

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Update to Guidance on Prior Notice Requirements for All US Commodity Shipments to Indonesia

Country: Indonesia

Post: Jakarta

Report Category: Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety, Trade Policy Monitoring

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Report Highlights:

This report serves as an update to FAS Jakarta’s October 4, 2024 report on the Indonesian Quarantine Authority’s (IQA) expanded “prior notice” requirements (please see GAIN Report ID2024-0028). Through an official letter dated October 4, 2024, IQA confirmed there is a “soft implementation phase” of the prior notice requirement until February 5, 2025. Once full implementation begins on February 6, 2025, FAS Jakarta understands that U.S. exporters must send a copy of the prior notice submissions to their importers. Please note that this and related clarifications are based on information gathered informally and may be subject to change.

Background on the Prior Notice Requirement

On August 14, 2024, FAS Jakarta published a report summarizing an Indonesian Quarantine Authority (IQA) notification to the World Trade Organization which stated that exporters shipping to Indonesia must submit a “prior notice” notification in IQA’s new system before shipping all agricultural commodities. This includes fresh foods of plant origin (FFPO) and their products¹; meat, dairy, and fishery products; and seeds as described in IQA Regulation No. 9/2024 (please see [GAIN Report ID2024-0023](#)).

On October 4, 2024, FAS Jakarta published a report (please see [GAIN Report ID2024-0028](#)) clarifying that U.S. exporters must submit a prior notice notification in IQA’s new online system, on a per shipment basis, for all U.S. commodity shipments departing on or after October 6, 2024. FAS Jakarta understands this date to refer to that listed in the bill of lading. The User Manual, provided in English by IQA, is provided within the report. FAS Jakarta added questions and answers based on our assessment of information gathered from IQA to help U.S. exporters comply with the prior notice requirement. FAS Jakarta continues to engage with IQA to improve and streamline the process for the prior notice requirement.

“Soft Implementation Phase” until February 5, 2025

On October 4, 2024, IQA sent a letter to all of Indonesia’s trading partners regarding implementation of the prior notice requirement. The letter states that starting on October 6, 2024, the prior notice requirement entered its “soft implementation” phase, during which exporters of products within the scope of the regulation are required to submit prior notice notifications. During this phase, IQA verbally confirmed that importers do not have to obtain or submit the exporter’s prior notice notifications.

The prior notice system requires U.S. exporters to select the commodity and harmonized tariff system (HTS) code via drop-down menus. If the correct entry is not yet listed, IQA verbally confirmed that a prior notice notification is still required. IQA recommends that U.S. exporters select a similar commodity and/or HTS while IQA works to expand the dropdown menus.

Full Implementation Begins February 6, 2025

Once full implementation begins on February 6, 2025, FAS Jakarta understands that U.S. exporters must send copy of the prior notice submissions – along with the health certificate, bill of lading, and relevant halal certificates – to their importers. The purpose is so that importers can submit the full package of required documents to IQA before each shipment arrives in Indonesia. Depending on the commodity, the package may also include the import recommendation from the Ministry of Agriculture and/or the import license from the Ministry of Trade, both of which the importer obtains.

¹ For the most updated list of U.S. FFPO products recognized by Indonesia as safe and exempt from laboratory testing and other onerous food safety requirements, please see Attachment 1. Note that FFPO recognition does not exempt the products on this list from Prior Notice requirements.

Commodities Subject to Mandatory Quarantine Inspection

On August 5, 2024, IQA issued Regulation No. 1/2024 on the [List of Commodities Subject to Mandatory Animal, Fish and Plant Quarantine Inspection](#). The regulation states that all animal, fish, and plant commodities that may be potential carriers/media for pests and diseases of quarantine concern that are imported into or exported from Indonesia are subject to integrated mandatory quarantine and surveillance measures. This process requires documents that are already required by the prior notice process: namely the phytosanitary/other health certificate and prior notice notification. Therefore, no additional actions are required from exporters.

Additional Resources

U.S. exporters are encouraged to refer to [GAIN Report ID2024-0028](#) for IQA's Prior Notice User Manual complete with frequently asked questions. In addition, Post recommends close coordination with importers to address any emerging nuances of these requirements.

Attachments:

No Attachments.