

Regulation of imported beef and beef products from Japan

(draft)

(TRANSLATION)

(In the case of any divergence in the translation, the Chinese text shall prevail.)

1. Requirements for Beef

- i. Only beef derived from cattle born and raised in Japan; or from cattle born in a country deemed eligible by Taiwan to export beef and raised in Japan for at least 100 days prior to slaughter in Japan will be considered eligible to export to Taiwan.
- ii. Only beef derived from cattle less than 30 months of age (*Bos taurus* and *Bos indicus*).
- iii. Only beef from meat establishments registered, maintained monitoring and auditing program by Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) in Japan. Japan will provide a list of such meat establishments to Taiwan's authorities for examination and approval in advance of the export. Taiwan will be informed of any amendment of such a list of meat establishments before the export of amended meat establishment by the MHLW, through the *Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association* or another institution that represents Japan.
- iv. The beef will be derived from cattle that were slaughtered in accordance with the applicable Japan legislation, and have passed ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection under the supervision of the veterinarian. The following items should be

confirmed by veterinarian:

- (i) The age of cattle at the time of slaughter, birthplace and place of raising;
 - (ii) The beef will be derived from cattle that were not subjected to a stunning process, prior to slaughter, with a device injecting compressed air or gas into the cranial cavity, or to a pithing process;
 - (iii) The beef does not contain special risk materials (SRMs), any mechanically recovered meat (MRM), mechanically separated meat (MSM), or advanced meat recovery (AMR) derived from cattle skull and vertebral column, or any tissue or parts derived from cattle 30 months of age and over at the time of slaughter.
- v. Beef shall meet the related radiation control regulations and measures on food safety.

2. “Special risk materials(SRMs)” means:

- i. The distal ileum of the small intestine and the tonsils from cattle of all ages, and
- ii. The brain, skull, eyes, trigeminal ganglia, spinal cord, vertebral column (excluding the vertebrae of the tail, the transverse processes of the thoracic and lumbar vertebrae, and the wings of the sacrum), and dorsal root ganglia from cattle 30 months of age and older.
- iii. The parts that are defined as SRMs according to Japan regulations.

3. Shipments of beef will be accompanied by certificates issued by the MHLW, which must include the following information:
- i. Birthplace and country of raising of the cattle from which the beef is derived;
 - ii. Name of the product (including species), number of packages and weight (net weight) listed by each final processing plant;
 - iii. Names, addresses, and establishment numbers of the slaughterhouse, meat processing plant, or storage facility;
 - iv. Slaughtering period and/or processing period (dd/mm/yy-dd/mm/yy);
 - v. Name and addresses of the consignor and the consignee;
 - vi. Date, place of issue, and authority by which the export certificate was issued, and the name and signature of the veterinary officer; and
 - vii. Container number and seal number;
 - viii. States “the beef is derived from cattle that were less than 30 months of age”
 - ix. States “the beef is derived from cattle that were slaughtered in establishments certified by the MHLW as eligible to export beef to Taiwan and that passed ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection under the supervision of a MHLW veterinarian”.
4. In the event that an additional case of BSE occurs in Japan, the MHLW will immediately inform the *Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Japan* or the *Japan–Taiwan Exchange Association* of the case and provide the results of an investigation and all information about the enhancement of food safety monitoring

measures for BAPHIQ and TFDA. If the additional case of BSE results in the OIE recognizing an adverse change in the classification of the BSE status of Japan, Taiwan could suspend importation of beef from Japan and conduct on-site audits before receiving the results of the case investigation from Japan.

5. Taiwan, in according to relevant regulations, could take necessary measures and requirements to restrict imports, including:
 - i. In the event of serious non-compliance by the meat establishment in Japan, the MHLW or another institution representing Japan will immediately notify Taiwan and control the serious non-compliance product for export to Taiwan. If Japan does not immediately notify Taiwan or control the serious non-compliance product for export to Taiwan, Taiwan could suspend the importation of beef and beef products from the meat establishment before the MHLW determines that appropriate corrective and preventative measures regarding the products have been taken and provides information to Taiwan.
 - ii. Taiwan could conduct on-site inspection of meat establishments that export products to Taiwan. When a serious non-compliance has been found as a result of the on-site inspection, Taiwan could suspend the importation of beef and beef products from the meat establishment before the MHLW is informed of the findings, and determines that appropriate corrective and preventative of products measures have been taken and provides information to Taiwan
 - iii. In order to ensure import product that are in compliance with

regulations, the inspector at the port of entry may seek clarification through the importer for corrected and/or suppliant documents.