SUDAN EXPORT AND IMPORT PROCEDURES OF PLANTS AND PLANT PRODUCTS

1. Regulatory framework:

The import of Plants and Plant Products is regulated by three laws, the Seeds and Variety Protection Act 2010 executed by the Seed Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, The Plant Disease Act 1913 executed by the Plant Protection General Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture (NPPO), and Sudanese Standards and Metrology Organization (SSMO) law 2008.

2. General Plant Import Procedures:

The general outline for quarantine import procedures is:

1. An Import Permit (IP) is required for the importation of all plants and Plant Products (Form No. 10)
2. The IP is issued by the office of the Undersecretary of Agriculture after the importer gets an approval of the importation of the plant and plant products from the relevant Department (Horticulture, Seed Administration, Forest Corporation).
3. After paying the assigned fee by the importer, a phytosanitary import permit (Form No. 10) indicating the phytosanitary import requirements will be issued for the importer permitting the him/her to import the Plants or plant product within 90 days.
4. A Phytosanitary Certificate (PSC) is requested for all the plants and plant products imported.

3. Export certification:

3.1. The general procedures for export certification involved:

1. Application: The exporter is required to apply to the Plant Quarantine Officer in the prescribed form (Form 4, Annex 5) Export license - Under the ordinance of Prohibited and restricted Good ordinance, the exporter also need to apply for an Export License to the Plant Protection Directorate. (Form No 21).
2. Inspection – The inspection are performed at the point of exit. Facilities for Inspection – The exporter is required to arrange and present exportable materials for inspection, already packed for export.

3. Post-inspection formalities – It is not required to seal the consignment after inspection, fumigation or disinfection, as the case may be.
4. Realization of fees -The exporter is required to pay in advance to PPD the prescribed fee for inspection/treatment and issuance of PSC.
   Fumigation of exportable consignment- PPD executes directly the fumigation operations.
5. A fumigation Certificate (Form 11, Annex 6) is issued by the Plant quarantine office.
6. Issue of Phytosanitay Certificate (Annex 7 Form No 1).

3.2. Seed Import Procedure:

The process starts at the Seed Administration.

1. Only Companies registered with Seed Administration are allowed to import crop seeds.
2. To get a preliminary import permit for the importation of seeds the registered company has to follow the following rules of procedure

- Submit a written application on the Company's headed paper signed and stamped, showing the following information: crop variety intended to be imported, seed class quantity, the purpose for import and the port of entry.
- Present a pro-forma invoice from the exporting company or its branches
- The application to import field crops should be only for the registered varieties released by the Variety Release Committee.
- Pay the assigned fee
- Imports of vegetable seeds are exempted from registration.
- After presenting the preliminary import permit to the Office of the Undersecretary of Agriculture and paying the assigned fee, a phytosanitary import permit (Form No 10) will be issued for the importer permitting the company to import the seeds within 45 days.

3.3. Import of seeds for research purposes:

A written application on the Company's headed paper signed and stamped, showing the following information: crop variety intended to be imported, seed category quantity, the purpose for import and the port of entry and the research body to conduct the research and the area of Sudan where the seed will be grown.

3.4. Procedures upon arrival of all consignments:

The three regulatory bodies involved in seeds imports exports are stationed in Port Sudan seaport. The Sudanese Standards and Metrology Organization and Plant Protection Directorate have offices in all the other ports of entry of the Sudan. The ports other than Port Sudan are serviced from the Central Seed Administration.

The importer will notify the regulatory bodies of the arrival of the seed consignment. For Plant Quarantine Purpose the importer will use the application form (form No 3 Attached). The inspectors assigned will verify all the documents before proceeding to take samples.

1. **The documents verified by Seed Administration inspectors are**:
   - A preliminary import permit.
   - An International Seed Analysis Certificates.
   - A certificate indicating that the seeds are not genetically modified.

2. **The documents to be verified by SSMO officer are**:
   - Country of Origin of the goods issued by the competent authority in the country of origin.
   - A certificate indicating that the seeds are not genetically modified.
   - Any other Sudanese Standards and Metrology Organization (SSMO) requirements.

3. **Documents verified by Plant Quarantine officer:**
   - A Phytosanitary certificate form the country of origin.
   - A phytosanitary Import Permit.
   - A preliminary Import Permit from the Seed Administration.

After completion of all verification and seed tests a release form (Annex 12, Form No 3) is issued or the inspector will ask for treatment, re-export of the consignment or will order the consignment to be destroyed.

4. **Seed Export Procedure:**
1. To submit a written application on the registered Company's headed paper signed and stamped, showing the following information: crop variety intended to be imported, seed class, quantity, the purpose for import and the port of export.

2. Seed analysis certificate.
3. A Phytosanitary certificate.
4. An approval from the Forestry Corporation for forest trees seeds.

5. <u>Tests undertaken for imports</u>:
1. Seed health testing
2. Genetic modification testing is only performed for soy beans and maize, by SSMO laboratories and verified by the biosafety laboratory when needed.
3. Germination test, other tests are performed when the situation dictates so.