

## People's Republic of China

### Report on Prevention and Reduction of Risk of Zoonosis in China

CITES Secretariat:

According to the requirements of Notification 2023/028, the trade control measures taken by China to prevent and reduce the risk of zoonosis are as follows.

The Chinese government has always attached great importance to the prevention and control of epidemic diseases by regulating the import and export of wild animals. With the ongoing expansion of global trade and commerce, international trade involving wild animals has also intensified. This has heightened interaction between wild animals and human, elevating the risk of spreading zoonotic diseases. In order to safeguard public health in China and other countries, and to uphold the interest of the country and its citizens, the Chinese government has adopted measures to regulate wildlife trade between China and its trading partners.

#### (1) A relatively complete legal and regulatory system established

For decades, the Chinese government has consistently promulgated an extensive array of laws, regulations, and departmental rules on wildlife trade and disease control, including "Entry and Exit Animal and Plant Quarantine Law of the People's Republic of China", "Wildlife Protection Law of the People's Republic of China", "Fisheries Law of the People's Republic of China", "Animal Epidemic Prevention Law of the People's Republic of China", "Biosafety Law of the People's Republic of China", "Implementation Regulations of the Entry and Exit Animal and Plant Quarantine Law of the People's Republic of China", "Animal Quarantine Management Measures", and "Wildlife Quarantine Management Measures". A widespread standardization of animal quarantine measures, including wild animals, has been achieved, as well as the implementation of a strict quarantine approval system.

Furthermore, the Law of the People's Republic of China on the Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases clearly defines zoonosis as an infectious disease that affects both humans and vertebrates, such as pestis, rabies, schistosomiasis, etc.

#### (2) Relatively strict trade control measures implemented

The national animal and plant quarantine department is responsible for the unified quarantine management of national animal and plant entry and exits. It has established port animal and plant quarantine offices at ports with international trade and at locations where animal and plant entry and exit quarantine activities are concentrated.

The approval authority, approval procedures, and quarantine treatment measures for entry and exit animal and plant quarantine are specified in the Implementation Regulation of the Entry and Exit Animal and Plant Quarantine Law of the People's Republic of China. Quarantine shall be carried out in accordance with the law for animals, plants, their products, and other quarantine objects that enter and exit the country, any containers and packaging materials used to load these objects, as well as vehicles originating from regions affected by animal and plant epidemic areas. Once the items passed quarantine and/or undergone disinfection, they are permitted to be exported. Conversely, those that fail to meet the quarantine requirements or lack effective disinfection control methods are prohibited from leaving the country.

The Wildlife Protection Law of the People's Republic of China stipulates that the sale of both national and non-national key-protected wild animals and their products are subject to approval from the relevant wildlife protection authorities. Quarantine certificates must be obtained before the sale of protected wild animals intended for purposes such as scientific research, artificial breeding, public display and performance, cultural relic protection, or other special circumstances.

It is imperative that artificial breeders of wild animals uphold essential hygiene and health conditions based on the natural habits of the animals, and comply with epidemic prevention requirements to safeguard their wellbeing.

Markets for the sale of animals and animal products shall meet the animal disease prevention conditions stipulated by the agricultural and rural authorities of the State Council and be subject to supervision and inspection by the agricultural and rural authorities. For transportation, as well as materials used for padding, packaging, and containers used with animals and animal products should strictly adhere to the animal epidemic prevention requirements set forth by the agricultural and rural authorities of the State Council.

Departments and persons involved in animal disease monitoring, testing, inspection and quarantine, research, diagnosis, and treatment, as well as animal breeding, slaughtering, operation, isolation, transportation, and related practices are obliged to promptly notify the local agricultural and rural authorities or animal disease prevention and control institutions if animals have been identified as infected or suspected to have been infected. They are required to also taken immediate control measures, such as isolation, to prevent further transmission and stem the epidemic. When other persons or departments find animals that are or suspected to be infected, they must report this without delay.

The "Wildlife Quarantine Measures" systematically outlines the quarantine procedures that must be adhered to when "non-edible" terrestrial wildlife is captured, transported, and sold.

(3) A relatively efficient multi-departmental cooperation mechanism established

Relevant departments such as science and technology, customs, etc. shall, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, carry out animal disease monitoring and early warning work in accordance with their responsibilities, keep in regular contact with agricultural and rural competent departments about the situation, and promptly report emergencies. A cooperative mechanism for the prevention and management of zoonotic infectious diseases has been established by the National Health Commission and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs. Based on their respective work requirements, each party creates monitoring plans for pertinent diseases and implements monitoring and evaluations of these plans. The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs is principally in charge of animal epidemic monitoring, while the National Health Commission handles human disease monitoring and testing. The test results are reported by both the National Health Commission and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs. Wildlife protection, agricultural and rural authorities shall monitor for sources of wildlife diseases and epidemic in accordance with their respective mandates, regularly share information, and promptly report emergencies.

China CITES Management Authority

5 May 2023