

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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**Report Name:** Decree 248 Single Window Searchable Database and Jan 1 Shipment Information

**Country:** China - People's Republic of

**Post:** Beijing

**Report Category:** Agriculture in the News, Beverages, Citrus, Coffee, Dairy and Products, Fishery Products, Avocado, Canned Deciduous Fruit, Dried Fruit, Fresh Deciduous Fruit, Fresh Fruit, Kiwifruit, Raisins, Stone Fruit, Strawberries, Grain and Feed, Livestock and Products, MISC-Commodity, Oilseeds and Products, Potatoes and Potato Products, Poultry and Products, Sugar, Tomatoes and Products, Tree Nuts, Wine, Vegetables, Trade Policy Monitoring, Agricultural Situation

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**Report Highlights:**

The General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) has stated that the requirements of Decrees 248 and 249 will go into effect on January 1, 2022. One aspect of Decree 248 requires foreign establishments exporting foods to China, as defined in Articles 7 and 9, to be registered with GACC. GACC launched a searchable database of firms that have been successfully registered in the Single Window website (also known as the China Import Food Enterprise Registration (CIFER) system). A link to that searchable database is provided in this report, along with other information that may be beneficial to firms attempting to self-register prior to January 1, 2022.

## **Background Information**

GACC Decree 248 requires the registration of overseas food production and cold storage facilities (hereinafter Overseas Enterprises) that produce or handle specific food products exported to China. The Decree sets out two registration pathways for Overseas Enterprises that produce products within its scope – self-registration, and recommendation for registration by a competent authority located in the exporting country. Owing to the uncertainty surrounding the Decrees and its applicability to U.S.-based Overseas Enterprises, it may be beneficial for U.S. firms to attempt to self-register BEFORE the January 1, 2022 implementation date. Note: This would be December 31, 2021 in the United States.

## **Scope of Decree 248**

Overseas enterprises whose products are presented for customs clearance in China included in the attached Decree 248 HS Code List Excel file are required to be registered according to the People’s Republic of China (PRC) Decree. As of December 28, 2021, the HS Code List includes 5,553 rows of data of which 1,362 unique HS Codes are included. GACC has not provided the necessary clarity to the U.S. Government for many of the food and agricultural products included on the HS Code List that are listed as requiring the recommendation for registration by a competent authority. Overseas enterprises that find the food and agricultural products that they are handling on the HS Code List and that do not require the recommendation of a competent authority are encouraged to self-register on the GACC Single Window registration website.

## **GACC Single Window Registration Website**

GACC created a Single Window registration website within which Overseas Enterprises can register their firm and provide additional information that is requested by the PRC authorities. Included in this report are links to the Single Window Operations Manuals for Overseas Enterprises and some training resources for how to access the website and register an Overseas Enterprise. The following is a link to the [China Import Food Enterprise Registration \(CIFER\) website](#), or <https://cifer.singlewindow.cn/> where firms can create an account and begin entering data required for registration.

## **Searchable List of Registered Overseas Enterprises**

Overseas Enterprises that have submitted registration applications in CIFER can check the registration status in two ways. 1) Overseas Enterprises that self-registered may log into the CIFER system with the username and password they created to check the status. The Chinese registration number will be listed in the status table if the registration application has been approved by GACC. 2). Overseas enterprises may navigate to the GACC searchable website “[Registration Information of Overseas Manufactures of Imported Food](#),” or <https://ciferquery.singlewindow.cn>. This database includes all self-registration and competent authority recommendation applications that have been approved by GACC.

As of December 28, 2021, the Searchable Website included 33,204 firms from all countries/regions, of which 2,570 were U.S.-based firms. GACC is updating the database frequently. If your Overseas Enterprise self-registered, but the firm information is not in the searchable

database, then you should log into your CIFER account to determine if you need to take further actions to complete and finalize the registration application.

Note: Some competent authorities have reported errors in the database (e.g., firms being attributed to the incorrect country(region) on the website). If your Overseas Enterprise encounters a data error, you should contact GACC to make corrections.

