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REGULATION

ON CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES, BORDER VETERINARY INSPECTION STATIONS AND STATE PLANT QUARANTINE SERVICES OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA.

1.GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 51 "Participation of other State bodies in the activities associated with the Customs clearance and inspection" of the Customs Law of the Republic of Armenia also applies to the inspection performed by the border veterinary inspection stations and state plant quarantine services.

In compliance with the above Article the Customs clearance shall be considered completed only after the inspection of goods and other articles passing through the Customs border of the Republic of Armenia performed by the aforementioned services.

The state veterinary inspection shall be carried out at the airports, railway stations and highways in order to ensure the performance of the state veterinary inspection of animals, birds, animal produce and raw materials, alive fish, caviar and crawfish imported into the Republic of Armenia in international parcels, cargo and by passengers, as well as to prevent spreading of contagious disease of animals, birds, bees and fish.

To ensure the performance of inspection the border veterinary inspection stations and state plant quarantine services may take the whole goods and articles, their test samples in compliance with the state established procedure (GOST), in the presence of the Customs authorities and only by their consent. All the goods and other articles to be imported into the Customs territory, as well as those which are in transit via the above territory and specified in Part 2 of the present Regulation, shall be subject to the inspection performed in the Republic of Armenia by the veterinary inspection stations and state plant quarantine services within the jurisdiction of the latter.

The present Regulation is also envisaged for foreign tourists and passengers on international trips.

2. THE LIST OF ANIMALS, ANIMAL PRODUCE, RAW MATERIALS AND OTHER GOODS SUBJECT TO THE INSPECTION OF THE BORDER VETERINARY INSPECTION STATIONS AS WELL AS MATERIALS SUBJECT TO THE INSPECTIONS PLANT QUARANTINE

The list of animals, animal produce, raw materials and other goods to be imported into or in transit via the territory of the Republic of Armenia and specified by the state veterinary inspection of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Armenia is given below:

“Animals”:

- The solid – hoofed (horse, donkey, mule and others);
- Domestic and wild cloven - hoofed (cattle, buffalo, camel, sheep, goat, pig);
- Poultry (hen, turkey, goose, duck ,quail and others);
- Domestic and wild rodents;
- Exotic birds and animals;
- Bees;
- Fish, caviar, crustaceans, turtle, frog, silkworm and other hydrobionts).

“Animal reproduction matters”:

- Sperm, ovule, zygote, embryo.

“Animal produce”:

- Animal raw materials;
- Animal foodstuffs, sub-products and other finished animal produce used as food;
- Meat and meat products, milk and dairy produce, eggs, honey and other produce;
- Animal non-foodstuffs, raw hides, wool, fur, fluff, feathers, bones, hooves and others;
- Grafting, glandular and tissue matters and others.

“ Grain forage”:

All kind of plant, animal, mineral, microbiological, chemical and other produce not containing toxin residua that can be used for foddering.

An authorisation of the state veterinary inspection shall be required for the animals, animal reproduction matters, and animal produce not specified in the present list for each separate case.

In compliance with the Plant Quarantine Regulations in force in the Republic of Armenia quarantine measures shall extend over the cargo and matters listed below:

- Agricultural, forestry and decorative cultivated plants, seeds and planting material (cuttings, layers, bulb, root-crops and others);
- Fresh fruit and vegetables;
- Food and fodder crops and cereals, copra (kernel of coconut), malt (beer malt), oil-cake, ground oil-cake, yarn of cotton, flax and other cultivated fibrous plants, wool, raw hides, medicinal plant raw materials and other plant produce, deemed to be the spreaders of vermin, diseases of plants and weeds.

The Customs authorities shall make cognizant the representatives of the border veterinary inspection stations and state plant quarantine services of data on the quantity and purpose of transport, parcels, goods and cargo subject to animal and plant inspection:

- Peeled rice, nut, acorn, peanut, flour, cereals, coffee-beans, cocoa, dried fruit, tobacco, spice and aromatic plants;
- Variety of fungus, microbes, bacteria that are the spreaders of plant vermin and diseases, as well as ticks and insects pestilent to plants and plant produce;
- Collection of insects, pathogens of plant diseases, seed herbaria and collections;
- Plant produce and materials exported and imported in parcels, passengers and tourists' luggage and hand luggage;
- Timber, package, packing, articles made of plant materials, as well as samples of soil might be the spreaders of weeds and pathogens of plant vermin diseases;
- Forage, grass, combined fodder, others., brought in with animals during transportation, as well as straw and litter laid under them;
- Inapplicable and prohibited for exporting into to the Republic of Armenia plant protection means, chemical and microbial mineral fertilizers.

The following shall be subject to plant quarantine measures:

- Transport entering the territory of the Republic of Armenia from the territory of foreign states;
- Warehouses where the plant products exported from abroad are stored.

