

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC  
AND  
THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF CUSTOMS OF THE PEOPLE'S  
REPUBLIC OF CHINA  
ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF FRONTIER HEALTH  
QUARANTINE**

The Ministry of Health of the Italian Republic and the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties"), in order to prevent cross-border transmission of infectious diseases, protect human health and improve collaboration on health quarantine, have reached the following understanding:

**Article 1**

This Memorandum of Understanding will be implemented in accordance with the Italian and Chinese legislations, as well as applicable international law and, as for the Italian Party, the obligations arising from Italy's membership of the European Union.

In particular, the Parties will cooperate in accordance with the provisions of the World Health Organization's International Health Regulations (2005) come into force on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2007 and their respective national laws, statutes and regulations regarding frontier health quarantine.

**Article 2**

Within the limits of their respective competences, the Parties will strengthen the prevention and control of all major infectious diseases at the border, as well as the control of vectors. The Parties will strengthen the quarantine measures and the inspection of international conveyances, containers, goods, mail, and express mail, both entering and exiting the Italian and Chinese territories, improve the

effectiveness of disinfection, disinsection and deratting measures, and prevent cross-border transmission of infectious diseases.

### **Article 3**

Should a major infectious disease or other public health emergencies that constitute a public health risk occur, the Parties will take urgent health quarantine measures to prevent their cross-border transmission, and will report in a timely manner to the competent international authorities through each National Focal Point.

### **Article 4**

The Parties will strengthen the exchange of information on vectors. Should the growth of a certain vector within the Italian or Chinese territory be significantly higher than the average of previous years or should a new vector appear, the same Party will provide the other Party with the relevant information, including the sanitary measures taken in response.

### **Article 5**

Complying with the framework of the World Health Organization's International Health Regulations (2005) come into force on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2007, the Parties will mutually recognize the health certificates, vaccination certificates and sanitation certificates issued by the Italian and Chinese authorized institutions. Periodically both Parties will send updates on their authorized centers for yellow fever vaccination.

### **Article 6**

The Parties will pay attention to and strengthen health services for international travelers, including travel counseling and vaccination and will share their experience on international travel health services.

### **Article 7**

Within the limits of their respective competences, the Parties will carry out

professional training, structure scientific research, monitor vector and infectious disease, port health quarantine and inspection, infectious disease detection technology and international travel health services. The Parties will also promote bilateral exchanges of officials and experts working in the sector in question.

### **Article 8**

In order to prevent and control major infectious diseases, the Parties may summon experts to develop technical norms and standards on the prevention and control of infectious diseases.

### **Article 9**

The Parties will strengthen cooperation towards the informatization of health quarantine, will exchange the experience of building electronic platforms.

### **Article 10**

In order to implement this Memorandum of Understanding, the contact points of the Parties are the following:

Italian contact point: The Directorate General for Preventive Health of the Ministry of Health of the Italian Republic. Contact Person E-mail: segr.dgprev@sanita.it

Chinese contact point: The Department of Health Quarantine of the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China. Contact Person E-mail: liuwb@customs.gov.cn

### **Article 11**

The Parties may amend this Memorandum of Understanding in writing by mutual consent.

### **Article 12**

Any difference in the interpretation and/or implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding will be settled amicably by means of direct consultations and negotiations between the Parties.

**Article 13**

The activities foreseen under this Memorandum of Understanding will be implemented by the Parties according to their ordinary budget availability without any additional cost for the State budgets of the Italian Republic and the People's Republic of China.

**Article 14**

This Memorandum of Understanding takes effect on the date of signature, it will remain valid for five (5) years and will be automatically renewed for further periods of five (5) years unless one of the Parties notifies the other of its intention to terminate it six (6) months prior to the date of the proposed expiration.

Done at Beijing on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2019 in two originals, each in the Italian, Chinese and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation, the text in English will prevail.

**FOR THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH OF  
THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC**

**FOR THE GENERAL  
ADMINISTRATION OF CUSTOMS OF  
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

*Ettore Sequi*

*Li Ruiyu*

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_