

PRESS RELEASE

1. THE PROTOCOL ON INSPECTION, QUARANTINE AND VETERINARY SANITARY REQUIREMENTS FOR WILD AQUATIC PRODUCTS TO BE EXPORTED FROM BRUNEI DARUSSALAM TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA BETWEEN THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF CUSTOMS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE MINISTRY OF PRIMARY RESOURCES AND TOURISM OF BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

2. THE PROTOCOL ON INSPECTION, QUARANTINE AND VETERINARY SANITARY REQUIREMENTS FOR CULTURED AQUATIC PRODUCTS TO BE EXPORTED FROM BRUNEI DARUSSALAM TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA BETWEEN THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF CUSTOMS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE MINISTRY OF PRIMARY RESOURCES AND TOURISM OF BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

Friday, 2 Jamadilakhir 1445 / 15th December 2023 Beijing, The People's Republic of China

The Protocols Agreement Signing Ceremony on "The Protocol on Inspection, Quarantine and Veterinary Sanitary Requirements for Wild Aquatic Products to Be Exported From Brunei Darussalam to The People's Republic Of China" and "The Protocol on Inspection, Quarantine and Veterinary Sanitary Requirements for Cultured Aquatic Products to Be Exported From Brunei Darussalam To The People's Republic of China" between the Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and the People's Republic of China was held at Beijing, The People's Republic of China.

Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr Haji Abdul Manaf bin Haji Metussin, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism signed both Protocols on behalf of the Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, where as His Excellency Yu Jianhua, Minister and Secretary of CPC Committee of the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) signed both Protocols on behalf of the People's Republic of China.

The signing of these protocols are requirement for the export of aquatic products from Brunei Darussalam to People's Republic of China. Therefore, the main objectives of these protocols are namely to facilitate the export of more aquatic products from Brunei Darussalam to the People's Republic of China and to further strengthen cooperation between these two countries in the field of biosecurity, quarantine, hygiene and health inspections of aquatic products to be exported to the People's Republic of China under the purview of the Department of Fisheries as the Competent Authority for export of fisheries products from Brunei Darussalam and *General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China*. With the signing of these protocols, there will be 134 newly approved aquatic products permitted for export from Brunei Darussalam to the People's Republic of China, from the current 42 approved aquatic products, making a total of 177 agriculture and fisheries products.

In 2022, the People's Republic of China has been recorded as the 3rd largest import trading partner for Brunei Darussalam valued at USD\$93.3 million (B\$125.4 million), accounting for 14.2% of total imports. Meanwhile, on export, the People's Republic of China was recorded as the 4th largest export destination for Brunei Darussalam valued at USD\$120.25 million (B\$161.6 million), accounting for 10.2% of total exports. From 2019 to 2023, 3,556 MT of fisheries products and 45 MT of musk melon have been exported to the People's Republic of China.

Additionally, the protocols also provide a platform for exchange of information on product safety through the monitoring of chemical waste, disease and microorganism surveillance in aquaculture farms, processing plants and cold storage premises. The protocols will contribute towards increasing export volume of fisheries products from Brunei Darussalam to ensure growth in Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Also present at the signing ceremony were His Excellency Pehin Dato Haji Abdu'r Rahmani bin Dato Haji Basir, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Brunei Darussalam to the People's Republic of China, Yang Mulia Awang Haji Mohd Yusree bin Haji Junaidi, Deputy Permanent Secretary of Primary Resources and Tourism and Yang Mulia Hajah Wanidawati binti Haji Tamat, Acting Director of Department of Fisheries.

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Prepared by: Department of Fisheries

Date: 15 December 2023