All kinds of animals, products, means and cargo defined in the aforementioned lists and subject to the inspection of the border veterinary inspection stations and state plant quarantine services shall be hereinafter referred to as cargo subject to veterinary and plant quarantine inspection.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES, BORDER VETERINARY INSPECTION STATIONS AND STATE PLANT QUARANTINE SERVICES, FULFILMENT OF CUSTOMS FORMALITIES AND PERFORMANCE OF INSPECTION

The border stations of state veterinary inspection implementing their activities on the state border shall carry out:

- Veterinary sanitary inspection pending the importation and exportation of cargo subject to veterinary and plant quarantine;
- Inspection over the implementation of measures against the penetration of contagious animal diseases into the territory of the Republic of Armenia.

Inspection of cargo subject to the inspection of the veterinary inspection station and plant quarantine shall be carried out simultaneously and jointly with the Customs inspection.

Samples to be tested by the border veterinary inspection stations and state plant quarantine services shall be taken in the fixed amount.

The above services shall not delay the release of goods and other articles without grounds, and the nationals shall be kept informed of the disposition of the samples and test samples required from them.

The Customs authorities, transport organisations shall facilitate the activities of the border veterinary inspection stations and state plant quarantine services aimed at preventing the penetration of diseases and vermin through animals and plants imported into the territory of the Republic of Armenia.

The above organisations shall effect co-operation with respect to warehousing, storing and transporting the agricultural plant and animal produce.

The Customs authorities shall make the representatives of the border veterinary inspection stations and state plant quarantine services cognizant of the available data on the quantity and purpose of transport, parcels, goods and cargo subject to veterinary and plant inspection.

Release of goods in all directions over the territory of the Republic of Armenia shall be carried out only by permission of the border veterinary inspection stations and state plant quarantine services.

At the same time, veterinary and plant quarantine inspections shall not hinder the activities of the Customs authorities or cause demurrage of transport without grounds.

The border veterinary inspection stations and state plant quarantine services shall inform the Customs authorities, transport organisations and nationals of the legal procedure of their activities (fulfilment of veterinary and plant quarantine formalities, acts of violation, protocols) stipulated by the relevant regulations in force.

4. RELEASE PROCEDURE OF CARGO, GOODS SUBJECT TO VETERINARY AND PLANT QUARANTINE INSPECTION IN THE TERRITORY OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA AND DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR THE CUSTOMS INSPECTION

Authorisation granted by the State Veterinary and Plant Quarantine Inspection of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Armenia, as well veterinary or quarantine certificates granted by the State Veterinary and Plant Quarantine Services of country-exporters and certifying the protection from contagious disease of the territory where cargo and goods subject to veterinary and plant quarantine inspection are exported from, shall constitute grounds for free transportation of cargo and goods imported into the Customs territory of the Republic of Armenia and subject to veterinary and plant quarantine inspection.

The Customs authorities shall verify legality of the above documents and validate them by the given Customs stamp to submit to veterinary inspection or be available on request of plant quarantine.

The Customs officer carrying out inspection shall participate in the inspection performed by the veterinary inspection stations and plant quarantine services in the Customs zones, and certify their report concerning the revealed facts by attesting his signature, particularly for parcels.

A copy of report shall be presented to the Customs authorities.

The relevant certificates or certifications for animals, plant and animal produce, goods and other articles to be imported from the Customs territory of the Republic of Armenia shall be granted by the bodies of the state veterinary and plant quarantine services, and comply with the requirements for plant quarantine and environment protection established by the International and Foreign Trade Agreements.

The aforementioned exported articles shall not be included in the approved list of articles prohibited for exporting through the Customs territory of the Republic of Armenia. The above list in force shall be submitted to the Customs authorities by the State Plant Quarantine Services, and deemed to be the addendum to the Regulations of the above services.

The relevant veterinary certification instead of a veterinary certificate shall be given by a veterinary carrying out the inspection of transport in transit via the territory of the Republic of Armenia.

4. PROCEDURE OF RELEASE OF PERSONAL BELONGINGS CONTAINED IN LUGGAGE AND SUBJECT TO VETERINARY AND PLANT INSPECTION PENDING THE CUSTOMS CLEARANCE

Persons arriving in and living the territory of the Republic of Armenia, transport attendants shall be obliged to present cargo, goods and articles contained in hand luggage and subject to the veterinary and plant quarantine inspection to the Customs authorities.

Veterinary or plant quarantine certificates or certification granted by the relevant Authorities and presented by a passenger to the Customs authorities shall constitute grounds for releasing the above goods and articles. These documents shall be attached to the passenger's declaration and filed at the given Customs.

Should the animal and plant produce and articles not be provided with the relevant documents the representatives of the border veterinary inspection stations and state plant quarantine services shall make a decision concerning their release. Heads of the Diplomatic Representatives of foreign states, Diplomatic staff members, representatives of international organisations that enjoy the Customs privileges in the territory of the Republic of Armenia shall be obliged in the presence of the Customs authorities to submit the goods and articles of their personal use subject to the veterinary and plant quarantine inspection to the representatives of the border veterinary inspection stations and state plant quarantine services at the latter's request.

Persons arriving in and leaving the territory of the Republic of Armenia shall submit the goods and articles subject to veterinary and plant quarantine to the border veterinary inspection stations and state plant quarantine services for inspection purposes.