The search function is not user friendly as several of the drop-down menus show limited options. The data fields can be entered by selecting the field and typing the corresponding information.

To search for U.S.-registered Overseas Enterprises, click on the “Country(Region)” field and type code “502” or “USA” in the country/region block. The system should return an autocomplete selection that states “502-美国” (See Image 1). The searched results can be refined by making selections in the “Category” field or by inputting the “Overseas Reg. No.”. Note: The “Category” field contains the first 4 digits of the HS Codes used for the products to clear China Customs.

**Image 1. China: Searchable Registration Website**

**进口食品境外生产企业注册信息**  
Registration information of overseas manufacturers of imported food

<p>产品类别 CATEGORY</p> <p>按空格键检索支持模糊查询</p>	<p>所在国家 (地区) COUNTRY(REGION)</p> <p>502-美国</p>
<p>在华注册编号 CHINA REG. NO.</p> <p>请输入在华注册编号</p>	<p>所在国家 (地区) 注册编号 OVERSEAS REG. NO.</p> <p>请输入所在国家 (地区) 注册编号</p>

[查询](#) [重置](#)

序号 NO.	国家 (地区) COUNTRY(RE...	产品类别 CATEGORY	在华注册编号 CHINA REG. NO.	所在国家 (地区) 注... OVERSEAS REG. NO.	企业名称 NAME	生产场所地址 ADDRESS	注册日期 REG. DATE	注册有效期 REG. EXPI...	状态 STATE
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### Implementation on January 1, 2022

GACC communicated with U.S. Government officials on a number of issues related to the January 1, 2022 implementation date. GACC communications indicated that:

1. Products manufactured and shipped prior to January 1, 2022 do not need to meet the labeling requirements and do not need to include the Chinese registration number on the import declaration form.
2. Products manufactured prior to January 1, 2022 but shipped after that date do not need to meet the labeling requirements, but MUST have the Chinese registration number included on the import declaration form.
3. Products manufactured after January 1, 2022 must meet all requirements enumerated in Decrees 248 and 249.

### Follow Up Questions and Contact Points with GACC

In the Explanatory Letter issued by GACC to foreign embassies (see report dated October 8, above), GACC provided the following contact points for inquiries on Decrees 248 and 249:

Contacts: Ding Tianjian and Shang Kaiyuan

Phone: 86 15900270722; 86 10-65194443

Fax: 86 10-65194715

Email: [shipinjuyichu@customs.gov.cn](mailto:shipinjuyichu@customs.gov.cn) ; [division\\_registration@customs.gov.cn](mailto:division_registration@customs.gov.cn)

### **Follow Up Questions for USDA FAS**

U.S.-based Overseas Enterprises with additional questions are encouraged to first attempt to get clarity from the GACC points of contact listed above. If there is no response, U.S.-based Overseas Enterprises should email questions to: [Decree248Inquiry@usda.gov](mailto:Decree248Inquiry@usda.gov) which will then be addressed or sent to the appropriate FAS China Office (the Office of Agricultural Affairs or one of the four China-based Agricultural Trade Offices) or to the U.S. competent authority contact points (e.g., the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service, etc.).

### **Other FAS China Reporting on Decrees 248 and 249**

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

- [Decree 248 Single Window Operation Manuals and Tutorial – December 22, 2021](#)
- [Decrees 248 and 249 – January 1 Implementation \[Public Notice 103\] – December 14, 2021](#)
- [Decree 248 – FDA Constituent Update – December 8, 2021](#)
- [Decree 248 Single Window User Manual and Training – November 30, 2021](#)
- [Decree 248 HS Codes Published in GACC Single Window – November 30, 2021](#)
- [Informing Industry and Supporting Trade Facilitation as China Implements Decrees 248 and 249 – November 10, 2021](#)
- [Decree 248 Information Update – November 19, 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](#)
- [China Notified the Draft Administrative Measures on Import and Export Food Safety - December 11, 2020](#)
- [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](#)

### **Attachments:**

[211215 GACC Decree 248 HS Code List English Translation.xlsx](#)

[211223 GACC 248 SW Competent Authority Operation Manual Eng Translation.docx](#)