



LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

Ministry of Health

No 586 /MoH
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REGULATION ON THE CONTROL
ON PRODUCTION, EXPORTED-IMPORTED SAFE FOOD

- **Reference to:**
 - The Food Law No. 04/PP, dated May 15 th, 2004
 - The Prime-Minister Regulation No 020/PM, dated March 19, 1999 on the structure and function of the Ministry of Health
 - The submission of the Food and Drug Department, dated December 26, 2005

The Minister of Health issued the regulation
On the production, exported–imported safe food as follows:

Part I

General Principles

Article 1: Objective and outputs

1. Objective

This regulation defines the principles, rules, measures for production, processing, import and export and distribution of Food in Lao PDR in order to management, control, strengthen and promote the food businesses units in term of development.

2. Outputs To be as a tool of monitoring, control of the production, processing, import and export and distribution of Food; in order to ensuring the quality and safety for consumers, making the food businesses units and food activities functions smoothly undertake accordingly to the defined rules and principles.

Article 2: term of definitions:

Food products registration: means the information of formula in writing form that demonstrated the list of ingredients used in food composition including weigh or quantity of each item clearly identified.

Food additives: means the substances added in food for production, processing, treatment, packaging, transportation or storage purpose. These food additives are not include substances that enhancing the nutritional quality and other contaminants.

Food chain: means the process of food production, processing, treatment, packaging, transportation and storage.

Article 3: Scope and utilization

This regulation is used for food businesses units dialed with production, processing, import and export and distribution of Food in Lao PDR;

This regulation defines only basic principles , rules and measures; while other standards, quantity and others facilities such as material, ventilation and lighting; drainages and treatment of disposal in food premises or production rooms, utensils, packaging equipment, quantity of food additives to be use in food production and processing will be separately defined

Part II
Safe Food processing
Section 1
Process of safe food processing

Article 4: Safe food production and processing

Safe Food processing begins from selection of raw material, control of all steps of food production, processing, analysis, packaging, labelling, storage, transportation, distribution in order to ensure quality and safety of food products following with Good manufacturing practice (GMP).

Fermented food shall be processed in a manner that protects, as much as practicable, the food from the growth of pathogens. This shall mean that the process should aim for a rapid drop in pH.

Raw material used for processing and production of food shall be from sources that are

Any food business wish to register food product shall provide all documents that require in form of Food and Drug Department for food registration and Food and Drug Department will take consideration such satisfaction of documents, field inspection, and procedure of the production and take sample for analysis.

The duration of the consideration for issue of the registration is 4 months.

Article 15: Validity of registration and re-registration

The registration of food product valid 2 years, before the validity expire in 3 months, food business shall take the re-registration procedure with provide re-registration document with a copy of the issued registration and additional documents if any changes in the business.

Article 16: withdrawal of registration

The registration will be withdrawal from the food business in case of :

- Business in crisis or stop business
- Food business did not apply for re-registration when the validity of registration is expired and not follow the recommendations of authority
- The result of the analysis indicated that food is not complied with standard or not follow the written recommendations (non conformant report) of food inspector
- It is officially certifies that it is distributed and sold I unsafe food that is harmful to consumers health.

Section 2

Import – Export and transit of Food

Article 17: Food importation

Any food business has subject to import Food to Lao PDR, shall provide all documents that require in form and submit to Food and Drug Authority and other concerned institutions according to the food import requirement in⁴order to get approval and obtain the import permission;

After obtaining the approval and permission for importation that require by regulation, for practical importation food business handlers shall declare all documents to Food and Drug inspector and concerned staff in the checkpoint.

Article 18: The approval of food quality for repackaging and refilling.

Food importer that has the purpose to import food for repackaging or refilling, shall provide documents and all details of the original package and unit of new package and shall be authorized from exporter and submit to Food and Drug Authority.

In case the documents and quality of food are not complied with standard, it is forbidden to obtain the import permission.

Article 19: Food export

Food Exporter, who has the purpose to export food from Lao PDR , beside to applying with export principles shall provide the documents and submit to Food and drug authority in order to consider and issue the export certification

Article 20: Transit of Food

Food business handler ,who has the purpose to transport food through Lao PDR, shall inform the Food and Drug authority and related institutions on the documents approved for export food from original country and approved document for import food of the third country.

PART IV

Food management and inspection

Section 1
Food management and inspection authorities

Article 21: Roles and functions of food management and inspection authorities

Roles and responsibilities of food management and inspection authorities are defined in Part 6 of Food law

Section 2
Roles and functions of food inspector in entry point

Article 22: Roles and functions of food inspector in the checkpoints

Food and drug inspector in checkpoints is the government staff under the Food and Drug control Authority, and has the roles in providing assistance directly to the food safety authority in each level in monitoring and control of documents, raw materials and food import – export to and from Lao PDR

Article 23: Rights and duties

Food and Drug inspector in checkpoints has rights and duties as follows:

1. To inspect the documents in comparison with the real goods; and to permit imported food in collaboration the concerned authorities
2. To reject the import food and to seize food in case the documents are not complete and incorrect, the food is not comply with the standard that is noticed in the documents; food is not certified and approved from the food and drug control authority.
3. Take samples according to the rate as⁵officially defined (Goods are not complied with documents and unpackaged, storage and others)
4. Urgently report to the food and drug control authority on the details of the of import and export or the seizure of goods;
5. Regularly report to the food and drug control authority that the inspector belong to on the result of food control activities
6. Perform other rights and duties assigned by the upper authority

PART V
Prohibition, rewards and measures

Section 1
Prohibition

Article 24: Prohibitions in Food production, processing and advertising.

Any food products distributed in Lao PDR shall comply with the quality and safety implementing the following principles:

1. Prohibit using hazardous chemical and narcotic substances into the food.
2. Prohibit using textile colours and other colours that are not approved as food colour.
3. Prohibit using other chemicals that are not approved as food additives.
4. Prohibit using food additives over the quantity that is officially defined.
5. Prohibit faking the formula, label as registered.
6. Prohibit advertising the usefulness of food over the nature of food.

Article 25: Prohibitions in Food packaging

Food produced with condition of Good manufacturing practices but the packaging shall