DATA SHEET
PRE-EXPORT VERIFICATION OF IMPORTS FOR THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

1. Regulation

Authority:	*OCC (Office Congolais de Contrôle) and Ministry of Commerce.*
Notification (*):	*Ministerial decree No. 003/CAB/MIN.COM.EXT/2017 dd. 03/04/2017 approving the contract for pre-export Verification of imports into the Democratic Republic of Congo between OCC and Bureau Veritas BIVAC.* Law 74/014 dd. 10/07/1974 related to Trade *DG/DCI/AKM/ABB/MM/1263/2011 dd. 09/05/2011 detailing OCC quality and labelling requirements for shipments Verifications.* *Exchange regulation of the Central Bank of Congo dd. 28/03/2014*
Appointed company(ies):	*BUREAU VERITAS BIVAC BV*
Scope of the regulation:	*Pre-export Verification of goods imported into the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)*
Assessment based on:	▪ *Verification of product conformity to Congolese and international standards* ▪ *Export market price (For government information purpose)* ▪ *Customs Valuation of goods (based on GATT Valuation Code)* ▪ *Documentary review* ▪ *Control testing when needed* ▪ *Physical inspection* ▪ *Risk assessment and Facilitation procedures* ▪ *Conclusion of the assessment*
Remark:	*N/A*

2. Products subject

Subjected goods*:*	*All goods (except exempted ones)*
Second-hand goods:	*Allowed, provided it is described as such in the DIB*
Restricted goods	*See annex 1*
Prohibited goods*:*	*See annex 2*
Counterfeited goods*:*	*Prohibited*
Exempted goods*:*	*See annex 3*
Minimum value subject to the programme:	*USD 2 500 FOB*

3. Technical requirement

Conformity requirements:	*Products shall meet the requirements of the **applicable standards and Technical regulations** of DRC or in absence, the applicable international safety standards (ISO, IEC for electrical products, Codex Alimentarius for foods…)* • *Food supplements and Pharmaceuticals are subject to Market Authorization from the related Authority (ACOREP previously DPM) (Ministerial Decrees 1250/CAB/SP/MIN/006/CPH/OBF/2015 and 1250/CAB/MIN/SP/011/CPH/OBF/2015 & 20/002).*
National deviations:	*Markings and Instructions for use: must be at least in French or in English.* *Hydroquinone forbidden in Cosmetics* *Pharmaceuticals shall have a remaining shelf life on arrival, not less than 2/3 of their total shelf life.*
Labelling requirements:	# ***Pre-packaged foods:** labelling to comply with the CODEX STAND 1-1985, Rev. 1-1991 of the Codex Alimentarius, Vol. 1A. The following information shall appear on the label of the retail packaging: i) Name of the food; ii) List of ingredients; iii) Nets contents and drained weight; iv) Name and address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor, importer, exporter or vendor; v) Country of origin; vi) Lot identification; vii) Date marking and storage instructions; viii) Instructions for use.*

	# ***Non-food Pre-packaged manufactured goods:*** *labelling / markings to comply with provisions of Recommendation R79 from the OIML (International Organisation of Legal Metrology), unless subject to other specific national laws or regulations. Labelling / markings on the product or on the packaging shall include the:* • *Name or brand name of the manufacturer/importer/exporter and related address,* • *Identify of the product (generic name, photo or drawing showing the product) if it is not obvious from the outside of the packaging,* • *Quantity of the product.* # ***Pharmaceuticals:*** *Individual packages must show:* - *Name of the product,* - *Qualitative and Quantitative composition per dose or in percentage,* - *Name and address of the manufacturer,* - *If medical samples, the words "Free medical sample, not for resale",* - *Batch number,* - *Pharmaceutical form,* - *Weight / Volume / Quantity of products* - *Manufacture and expiry dates,* - *Storage instructions or handling precautions if any* - *The warning "Keep out of reach of children" or similar* - *Directions for use (including route of administration, possible side effects).* *The following information shall be declared on each ampoule: Product name, Quantity of active principle, Ampoule volume, Route of administration, Expiry date and Batch Number (Ministerial decree no. 1250/CAB/MIN/SP/011/CPH/OBF/20-15 dd. 28/092015).* # ***Toothpaste:*** *individual packages must show i) Name of the product as 'Pâte dentifrice' or its equivalent; ii) Trademark; iii) Name and address of the manufacturer or authorized distributor; iv) Batch number; iv) List of ingredients; v) Net volume in millimetres and/or Net weight in grams; vi) Expiry date where the shelf-life is 30 months and less.* # ***Tobacco products:*** *The tar and the nicotine contents shall be declared on the label, as well as the following health warning: "Smoking is dangerous for health" (Fumer est préjudiciable à la santé"),* # ***Alcoholic beverages:*** *the alcohol content in volume or percentage shall be declared on the label.*
Other specific requirements:	# ***Salt*** *intended for human consumption must be iodised in the following proportion at production level: at least 40 ppm of iodine or 66 mg/Kg of potassium iodate (Interministerial Decree n° CAB/MIN/ECO/ICPME/SP/APE/2003 dd. 16/05/2003). Iodine content shall be confirmed by a certificate of analysis. Potassium iodate (KIO3) to be used mandatorily as component for the iodization of salt.* # ***Dried and salted fish*** *should comply with the following specifications in pursuance of Presidential Decree n° 86/121 dd. 18/04/1986. A chemical analysis certificate shall be supplied to confirm the humidity, TVBN and Moisture contents.* ▪ ***Low fat fish:*** *Humidity <= 35%;* *Total Volatile Basic Nitrogen (TVBN) <= 100 mg %* *Absence of mould* ▪ ***Fatty fish:*** *Humidity <= 40%* *Total Volatile Basic Nitrogen (TVBN) <= 100 mg %* *Absence of mould* ▪ ***Selachian fish:*** *Humidity <= 30%* *Total Volatile Basic Nitrogen (TVBN) <= 500 mg %* *Absence of mould*

