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**LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC**

**PEACE                  INDEPENDENCE                  DEMOCRACY                  UNITY                  PROSPERITY**

Food and Medicine Control Committee

No. 035/FMC

**PROVISIONS ON THE CONTROL OF  
EXPORT-ORIENTED AND IMPORTED FOODSTUFF**

Referring to: Decree No. 45/CCM, dated 3/6/91, of the Council of Ministers on the establishment of the Food and Medicine Control Committee.

The Food and Medicine Control Committee issues these provisions:

Part I  
General Principles

Article 1

The word "food" refers to edible substance or life supporting substance such as anything eaten, drunk, sucked or introduced in whatever way into the body, not including medicine, psychotropic substances or narcotic drugs. Food includes substances meant for use or as a component in food production, substance mixed in food.

Article 2

These provisions set the principle of control and promotion of quality and standard food introduced in the Lao PDR and exported in view of ensuring the consumers' safety, by helping the people protect their interest in the selection of quality and safe food products.

Article 3

The implementation of these provisions will bring order to the Lao society, and serve as legal basis to relevant state officials of all levels in the management, care and control of food products' quality and standard.

Part II  
Foodstuff Import-Export Permits

Article 4

As an import-export business permit is obtained from the Ministry of Commerce and Tourism, documents must be presented to the Food and Medicine Control Committee for quality consideration, as follows:

- Application for food product import-export permit (see form 1).
- Food quality certificate from the Food and Medicine Control Committee or similar official organizations of the relevant country.
- Copy of import-export business permit.

#### Article 5

For the purpose of their control at the border, importers must declare and provide samples of brought food products to be controlled by the Food and Medicine Control Committee, as reconfirmation of the documents mentioned in Article 4.

- If the quality concords to the quality certificate mentioned in Article 4, entry to the Lao PDR will be authorized.
- If the quality does not concord as provided in Article 4, the Food and Medicine Control Committee will strictly forbid entry to the Lao PDR of such food products.

#### Article 6

Import-export entrepreneurs of export-oriented food products must submit the mentioned food products to a control for quality confirmation in conformity with business contracts (if any) to the Food and Medicine Control Committee beforehand.

### Part III Professional Service Fees

#### Article 7

All organizations conducting foodstuff import-export business must pay professional service fees and expenses for quality analysis of food products as provided by the hereby-attached regulations No. 098/FMC dated 23/10/91, on professional service fees.

### Part IV Restriction

#### Article 8

Import-export entrepreneurs are forbidden to bring the following food products into Lao PDR:

1. Food products lacking stickers, providing no information on the place of production, nor any quality certificate from the relevant country.
2. Impure food products.
3. Synthetic food products.
4. Foodstuff non-conforming to the standard.

Further details will be contained in separate documents.

#### Article 9

Any individual illicitly circulating commodities within the Lao PDR or transgressing Article 9 as mentioned here above will be subject to warning, penalty or confiscation or prosecution as provided by the laws.

Part V  
Rights of the Food and Medicine Control Committee

Article 10

The Food and Medicine Control Committee has the right to conduct control at foodstuff storage sites throughout the country as necessary or to assign other organizations to implement various tasks as recommended by the Food and Medicine Control Committee.

Article 11

The Food and Medicine Control Committee is the sole state management body which has the authority to issue food product quality certificates.

Part VI  
Organization and Implementation

Article 12

All parties conducting foodstuff import-export business are to strictly implement these provisions.

Article 13

These provisions are effective from the day they are signed by the Prime Minister and promulgated.

Vientiane, 26/10/1991  
Chairman of the Food and Medicine  
Control Committee

Dr Khamphay Latsamy