# Protocol on Inspection, Quarantine and Sanitary Requirements for Atlantic Salmon Imported from the Kingdom of Norway into the People's Republic of China

#### between

# General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China and the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries of the Kingdom of Norway

General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as the Chinese Party) and the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries of the Kingdom of Norway (hereinafter referred to as the Norwegian Party), through friendly negotiations, have agreed to the following requirements for Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) imported from Norway into the P. R. China.

## Article 1 Scope

The Norwegian Party is responsible for inspection and quarantine of Atlantic salmon exported to the P. R. China and issuance of health certificates. The decisions and activities under this protocol shall comply with the OIE aquatic code and the WTO/SPS-agreement.

This protocol refers to chilled, frozen, smoked or otherwise processed products of Atlantic salmon.

Article 4 is applicable for chilled or frozen whole Atlantic salmon (including salmon with or without head, gutted or ungutted), salmon steak and salmon fillet.

# Article 2a Requirements for aquaculture enterprises

Aquaculture farms that export Atlantic salmon to the P. R. China shall comply with laws and regulations of Norway.

The producing establishment, including processing plant, freezing vessel or transporting vessel, factory vessel and cold store, which intend to export Atlantic salmon to the P. R. China shall be in compliance with the relevant laws and regulations of China and Norway, and under the supervision of the competent authorities of Norway.

# Article 2b Requirements for Norway to have official systems in place

The Norwegian Party shall have in place official systems for inspection, control and surveillance of Atlantic salmon regarding fish health and food safety.

Norway shall have an official system in place for approval and geographical location of aquaculture farms, slaughterhouses and processing establishments. Norway shall have an official system in place to trace the movements and origin of Atlantic salmon broodstocks, eyed eggs, fry, live fish and fish products.

#### Article 3 Documentation

The Norwegian Party will provide the Chinese Party with documentation in English that Norway has a system and legislation in place in accordance with the EU legislation and OIE aquaculture standards.

The Norwegian Party will provide the Chinese Party with annual status of fish health and food safety.

The Parties shall exchange relevant risk assessments that apply to the products covered by this protocol.

## Article 4 Atlantic salmon

Atlantic salmon exported to the P. R. China shall satisfy the following requirements:

- 1. Farms with suspected or confirmed diagnosis with Viral haemorrhagic septicaemia, Gyrodactylosis, Infectious salmon anaemia or infection with salmonid alphavirus are not allowed to export to the P. R. China until the restriction has been lifted by the competent authority in Norway.
- 2. If the Chinese Party finds Infectious salmon anaemia or Infection with salmonid alphavirus in Norwegian Atlantic salmon, the Chinese Party will suspend the importation of Atlantic salmon from the affected farm(s) in Norway. Through consultation between the parties, Atlantic salmon from the affected farm(s) shall be allowed to be exported to the P.R.China when the relevant risks are eliminated.
- 3. The consignments shall not include salmon that has been produced with natural or artificial hormones or hormone substances.

# Article 5 Registration of Norwegian establishments by the P. R. China Registration of producing (including processing plant, freezing vessel or transporting vessel, factory vessel and cold store) establishments for export to China is handled according to the *Food Safety Law of the People's Republic of China*. Only fishery products from producing establishments and vessels that have been registered by Chinese Party can be imported into China.

## Article 6 Hygiene

Atlantic salmon exported to China shall be produced, packaged, stored and transported under good hygiene condition in accordance with Norwegian regulations.

The packaging material for Atlantic salmon exported to China shall be completely new or sterilized, and the water, ices, padding and other tools in contact with it shall meet the hygiene requirements of both parties.

## Article 7 Labeling

Chinese labels shall be attached on the package firmly, and the labels shall include product name and scientific name, specifications, date of production, shelf life, batch number, storage condition, mode of production (farmed), area of production, name and registered number of processing enterprises and destination.

## Article 8 Containers and transport

Atlantic salmon exported to the P. R. China transported in containers, shall comply with the requirements referred to in Article 11.

Containers and package shall not be allowed opened or replaced during transportation.

If other types of transportation are applied, batch management shall be conducted for traceability.

#### Article 9 Health Certificate

The Norwegian Food Safety Authority is responsible for issuing the health certificate and at least one original health certificate shall accompany each consignment of Atlantic salmon exported to the P. R. China.

The health certificate shall be printed in Chinese and English, and the format and content shall be approved by both parties.

Samples of stamp and health certificate shall be provided to the Chinese Party.

# Article 10 Import to the P. R. China

The Chinese Party applies a quarantine licensing system to imported farmed Atlantic salmon. Without obtaining the license, the Atlantic salmon is prohibited to enter into China.

## Article 11 Import requirements

The Chinese Party implements inspection and quarantine on imported Atlantic salmon. Import is granted only for the products complying with laws, regulations, standards and requirements of the P. R. China.

For Atlantic salmon not compliant with laws, regulations, standards and requirements of China, the Parties shall mutually assist each other to carry out retrospective investigation after receiving a notification from the Chinese Party.

#### Article 12 Audits

If necessary, the Chinese Party will carry out audits in Norway to evaluate the compliance with the relevant articles of this protocol. The Norwegian side will provide necessary assistance.

#### Article 13 Consultations

Any dispute or disagreement between the parties regarding the interpretation or application of this protocol or issues related to suspension of import, will be solved co-operatively through consultation. Consultations shall take place upon request by a party.

#### Article 14 Entry into Force, Duration and Termination

This protocol will enter into force on the day of signing and is valid for 2 years. The validity shall be automatically extended for another 2 years, unless one party notifies the other party in written form trough the relevant diplomatic channels of the termination of this protocol within 2 months prior to its expiration.

This protocol may be amended with the agreement by both parties.

Done in duplicate in \_\_\_\_\_\_ on May\_\_\_\_\_ th , 2019 in Chinese and English languages. Both texts are equally authentic.

For

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

For

the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries of the Kingdom of Norway