



**SCREENING CHAPTER 12  
FOOD SAFETY, VETERINARY AND PHYTOSANITARY POLICIES**

**AGENDA ITEM 4-5: CONTROL SYSTEM OF  
IMPORTS**

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# **I- LIVE ANIMALS, UNPROCESSED ANIMAL PRODUCTS AND ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS**



# IMPORT PROCEDURES

## Legal Basis (1)

- Law No. 3285 on Animal Health Control
- Law No. 1380 on Fisheries
- Implementing Regulation on Animal Health Control
- Implementing Regulation on Fisheries
- Communiqué No. 2006/5 on Standardization in Foreign Trade
- Communiqué No. 96/4 on Conditions Required for the Issuance of Control Documents for the Importation of Cattle, Sheep and Goats for Slaughtering and Fattening.

## Legal Basis (2)

- Communiqué No. 2000/3 on Conditions Required for Issuance of Control Documents (SPS) for the Importation of Live Poultry for Slaughtering, Poultry Meat, their Offal and Eggs
- Communiqué No. 2000/32 Documents Required for the Issuance of Control Documents (SPS) for the Importation of Livestock other than Breeding-stock and Animal By-products.
- Communiqué No. 96/5 on Conditions Required for the Issuance of Control documents (SPS) for the Importation of Cattle, Sheep and Goat Meat.

## Legal Basis (3)

- Communiqué No. 99/9 amending Communiqué No. 2000/47 on Conditions Required for the Issuance of Control documents (SPS) for the Importation of Cattle, Sheep and Goats Fat and Suet.
- Communiqué No. 1997/23172 on Turkish Food Codex.
- Circular on the importation of live, fresh, chilled and frozen fisheries products.



## Custom Gates

- Import is allowed only through customs gates that are designated jointly by MARA, Ministry of Finance and Undersecretariat of Customs.
- There are 29 custom gates authorized for importing live animals and 58 custom gates for animal products. Most of them are not located at borders.

## Warehouse And Customs Veterinary Directorates

- At present there are 5 Warehouse and Customs Veterinary Directorates (WCVD) which can be compared, for their status, location and functions, to the Veterinary Border Inspection Posts (VBIPs) in the EU.
- Although located at borders, none of them are within the custom area. Their location can be listed as follows:
  - Kapıkule (on the land border with Bulgaria)
  - Gürbulak/Ağrı (on the land border with Iran)
  - Cilvegözü/Hatay (on the land border with Syria)
  - Izmir (seaport)
  - Mersin (seaport)



## Border Inspection Posts (1)

- One airport BIP, at Sabiha Gokcen Airport in Istanbul has been constructed through the veterinary project 2002 EU-Turkey Financial Cooperation Program.
- Two seaport BIPs and four land border BIPs will be established through 2005 EU-Turkey Financial Cooperation Program.



## Border Inspection Posts (2)

- The construction of BIPs will be completed in 2006, and staffing and operation will take place in 2008.
- The locations determined for the construction of seaports include:
  - Mersin
  - Alsancak-Izmir
- The locations determined for the construction of land ports include:
  - Syria Hatay (Cilvegozu)
  - Iraq Habur
  - Iran Gurbulak
  - Georgia Sarp

## Inspections

Pursuant to:

- Law No. 3285 on Animal Health Control (Article 6)
- Implementing Regulation on Animal Health Control (Article 9)
  - Imported animals must be isolated in accommodation approved by the competent authority under the supervision of official veterinarians for the last 30 days before import.
  - The first inspection of animals and animal products that arrive at the border is done before they leave the vehicle.
  - After the first inspection, animals and animal products are sent for detailed inspection to holding areas of ports or border gates.



## Veterinary Checks

- Documentary check
- Identity check
- Physical check

Veterinary checks can take place in two different steps:

- at the point of entry
- and at point of destination.



