

**The Protocol on Plant Inspection and Quarantine
Requirements for Exporting Rice from Lao to China
between the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of the Lao
People's Democratic Republic and the General
Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and
Quarantine of the People's Republic of China**

To ensure the safety of export rice from Lao to China, and to ensure the safety of agricultural production, forestry industry and ecological of China, according to the results of pest risk analysis and the relevant principles the WTO's *Protocol on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures* (SPS Protocol), the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (hereinafter referred to as "the Laos side") and the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China (AQSIQ) (referred to as "the Chinese side") have reached the following Protocol on inspection and quarantine requirements for importing Laos rice through friendly consultation.

Article 1

The rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) mentioned in this Protocol refers to polished rice that has undergone milling processing without rice husk and other impurities.

Article 2

The rice exported to China shall comply with the relevant laws and regulations for plant quarantine in China and shall be free of quarantine pests of concern to by China (see the Annex) and impurities such as rice husk, bran, stems, leaves, weed seeds and other plant residues and soil particles.

The rice exported to China shall comply with the Chinese national standards and relevant regulations about the allowable residue limit to agrochemicals and hazardous and noxious substances.

Article 3

The enterprises that export, process and store rice for export to China shall be registered in Lao and accepted by China. The registration information shall include the name, address and registration code for accurate traceability when export goods do not meet the related provisions of this protocol, and the list of registered enterprises shall be provided by the Laos side to the Chinese side before the export season each year.

Article 4

The Laos side shall, in the rice growing areas, adopt integrated pest prevention and control measures for the quarantine pests of concern to China to reduce the occurrence of the pests.

The Laos side shall carry out investigation on *Trogoderma granarium* Everts, *Cryptolestes pusilloides* (Stee et Howe) and

Prostephanus truncatus (Horn) in rice processing factories and installed traps in rice processing factories. The density of traps shall be 1 piece per 100 square meters. The trapping results shall be checked and recorded each week. The Laos shall provide these results to the Chinese side.

In processing, storage and transportation processes of Laos rice for export to China, the Laos side shall take protective measures to prevent rice from mildewing or being mixed with soil particles, plant residues, weed seeds and impurities. It is strictly prohibited to artificially add or mix rice with other grains or impurities. The Laos side shall provide the information about the implementation of the above measures to China.

Article 5

The packing places and packaging processes for rice for export to China shall be kept clean and free of harmful biological infection. The rice that has been processed and packed shall be stored separately.

The packing boxes for rice for export to China shall be new and not contaminated by harmful biological species and toxic and harmful substances.

The packing boxes for rice for export to China shall be marked "To the People's Republic of China" in both Chinese and English and Chinese information that can identify rice variety, processing factory, name of exporter, registration code and address of related enterprise.

The means of transport for rice for export to China shall comply with the requirements of safety and health and shall be free of quarantine pests of concern to China, husks, branches, leaves, weed seeds and soil particles.

Article 6

Prior to export, the Laos side shall conduct inspection and Quarantine of rice. The Laos side shall issue the plant quarantine certificate for rice that meets the requirements of this Protocol and mark on the additional statement of the certificate that “This batch of rice meets the requirements of *The Protocol on Plant Inspection and Quarantine Requirements for Exporting Rice from Lao to China* and is free of quarantine pests of concern to China”. The format of the certificate shall comply with the ISPM12 standard and a sample certificate shall be provided to China for confirmation and recording.

The Chinese side will specify the inspection and quarantine companies to assist the Laos side in inspection and Quarantine of rice export to China in Lao.

Article 7

Before export to China, Laos rice shall undergo fumigation treatment to ensure that rice for export to China is free of live insects, especially storage pests, and the Laos side shall issue the official fumigation certificate. Treatment agents and treatment methods shall jointly be determined by both sides. Before shipment, the means of transport shall undergo thorough

inspection and disinfection to prevent harmful biological species from being mixed with rice.

Article 8

When Laos rice arrives at the port of entry, China shall implement inspection and quarantine according to law. The port inspection and quarantine authorities will verify "*Phytosanitary Certificate*" and other relevant certificate documents and implement entry inspection and quarantine.

Article 9

The Laos side shall promptly report to the Chinese side the occurrence of new pest and take relevant measures. When necessary, after being agreed by the Laos side, China will send quarantine experts to Lao to carry out joint investigation on occurrence and prevention and control of rice pests and diseases. According to the Laos rice outbreak and epidemic interception situation, China will carry out further risk assessment and retrospective review of the above plant quarantine requirements. Based on consultation with the Laos side, China will adjust the list of quarantine pests and the relevant quarantine measures.

Article 10

In the first year after trade begins, China will send experts to Laos rice processing factories to carry out pest survey and pre-clearance inspection. Once any quarantine pest is detected during import, China can further carry out such investigation. The relevant costs (including international transportation fees,

board and lodging expenses and miscellaneous fees) shall be borne by the exporter in Laos, and the Laos side shall be responsible for sending the invitation and assisting the travel arrangements.

Article 11

Both sides agree that this protocol will not violate or impact the implementation of the laws and regulations of each country.

Article 12

This Protocol shall come into effect on the date it is signed and shall be valid for a period of 2 years. If both sides do not require any amendment or termination 6 months prior to the expiration, the validity will automatically extend 2 years. Any dispute arising in implementation of this Protocol shall be settled by both sides through friendly negotiation.

This Protocol was signed in Beijing on January 05th, 2015. It is made out in duplicate in Chinese, Laos and English, and each version is equally authentic. In case of any discrepancy, the English version shall prevail.

For
The Ministry of Agriculture
and Forestry of the Lao
People's Democratic
Republic



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

吴清海

Annex:

List of Quarantine Pests of Concern to China

1. *Trogoderma granarium* Everts
2. *Cryptolestes pusilloides* (Stee et Howe)
3. *Prostephanus truncatus* (Horn)
4. *Cenchrus echinatus* (southern sandbur)
5. *Chromolaena odorata* (L.) King & Robinson
6. *Striga asiatica* (L.) O. Kuntze