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Country: China - People's Republic of

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Report Highlights:

This report contains a translation of the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) Public Notice [2021] Number 103 that reiterates that GACC Decrees 248 and 249 will take effect on January 1, 2022. The announcement was issued by GACC on December 13 and published on December 14 on the GACC website. The Notice 103 also provides additional information on various questions that have arisen regarding shipments in transit to China and other questions about registration. This report includes links to the announcement as well as additional information and links to background reports issued by FAS China.

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY

This report contains a translation of GACC Public Notice [2021] Number 103 issued on December 13 and published on December 14 that reiterates that Decrees 248 and 249 will take effect on January 1, 2022. The Public Notice Number 103 has additional information on questions that have arisen about the Decrees. The GACC notice is available in Chinese at: this link.

The United States government continues to press China for critical information about how GACC will apply Decree 248 to U.S. exports. Individuals or companies with questions on Decrees 248 and 249 can send them to USDA at Decree248Inquiry@usda.gov. GACC also provided the following contacts for enquiries:

Contacts: Ding Tianjian and Shang Kaiyuan Phone: 86 15900270722; 86 10-65194443

Fax: 86 10-65194715

Email: shipinjuyichu@customs.gov.cn division_registration@customs.gov.cn

FAS China has published the following reports on Decrees 248 and 249 to inform and educate U.S. food and agricultural stakeholders.

- Decree 248 FDA Constituent Update December 4, 2021
- Decree 248 Single Window User Manual and Training November 30, 2021
- Decree 248 HS Codes Published in GACC Single Window November 30, 2021
- Decree 248 Information Update November 19, 2021
- Informing Industry and Supporting Trade Facilitation as China Implements Decrees 248 and 249 November 10, 2021
- GACC Issues Interpretation of Decree 248 November 6, 2021
- Decree 248 Foreign Facilities Self-Registration Website Launched November 3, 2021
- Decree 248 Unofficial Self-Registration Guide for Overseas Food Facilities November 2, 2021
- Notes from Information Sessions on GACC Decrees 248 and 249 October 22, 2021
- GACC Issues Explanatory Letter on Decree 248 October 8, 2021
- Interpretative Guidance on Imported Food Labeling Requirements in Decree 249 August 13, 2021
- Decrees 248 and 249 Status Update on Facilities Registration and Food Safety Measures May 25, 2021
- Administrative Measures on Import and Export Food Safety Decree 249 May 7, 2021
- Overseas Facilities Registration Regulation Decree 248 April 20, 2021
- <u>China Notified the Draft Administrative Measures on Import and Export Food Safety December 11, 2020</u>
- China Notifies Revised Overseas Facilities Registration Regulations as TBT 1522 December 2, 2020
- China Released Draft Administrative Measures for Registration of Overseas Producers of Imported Foods December 6, 2019

The unofficial translation begins below:

Public Notice [2021] No. 103

The Administrative Measures on the Registration and Administration of Overseas Production Facilities of Imported Foods (GACC Decree 248) and the "Administrative Measures on Import and Export Food Safety" (GACC Decree 249) were announced on April 12, 2021 and will be implemented on January 1, 2022. The relevant matters are now announced as follows:

I. Regarding Inquiries About Applications and Facility Information

1. Registration system log-in and information inquiry of overseas production facilities

The registration management system for overseas food production facilities (hereinafter referred to as the "registration system") is "https://cifer.singlewindow.cn/", or it can be accessed through the China International Trade Single Window Portal (https://www.singlewindow.cn/) – "The Management System for Registration of Overseas Food Production Facilities".

Overseas facilities of imported foods that have registered could check their China registration number and validity period (of the registration) on the official website of GACC or in the registration system.

2. Application for registration of overseas food production facilities

Unless relevant foreign competent authorities and GACC have separate agreement on the application method and application materials, an overseas production facility of the 18 categories of imported foods listed in Article 7 of the Decree 248 should be assigned a registration system account by the competent authority of its the country (region); the facility then submit the application for registration through the registration system following provided procedures. The registration system accounts of foreign competent authorities are allocated by GACC. The overseas production facilities of imported foods other than the 18 categories in Article 7 of the Decree 248 should apply for registration system accounts themselves and submit the applications following the registration system procedure.

II. Inquiries About the Category and Codes of Products Involved in the Overseas Food Production Facility Registration

The categories and corresponding product codes (HS codes) involved in registration of overseas food production facilities, the products' inspection and quarantine names (inspection and quarantine codes) could be searched after a person logs into the registration system; (such information) could be accessed at: Home page menu-product category inquiry.

III. Guidance on Handling of Overseas Food Production Facility Registration

The guidance and relevant attachments for the handling of overseas food production facility registration could be found at: GACC website banner- the column of "Internet+ of Customs" Guidance – Administrative Licensing - Registration of Overseas Production Facilities of Imported Foods "Guidance for Registration of Overseas production facilities of Imported Food".

IV. Import Declaration with Customs for Overseas Food Production Facilities

For foods shipped to China on or after January 1, 2022, while filing the import declaration, (an applicant) should properly fill in the overseas food production facility's registration number in China in the "Product Qualifications" - "Registration of Overseas Food Production Facility" at the certificate column (licensing category code 519). To declare food imports with Customs that use the 2020 version declaration items, (an applicant) should select "Overseas Food Production Facility" in the item of "Other Facilities", and fill in the "Number or Facility Name" column with the overseas facility's registration number in China. Customs rejects applications that fail to properly fill required information.

V. Regarding Marking of Registration Number and Labeling of Packages

The food exported to China that are produced on or after January 1, 2022 should have the China registration number or the registration number approved by the foreign competent authority labelled on inner and outer package of the foods.

The requirements on packaging, labeling and marking of the Decree 249 apply to foods exported to China that are produced on or after January 1, 2022; the packaging, labeling and marking of imported foods produced before January 1, 2022 are subject to the previous/original requirements.

VI. Validity Period of Registration

The registration already obtained by overseas food production facilities remain effective. Registered facilities shall apply for renewal of registration in accordance with Article 20 of the Decree 248 six to three months before the registration expires. For facilities that fail to apply for renewal of registration in accordance with this provision, (the facilities' registration) will be cancelled by GACC.

VII. About the Cost

GACC does not charge any fees for the registration of overseas food production facilities.

It is hereby	announced.
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General Administration of Customs of China

December 13, 2021

Translation concludes.

Attachments:

No Attachments.