## Documentary Check

- Control Document (SPS)
- Original certificate
- Country or part of a country authorized to export to Republic of Turkey
- Health certificate
  - Signed by the official authority
  - Signature and Stamp



## Identity Check

- Control of identification and seals of containers
- Control of composition, weight, quantity of product
- Control of labelling, stamps and official marks



## Physical Check

- Clinical examination of live animals
- Sensory examination
- Simple physical and chemical tests
- Laboratory tests
- Check on the conditions and transport
- Temperature controls etc.



## Quarantine

Pursuant to:

- Law No. 3285 on Animal Health Control (Articles 7 and 34)
- Implementing Regulation on Animal Health Control (Article 105)

Quarantine is established:

- Entry point
- Holding of destination
- Quarantine centre





## Decision On The Consignment

Pursuant to:

- Law No. 3285 on Animal Health Control (Articles 6, 7 and 34)
- Implementing Regulation on Animal Health Control (Article 10)

The decision on the consignment may be:

- Free circulation
- Refusal
  - Re-dispatch
  - Destruction



## HEALTH CONDITIONS AND AGREED HEALTH CERTIFICATES

### Pursuant to:

- Law No. 3285 on Animal Health Control,
- Implementing Regulation on Animal Health Control (Article7),

The health status and technical conditions of imported breeding animals and animal products are to be arranged by MARA.

EU health requirements and World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) rules in import are also taken into consideration.



## BANNED COUNTRY LIST

- In case of an animal disease in a foreign country, according to the type of the disease, the importation and transit of live animals and animal products which can be pathogenic vectors from a region or the whole territory of such a country may be banned by MARA.
- Disease notifications published by OIE or disease notifications made by the Turkish Embassies are taken into consideration in order to impose import and transit bans.



## II. PROCESSED ANIMAL PRODUCTS



## Legal Basis (1)

- Law No. 5179 on Adoption of The Amended Decree Having The Force of Law Concerning The Production, Consumption And Inspection of Food
- Law No. 3285 on Animal Health Control
- Law No. 1380 on Fisheries
- Implementing Regulation on The Market Surveillance, Control and Inspection of Food and Articles And Materials in Contact With Food and The Responsibilities for Food Businesses.



## Legal Basis (2)

### ➤ Communiqué on Standardization in Foreign Trade (2006/5)

MARA is the competent authority for the determination of the safety of the products, to be imported, in the aspect of public health and safety, plant and animal health and existence  
*(Article 1)*

### ➤ Communiqué on Approval of Control Certificate in Importation of Foodstuff and Packaging Materials Which Contact with Foodstuffs and the Control Procedures at Importation Stage



## Legal Basis (3)

- Communiqué on Designation and Declaration of the Customs Gates for the Export and Import of the Foodstuffs and Food Contact Materials
- Circular on Determination of the Procedure and the Essence about the Approval of the Control Documents in the Importation of the Food Materials and Packaging Materials in contact with the food and the Control Practices at the stage of the Importation.



## Import Procedures (1)

- Processed animal products are subject to Control Document (SPS) before import stage.

### **Control document is issued if;**

- The product is not in the banned country list and banned animal product list,
- However, the products which are in the banned lists but can be conditionally offered for consumption after being subjected to certain processes shall be allowed to be imported provided that the product has been subjected to the relevant process and documented.



## Import Procedures (2)

- The competent authorities of the loading country and/or the origin country guarantee by the Certificate that the animals, from which the raw material used in animal products were obtained, are free from epidemic or contagious animal diseases
- The product's content should comply with the Food Law on documentary base



- 36 Custom gates in 25 Provinces are designated for the import of processed animal products
- Custom officials inform the related Province when the consignment arrives the custom area



## Performed Checks:

### ➤ **Documentary check;**

- The examination of documents, which are required under the Food Law, that are accompanying the consignment.

### ➤ **Identity check;**

- Visual inspection to ensure that certificates or other documents accompanying the consignment tally with the labelling and the content of the consignment.

➤ **Physical check;**

- Controlling animal products, including organoleptic controls up to the laboratory analysis .
  - Analysis are based on the risk with respect to food safety and public health
- ✓ **Product is allowed to be imported by the province if it complies with the Food Law if not it is rejected.**



***THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION***