- 2. MNFSR shall annually provide GACC with the national annual residue monitoring plan and residue monitoring report.
- 3. If necessary, GACC may send experts to Pakistan to conduct on-site inspection of the above-mentioned system and management status with the necessary assistance provided by MNFSR.

#### **Article 4**

# MNFSR confirms that:

(1) Pakistan has established effective system to ensure that raw milk is from healthy dairy stocks and complies with the requirements of Article 5.

- (2) The dairy products that are allowed for export to China are processed from bovine or camelus milk.
- (3) Pakistan 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.
- (4) The raw milk of the dairy products exported by Pakistan to China are only from Pakistan.

#### 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.
- (c) The dairy farms are free from brucellosis, bovine tuberculosis, paratuberculosis, rinderpest, rift valley fever.
- (d) The dairy farms are no infection or suspected infection with Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus while collecting camelus milk;
  - (e) The farms are under the supervision of MNFSR;
- (f) Pakistan 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 prohibited by Pakistan and China.
- (3) The national annual residue monitoring plan developed by MNFSR 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 standards.

# Article 6

- 1. The manufacturers exporting dairy products to China should be approved or registered and controlled by MNFSR and will comply with the requirements of China and Pakistan 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.
- 2. The manufacturers will be registered with GACC in accordance with the Food Safety Law of the Peoples' Republic of China and Administrative Provisions on Registration of Overseas Manufacturers of Import Foods of the Peoples' Republic of China. The products from the dairy product manufacturer not registered with GACC are not allowed for export to China.

# Article 7

The official inspectors of Pakistan will ensure that:

- (1) The state inspector for veterinary inspection of Pakistan implement 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 Pakistan.
- (2) All dairy farms comply with 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 Pakistan, 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 China.
- (4) The raw milk used to process dairy products contains no milk during the use of antibiotics and withdrawal period or deteriorated milk, and colostrums (except for processing bovine colostrum powder).
- (5) The product shall adopt one of the following processing procedures:
- a) Adopting the sterilization procedure (ultra-high temperature UHT) at the minimum temperature of 132°C for at least 1s, or
- b) 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 72°C for at least 15s,or
- c) If the pH value of milk is 7.0 or above, HTST procedure will be carried out twice.
- (6) The dairy product is produced by the manufacturers in Pakistan under the supervision of MNFSR, and complies with the laws and regulations of Pakistan.
- (7) The product complies with the food safety standards of China, and is safe, hygienic and fit for human consumption.
- (8) If any violation of the above-mentioned requirements is identified, MNFSR 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

- 1. 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.
- 2. 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

1. 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, Urdu and English.

2. The inner packing shall comply with the relevant regulations of the Peoples' 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

- 1. 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 Pakistan and China on animal health and public health. The official certificate of Pakistan shall apply only to the dairy products produced and processed by the manufacturers in Pakistan.
- 2. Veterinary health certificate should be written in Chinese, Urdu and English. The format and content of the certificate should be mutually confirmed and agreed upon in advance by both sides.
- 3. 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

- 1. 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, Pakistan shall immediately stop exporting the dairy products derived from the above-mentioned dairy farm or processing establishment to China, promptly recall any affected products, and notify GACC of the relevant information.
- 2. 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, MNFSR 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

MNFSR. These measures shall only target the above-mentioned dairy farm or processing establishment.

3. If the imported dairy products are found non-compliant with the requirements of this Protocol by GACC, it will immediately notify MNFSR and seek the return, destruction, or other treatment of the products. MNFSR 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 product mentioned in this Protocol refers to the food processed from bovine or camelus milk as the main raw material, including milk powder, whey powder, whey protein powder, bovine colostrum powder, sterilized milk, modified milk, fermented milk, cheese and processed cheese, cream, butter, anhydrous milkfat etc.
- 2. MNFSR should guarantee that the dairy products to be exported to China are properly thermally processed according to Article 7/(5) 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 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 another 5 years unless either side formally notify the other side in written form its intention to terminate the Protocol at least 6 months prior to the end of the first 5 years.

This Protocol is signed in on in the year of 2023, in two original copies, each in Chinese, and English, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

On behalf of

the General Administration of
Customs of the People's Republic of
China

On behalf of the Ministry of National Food and Security Research of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan