

**CHINA'S SAFETY ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM FOR EXPORT POULTRY
AND POULTRY PRODUCTS**

Statement by China at the meeting of 28-29 October 2009

The following communication, received on 3 December 2009, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of China.

I. BASIC INFORMATION ON POULTRY EXPORTS BY CHINA

1. In 2007, China produced up to 13 million tons of poultry, being the world's second largest poultry-producing country. The Chinese Government has always attached great importance to poultry safety, and has gradually established the whole-process safety control system for export poultry and poultry products.

2. On 29 May 2007, China formally joined the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), and has since duly reported major epidemics to OIE in the form of Veterinary Bulletins. On 30 August 2007, China promulgated the newly-revised *Law on Animal Epidemic Prevention to strengthen the work in accordance with OIE relevant standards*, setting up the principles of "regionalization" and "compartmentalization". With great efforts, most poultry export establishments, especially the large-sized establishments, have put in place veterinary epidemic prevention systems and bio-security control plans under the supervision of official veterinarians. In addition, existing systems such as the epidemic early-warning and rapid response systems, as well as product tracing and recall systems, were further improved.

3. To ensure the safety of export poultry and poultry products, China has developed a highly integrated management system which involves "export company + breeding base + standardization" (i.e taking export poultry companies as the center and registered farms as the base, and conducting standardized production), which focuses on the whole supply chain and process administration approach. Under this whole process system, the so-called "five ones" are implemented, i.e. one chick supply, one unified epidemic prevention and disinfection system, one feed supply, one drug supply and one unified slaughtering and processing system in the official registered facilities.

II. CHINESE LEGISLATION AND STANDARDS RELATING TO EXPORT POULTRY SAFETY

- (i) Law of the People's Republic of China on Quality and Safety of Agricultural Products, Law of the People's Republic of China on Animal Epidemic Prevention, Law of the People's Republic of China on Food Safety, Law of the People's Republic of China on the Entry and Exit Animal and Plant Quarantine

- (ii) Code for Quarantine of Animals at Places of Production, Sanitation Standards for Cooked Meat Products, Code for Quality and Safety Control of Export Poultry and Poultry Products, Inspection Procedures for Export Frozen Chicken, Inspection Procedures for Export Frozen Ducks and Geese.

4. On 31 December 2005, China promulgated a series of *Good Agricultural Practices* (GAP) national standards, and established a set of standards for poultry breeding and animal welfare.

III. CHINA'S REGULATORY SYSTEM FOR EXPORT POULTRY SAFETY

A. REGISTRATION

5. In accordance with the *Food Safety Law* which entered into force on 1 June 2009, the State requires a license system for food production all over the country. In the case of poultry and poultry products, a poultry farm has to apply to the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) for a qualification certificate for animal epidemic prevention before handling the business. Based on this, the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) will file the registration of breeding farms and export poultry processing establishments, respectively. Therefore, only raw materials from registered farms may be used to process poultry for export, and only the registered establishments may deal in poultry processing and export.

B. IN-FACTORY INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION

6. There are official veterinarians from AQSIQ working in the registered poultry breeding farms and processing establishments. In accordance with relevant inspection procedures, they carry out routine on-site or sampling inspection to ensure the animal diseases of concern and veterinary drug residues are effectively monitored and controlled.

C. EXPORT INSPECTION

7. Before the poultry and poultry products are exported, very stringent compulsory testing and inspection against the importing countries/regions' requirements will be carried out by AQSIQ. Should the shipments fail in passing the testing and inspection, the poultry and poultry products will not be allowed for exportation.

D. TESTING CAPACITY

8. To meet the poultry and poultry products inspection and testing needs, MOA and AQSIQ have established a sufficient number of high-level animal disease laboratories and drug residue testing laboratories, which are accredited according to ISO/IEC Guide 17025-2005. These laboratories have the capacity of detecting poultry diseases such as avian influenza and Newcastle disease, testing pesticide and drug residues in poultry as well as hazardous chemicals.

E. OTHER RELEVANT MEASURES

9. In China, the enterprises producing poultry and poultry products for export are encouraged to adopt safety, quality and environmental management systems like Good Agricultural Practice, HACCP, ISO9001 and ISO14001. To help build up a credible system among poultry export enterprises, AQSIQ is also managing a red list and a black list of exporting enterprises with continuous compliance and those with repetitive violations.

ANNEX

Diagram of Chinese System for Supervision of Export Poultry Inspection and Quarantine

