

LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

PEACE INDEPENDENCE DEMOCRACY UNITY PROSPERITY

Council of Ministers
Food and Medicine Control Committee

No. 105/FMC

**PROVISIONS ON QUALITY CONTROL
OF DOMESTICALLY CIRCULATED FOODSTUFF**

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

Therefore, the Food and Medicine Control Committee issues the following provisions:

Part I
General Principles

Article 1

These provisions aim at managing and controlling the quality of the food products and drinks actually circulated and sold in the various localities of the country for safe consumption.

Article 2

In view of such purpose, all distribution services and business must ensure their food products' quality towards the consumers and law.

Part II
Rights and Obligations of Authorizing Authorities

Article 3

The FMCC is the sole state organization with the authority to control and certify the quality of sole and serviced food products. Individuals or organizations conducting service and distribution businesses must register their products' quality with the FMCC beforehand.

Article 4 Obligations of the FMCC

The FMCC has the duty to conduct ordinary and special control and inspection of all food products at various places of sale, service, storage, markets, shops and others throughout the country. When necessary, officers will collect food samples for new analysis and quality control.

Part III
Rights and Obligations of Sellers and Distributors

Article 5 Obligations of businessmen

Individuals or organizations distributing food products must be in possession of quality certificates both from the production and sale sites.
Circulated foodstuff must wear labels established by the FMCC.

Article 6

Retail sellers producing and selling as full and semi-occupation, for example: congee rice soup, Chinese soups, drinks, ice cubes, ice-creams, syrups, alcohol, meat, fish, vegetable, fruits and others, do not have the obligation to register or obtain permits from the FMCC, but must stand under the food quality control of the FMCC and abide by Article 08 to Article 13 of Part V.

Part IV
Professional Service Fees

Article 7

Owners of sold and serviced food products must pay professional service fees for quality analysis and control (according to the regulations No.098/FMC, dated 23/10/9, on service fees attached herewith).

Part V
Restrictions

Article 8

All food distributing and servicing organizations, whether state or private, are forbidden as follows:

- non-fresh and spoiled food
- low quality food
- food displaying no label (to be established by the FMCC)
- synthetic food
- spoiled raw material

Article 9

Colorings are forbidden, except for food colorings, and among these, only those officially authorized (recommendations attached herewith).

Article 10

It is forbidden to use saccharin (as replacement of sugar) in food and drinks.

Article 11

It is forbidden to use preservative and anti-mushroom substance in food and drinks, except for those authorized by the FMCC (recommendations attached herewith).

Article 12

It is forbidden to use narcotic drugs and psychotic substance in food and drinks (marijuana, caffeine and others).

Article 13

It is forbidden to use poisonous material in drinks, such as flint, insecticide.

Part VI
Penalties

Article 14

Any state or private organization transgressing these provisions will be warned, penalized, confiscated or prosecuted as provided by the laws.

14.1 In case products are already sold, and consumers' health has been endangered and others, owners of such products will assume all compensations depending on the case.

Article 15

Towards officials, whether professional and technical, if any individual or work team displaying dishonesty in production and their authority, such as:

- receiving bribes
- collusion with traders
- concealing the truth for their personal interest will be warned, removed from their posts and prosecuted as provided by the laws.

Part VII
Organization and implementation

Article 16

All distributing, selling, servicing state, private domestic or foreign organizations and individuals must strictly implement these provisions.

Article 17

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

Vientiane, October 31, 1991
Chairman of the Food and Medicine
Control Committee

Khamphay LATSAMY