



**PROTOCOL OF PHYTOSANITARY REQUIREMENTS FOR
THE EXPORT OF TOBACCO LEAF FROM SOUTH AFRICA
TO CHINA**

**AS AGREED BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
AND THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF QUALITY
SUPERVISION, INSPECTION AND QUARANTINE OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

In order to safely export tobacco leaves from the Republic of South Africa (RSA) to the People's Republic of China, the Department of Agriculture of the Republic of South Africa (hereinafter referred to as DOA) and the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as AQSIQ), on the basis of the pest risk assessment, friendly exchanged views and reached consensus as follows:

ARTICLE 1

The tobacco leaves exported to China, which will be produced in South Africa and have been cured and re-dried (hereinafter referred to as tobacco), must comply with the relevant phytosanitary and sanitary laws and regulations of China and meet the phytosanitary requirements as stipulated in this Protocol.

ARTICLE 2

The importers of tobacco must obtain the import permit from AQSIQ before trade contracts are signed.

ARTICLE 3

DOA will take effective monitoring measures in the field to ensure that the tobacco producing area is free of tobacco blue mold (*Peronospora tabacina*). If tobacco blue mold is found, DOA will inform AQSIQ immediately and the tobacco trade will be suspended accordingly. During the processing and transportation, DOA would take necessary measures to prevent that the tobacco leaves originated from other countries.

ARTICLE 4

The tobacco must be free of any other quarantine concern to China and plant debris and soil. If live insects such as tobacco beetle (*Lasioderma serricorne*) are found, fumigation or other measures will be conducted for the consignment.

ARTICLE 5

The tobacco must be securely packaged in airproof way to prevent the contamination of tobacco blue mold and other quarantine pests. Each carton should be labeled to include the following information: type of tobacco, production place, harvesting year and processing plant.

The packing material for tobacco must be clean, sanitary, unused and comply with the phytosanitary requirements of China.

The containers to be loaded for tobacco must be clean and free of soil and other foreign material.

ARTICLE 6

DOA will conduct export quarantine inspection for tobacco. For the consignment of tobacco which meets the requirement stipulated in this protocol, DOA will issue a Phytosanitary Certificate according the standards of IPPC and with the following statement as an additional declaration: "The consignment is in compliance with requirements described in the Protocol of Phytosanitary Requirements for the

Export of Tobacco Leaves from South Africa to China signed on 06 February 2007, and is free from tobacco blue mold and other quarantine pests and soil".

ARTICLE 7

When the shipment of tobacco arrives at the entry ports, China Inspection and Quarantine Organization (the branch of AQSIQ, hereinafter referred to as CIQ) will examine relevant certificates, labels and conduct a quarantine inspection.

If the Tobacco Blue Mold is found on arrival, the consignment will be returned or destroyed. AQSIQ will immediately inform DOA that the importation of tobacco from South Africa is temporarily suspended. Both parties will conduct investigations to find out the causes and take relevant corrective measures.

If any quarantine pests or other nonconformity are found on arrival, the consignment will be treated, returned or destroyed in accordance with the relevant articles of the *Law of the People's Republic of China on the Entry and Exit Animal and Plant Quarantine* and its regulations for implementation.

ARTICLE 8

The tobacco passed entry quarantine and inspection, should be processed and used under the supervision of CIQ.

ARTICLE 9

Prior to the program initiation, AQSIQ will dispatch two quarantine officials to the tobacco producing areas in South Africa to review and pretest the pest status and management and verify the pest free area status regarding *Peronospora tabacina*.

The initiative of the exporting program will be approved by AQSIQ based on the official documents and technical information provided by DOA as well as the AQSIQ inspectors' inspection results.

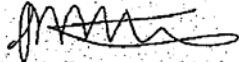
The expenses for all of the trips described above in this article will be funded by South Africa.

ARTICLE 10

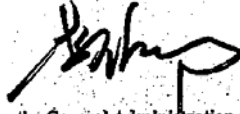
AQSIQ will conduct further risk assessment according to the pest occurrence and interception information of tobacco, and the quarantine pests and relevant measures will be adjusted. If necessary, in consultation with DOA, Chinese quarantine officials will conduct on-site review visit in South Africa.

The Protocol will enter into effect on the date of signature and will remain valid for a period of two years. If neither side gives notice to amend or terminate this Protocol at least six months prior to the expiry date, this Protocol will be extended automatically for an additional two years.

Signed in Pretoria on 06 February 2007 in duplicate in both Chinese and English. Both texts have equal force.



For the Department of Agriculture
of the Republic of South Africa



For the General Administration of
Quality Supervision, Inspection and
Quarantine of the Republic of China
