

# **Protocol of Phytosanitary Requirements for the Export of Pine Nuts from Afghanistan to China between the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China**

In order to ensure the safe entry of exports of pine nuts from Afghanistan to China, to prevent the introduction of pests, based on the relevant principles of the "Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures" (SPS Agreement), the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (hereinafter referred to as the "Afghanistan side") and the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as the "Chinese side"), through friendly consultation, reached the following consensus with regard to the phytosanitary requirements for the pine nuts exported from Afghanistan to China:

## **Article 1**

In this Protocol, pine nuts refer to the unshelled seeds of *Pinus gerardiana* Wall produced within the territory of Afghanistan but not for sowing. Apart from meeting the related plant quarantine laws and regulations in Afghanistan, the pine nuts exported by Afghanistan to China must also comply with Chinese related plant quarantine laws and regulations and health and safety standards and meet the phytosanitary requirements of this Protocol.

## **Article 2**

The Afghanistan pine nuts exported to China shall not carry quarantine pests of concern to China (see the Annex). The pine nuts exported by Afghanistan to China shall come from healthy and pest-free pinecones (the pinecones shall be directly collected from *Pinus gerardiana* Wall, the pinecones and nuts that have fallen into the soil shall not be exported to China). The pine nuts exported to China shall not be contaminated with soil, and shall not be mixed with weed seeds, and other grains and

plant debris.

### Article 3

Afghanistan side shall conduct pest survey targeting *The List of Quarantine Pests of Concern to China* during the growing season of pine nuts by adopting internationally recognized monitoring and inspection methods. Before every export season, Afghanistan side should provide the Chinese side with monitoring report of above mentioned pest, including methods and results, and other information requested by Chinese side.

### Article 4

The production, process and storage facilities of the pine nuts shall comply with the obligatory requirements of the legislation of Afghanistan in the sphere of plant quarantine.

The producers, processors and grain storages for the pine nuts exported to China shall be registered with Afghanistan side to ensure their compliance with the relevant epidemic prevention conditions. The pine nuts exported to China must be stored separately after processing and packaging and shall be isolated effectively from unprocessed pine nuts.

Afghanistan side shall provide to the Chinese side the information on authorized producers, processors and grain storages exporting pine nuts to the People's Republic of China, including names, address, contact and responsible person of the enterprises, pine nuts can be exported to China after been approved by the Chinese side. If necessary, the Chinese side shall send its experts to conduct an inspection of the Afghanistan pine nuts enterprises.

### Article 5

Before exporting, pine nuts shall be cleaned until they are free of any impurities and undergo fumigation treatment to kill the quarantine pests of concern to China and other living insects. The fumigation conditions, such as temperature, duration and agent should be identified by both sides. The fumigation temperature, duration, agent shall be indicated in the Phytosanitary Certificate.



#### Article 6

The packaging materials for pine nuts shall be free from quarantine pests.

The pine nuts exported to China must be packaged in clean and hygienic packages that meet the Chinese Phytosanitary requirements, and transported under low temperature. The shipping tools shall be enclosed and shall not be mixed with any quarantine pests. The storage, processing and shipment of the pine nuts exported to China shall be carried out under the strict inspection and supervision of Afghanistan side.

Each packing box of pine nuts exported to China shall be marked with the Chinese characters “本产品输往中华人民共和国” and indicate the identifiable names of products, place of origin, batch number, name or registration number of storage and processing enterprises and other information in English to ensure effective traceability in case any problem is detected.

#### Article 7

Before export, Afghanistan side shall conduct quarantine and inspection on each batch of pine nuts intended for exporting to China, and issue an official Phytosanitary Certificate to each shipment of pine nuts which requirement stipulated in this Protocol, and include the following statement in addition declaration section in English: “The pine nuts covered by this phytosanitary certificate comply with the requirement of *Protocol of Phytosanitary Requirements for the Export of Pine Nuts from Afghanistan to China between the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China and the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan*”. The Phytosanitary certificate shall include English.

Afghanistan side shall provide Chinese side with a sample of the valid Phytosanitary Certificate, the list of issuers of the Certificate and the sample of handwritten signature and seal of the Certificate so that Chinese side can verify them when the consignment of pine nuts arrives at the port of entry in China. If there is any change in the above record information, Afghanistan side shall notify Chinese side at least one month in advance.



### Article 8

Upon arrival of each batch pine nuts to the entry ports of China, China Customs shall conduct quarantine and inspection. If case of detection by the Chinese side of any violations of the phytosanitary requirements established by the legislation of the People's Republic of China, or detection of quarantine pests concerned by the People's Republic of China, the Chinese side will carry out disinfection, return to the sender of such batches of pine nuts. The Chinese side shall immediately inform the Afghanistan side on the violations detected and measures taken in writing.

If quarantine pests concerned by the People's Republic of China are detected many times, the Chinese side will first inform Afghanistan side and then suspend the import of pine nuts from Afghanistan till the problem is fully solved.

The Afghanistan side shall take effective corrective measures and inform the Chinese side. The trade of pine nuts exported from Afghanistan to China may resume on the basis of mutual agreement.

### Article 9

After the implementation of this Protocol, based on the pest information provided by Afghanistan side, outbreak of Afghanistan pine nut pests and Chinese side interceptions, Chinese side will decide whether to send personnel to Afghanistan to carry out pre-export inspection and retrospective inspection. If pest of quarantine concern are intercepted during importation, such survey or inspection may be reconducted. The Afghanistan side has the responsibility to issue the invitation, assist arranging the working schedule, and to accompany inspection.

According to the relevant inspections, by mutual agreement, both sides will adjust related phytosanitary measures and pests of concern to China and amend this Protocol through consultations.

### Article 10

Any divergence regarding to the interpretation or implementation of this protocol shall be settled amicably through consultation between both sides.

**Article 11**

Both sides agree that this Protocol shall not violate or impact the laws and regulations of each country.

**Article 12**

This Protocol is signed in Qingdao on 10/06/2018 in duplicate in English and Chinese language, all copies are equally authentic. In case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.



Representative of the Ministry of  
Agriculture, Irrigation and  
Livestock of the Islamic Republic  
of Afghanistan



Representative of the General  
Administration of Customs of the  
People's Republic of China



**Annex:**

**List of quarantine pests of concern to China**

No.	Name
1	<i>Arceuthobium minutissimum</i> 微小矮槲寄生
2	<i>Clematis vitalba</i> 葡萄叶铁线莲
3	<i>Taeniatherum caput-medusae</i> 长发带芒草
4	<i>Heterobasidion annosum</i> 多年异担子菌
5	<i>Mycosphaerella pini</i> 松针红斑病菌
6	<p><b>The non-native species of pine cone and seed pests include:</b></p> <p><i>Conophthorus</i> spp. 齿小蠹属</p> <p><i>Cydia</i> spp. 小卷蛾属</p> <p><i>Eucosma</i> spp. 花小卷蛾属</p> <p><i>Euzophera cedrella</i> 雪松螟蛾</p> <p><i>Gnophothrips fuscus</i> 松花切割蓟马</p> <p><i>Leptoglossus corculus</i> 叶足喙缘蝽</p> <p><i>Nepytia semiclusaria</i> 小松果尺蠖</p> <p><i>Rhyacionia</i> spp. 梢小卷蛾属</p> <p><i>Tetyra bipunctata</i> 松种子盾蝽</p>