



F58/21: China Registration of Food Manufacturers

Animal Products, Plant Products and Processed Food

21 December 2021

For Your Information

1 Background

- (1) This FYI includes new information about China Registration of Food Manufacturers and should be read in conjunction with [F56/21 China Registration of Food Manufacturing Premises](#).
- (2) The China's General Administration of Customs (GACC) [Regulations on the Registration and Administration of Imported Food Overseas Production Enterprises](#) (Decree 248) comes into effect on 1 January 2022.
- (3) This FYI is for operators who manufacture food products for export to China where the food comes under the scope of Decree 248.
- (4) The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) will publish further FYIs if additional information is available. The latest FYIs are available on the MPI webpage: [For Your Information \(FYI\) documents](#), as well as the [MPI China webpage](#). Operators should check these webpages frequently to ensure they are aware of the most up-to-date information.

2 Further clarification on implementation of Decree 248

- (1) GACC published the following announcement on 13 December 2021 to clarify some aspects of Decree 248: [GACC Announcement No. 103 of 2021](#). This has been unofficially translated into English by the United States Department of Agriculture Global Agricultural Information Network (USDA GAIN): [GAIN Report Number CH2021-0166: Decrees 248 and 249 - January 1 Implementation Date](#).
- (2) GACC has clarified that for food that is consigned to China from 1 January 2022 (ie the consignment leaves New Zealand on or after 1 January 2022), the GACC registration number needs to be specified on the import declaration.
 - a) GACC has advised that when making an import declaration, the manufacturer's GACC registration number should be filled in the certificate column of "Registration of Overseas Production Enterprises of Imported Food" under the "Product Qualification" item of the customs declaration form (license type code 519).
 - b) MPI understands that the format of the GACC registration number is an 18-digit number, as follows for New Zealand manufacturers: CNZL + xxxx (4-digit number indicating product category) + yymmdd (6 digits indicating date of completion of GACC registration) + zzzz (4-digit serial number), ie CNZLxxxxyymmddzzzz
 - c) MPI understands that food consignments that arrive at China ports or that have started shipment from New Zealand before 1 January 2022 are subject to the original registration regulations and are not affected by the new Decree 248 requirements.
- (3) **Warning re non-legitimate registration sites and communication:** MPI is aware of websites purporting to provide GACC registration of overseas food manufacturers producing products for export

to China and of unsolicited emails purporting to be from the GACC or other Chinese agencies (eg from the 'GACC Registration Organisation').

- a) GACC does not charge any fees for the registration of overseas food production facilities.
- b) MPI reminds industry of the risks of engaging with unverified agencies offering to help with GACC registration and recommends not to engage with emails (or other forms of communication) from unverified sources.
- c) For those product categories where manufacturers need to apply for GACC registration via MPI (as required in Article 7 of Decree 248), GACC does not communicate with New Zealand industry other than through MPI.

3 GACC registration numbers and CIFER user accounts for existing registrations and where registration has been recommended by the MPI

- (1) This section is for operators of manufacturing premises that manufacture products for export to China where the products fall into one of the 18 product categories listed in Article 7 of Decree 248 (where registration application needs to be recommended by the MPI), and that:
 - a) are currently registered on an existing GACC register, ie meat and meat products, aquatic products, dairy products, dairy-based infant and young children formula products, or
 - b) are currently on an MPI list that was recommended to GACC in September or October 2021, ie. bee products, casings, edible fats and oils, milled grain industry products and malt, fresh and dehydrated vegetables and dried beans, food for special dietary purpose, health food (functional food).
- (2) MPI reminds operators that the MPI lists of GACC registered New Zealand manufacturing premises and the lists that MPI sent to GACC in September/October 2021 can be found on the [MPI country lists webpage](#).
- (3) GACC will import the registration information for the product categories listed in (1) (a) and (b) above into the new [China Imported Food Enterprise Registration \(CIFER\) system](#). GACC will then advise MPI of the premises' GACC registration number and CIFER user account details. At the time of publication of this FYI, this information was not yet available.
- (4) Once MPI has received the GACC registration numbers and user account details for those product categories in (1) above, this information will be distributed to the relevant operators.
 - a) MPI will prioritise advising the GACC registration number for import declarations where the consignment is leaving New Zealand between 1 January and 15 January 2022. Urgent enquiries about GACC registration numbers should be sent to market.access@mpi.govt.nz.
 - b) Between 25 December 2021 and 5 January 2022, the market.access@mpi.govt.nz inbox will be monitored daily (on weekdays), with attention given only to urgent enquiries, ie ones that if unanswered will result in clearance of an export shipment being delayed, or urgent issues needing market access input.
- (5) If MPI has been unable to advise the GACC registration number by 1 January 2022 and a consignment needs to leave New Zealand at this time, the Chinese importer should contact GACC directly.
- (6) Operators for the product categories listed in (1) above cannot manage the GACC registration information for these product categories on CIFER using a user account that they have set up themselves.
- (7) Operators for the product categories in (1) above will have to complete their GACC registration information in CIFER in 2022, which may include the requirement to add further registration information as required by GACC. The deadline for this information to be updated in CIFER will be confirmed by MPI once it is known, but is unlikely to be before December 2022.

4 New GACC registration applications from 1 January 2022 where registration application needs to be recommended by the MPI

- (1) This section is for operators who manufacture products for export to China that fall into one of the following product categories:
 - a) meat and meat products
 - b) aquatic products
 - c) dairy products
 - d) dairy-based infant and young children formula products
 - e) bee products
 - f) casings
 - g) edible fats and oils
 - h) milled grain industry products and malt
 - i) fresh and dehydrated vegetables and dried beans
 - j) food for special dietary purpose
 - k) health food (functional food/ nutrition supplement)
- (2) This section applies to operators who have not yet applied for GACC registration for the product categories listed in (1) above but who intend to apply for registration/ start exporting these types of products to China in the future.
- (3) Regarding the process for recommending new manufacturers for those product categories listed in (1) above (as stipulated in Decree 248), MPI has started setting up the new registration processes that will enable manufacturers to apply for new GACC registration via MPI recommendation. These new registration processes are likely to also involve the MPI-recognised verification agencies.
- (4) For product categories covered in the [China OMAR](#) (ie meat and meat products, aquatic products, dairy products, dairy-based infant and young children formula products, bee products, casings), the new GACC registration processes will be published in an OMAR Notification or included in the China OMAR when this information is available.
- (5) For product categories not covered in the China OMAR, the new GACC registration processes will likely require MPI to implement an opt-in administrative programme, and the exact timing of the implementation of this is yet uncertain. These new processes will be communicated via FYI (or similar document) and published on the [MPI China webpage](#).
- (6) While the GACC new registration processes have not been confirmed yet, they will likely require the following:
 - a) an application form (verified by an MPI-recognised verification agency) and the information then uploaded into CIFER; and
 - b) a check against the new GACC registration conditions for the relevant product category. Depending on the product category, this may need to be completed by an MPI-recognised verification agency (either by on-site assessment or documentary review), or through operator/manufacturer self-assessment.

Contact for further information

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