Other specific requirements (Cont.):	# *Cosmetics must be free from hydroquinone (Interministerial Decree no. 004/CAB/MIN/IND/2007 and no. 1250/CAB/MIN/SP/011/JT/2007 dd. 31st July 2007). The list of ingredients shall be declared on the individual package.* # *All import of chemicals or biological products must be accompanied by its corresponding Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS).* # *Automotive vehicles must observe the legal requirements of safety, manufacture and roadworthiness. They must enter the customs territory of the Democratic Republic of Congo with the documents proving ownership and age of the vehicle.*

4. Price verification/Seller's invoice requirement

Buying/Confirming Commissions:	*No restriction. Must be declared whenever applicable.*
Insurance:	*Import cargo insurance shall be paid to insurance company based in DRC.*
Financial interest:	*No restriction.*
Final invoice to show:	*Breakdown of FOB, freight and insurance charges (where applicable).In case of multimodal transportation, breakdown of main carriage (Air or Maritime freight) and Road transport (breakdown of transportation charges outside and inside DRC, if any). By line item: detailed product description, including product name, trademark, model and characteristics (where applicable), origin and expiry date of products commonly traded with expiry dates.*

5. Application

Applicant:	*Importers*
Application name:	*DIB (Déclaration d'Importation des Biens).*
Issued by:	*Banque Centrale du Congo (all commercial banks must register DIBs via the Single Window platform).*
Validity (*):	*360 days, renewable once for 6 months.*
Amount by which the application value/quantity may be exceeded:	*No tolerance. Whenever the DIB FOB value/Quantity is exceeded, an ARA is delivered to the importer to apply for an amendment to his bank.*
Changes from sea to air:	*With the importer's agreement. An amendment of the DIB is required if the change of transport mode takes place from the very first shipment.*
Required documents:	✓ *Final invoice, Packing List and transport documents (BL/AWB plus any other specific documents that may be requested from exporters for specific goods: Sanitary certificate, Analysis certificate, Certificate of origin, vehicle papers (Police declaration, Registration Card etc. as the case may be) for motor vehicles, proving ownership and age of the vehicle. Exporter's declaration for chemicals, confirming that exported chemicals do not contain any of the hazardous substances prohibited to importation.* ✓ *For road shipments, Consignment Note is not required.* ✓ *Conformity documents (test reports, certificates, reports of analysis) confirming compliance to the applicable standards, Marketing Authorization for Pharmaceuticals…* ✓ *Acceptance letter from the importer if necessary.* ✓ *If any: Certificate of the Quality Management System of the exporter / manufacturer of the goods. Such as ISO 9001, ISO 22000 for food products, IATF 16949 for vehicle parts, ISO 13485 for medical devices, GMP/GDP for pharmaceuticals…*

Required information:	• *Declared FOB value* • *Declared HS codes*
Application office(s):	*Application to be lodged by the importer through the GUICE (Single Window platform).*

6. Control testing requirements

Applicable cases:	*Conformity document not available or not acceptable*
Laboratory criteria:	*ISO/IEC 17025 accredited laboratory, In-house laboratory of certified Manufacturer (after specific assessment)*
Testing:	*According to the applicable standard*

7. Physical inspection requirements

Scope of inspection:	*Review of markings as per applicable standard(s) and identification of products*
Destination inspection:	*Not allowed (currently performed only by the Office de Contrôle Congolais – OCC, but without issuance of a Verification certificate).*
Witness of loading:	*Mandatory*
Seal of container (*):	*Mandatory for Full Container Load (FCLs)* *Mandatory for consolidated FCLs of the same consignee and same exporter, inspected at the place of consolidation.*
Sampling:	*In case of control testing (see section 6 as above)*
Validity:	*Inspection Report validity from inspection date is for 90 days unless earlier expiry or otherwise specified in the applicable standard/regulation*
Type of report issued:	*Inspection report (IR)*

8. Facilitation procedures

- *Registration*
- *Licensing opened to manufacturers and their official distributors only*

9. Conclusion of the Assessment

AV (Attestation de Vérification) or ARA (Avis de Refus d'Attestation), certified invoice.

- *A certified invoice is given to seller/exporter for payment purposes upon his request.*
- *An AV is delivered to the importer or his representative (if authorized) and transmitted to OCC through the Single Window of International Trade platform, for the clearance of goods.*
- *An ARA is delivered to the importer or his representative (if authorized) and transmitted to OCC through the Single Window of International Trade platform, for further process. Consignments with an ARA and non-conform products shall not be shipped to DRC.*

  The ARA is issued after 30 days following the date of inspection in case of:
  - *i) Unsolved quality/quantity discrepancies*
  - *ii) Required final documentation not delivered by the exporter*
  - *iii) DIB quantity and/or FOB value is exceeded.*

  And when:

  - *i) A non-conformity is detected and not corrected*
  - *ii) Exporter/importer did not allow the application of the full Verification process*
  - *iii) Fraudulent practice has been detected (use of fake documents, Counterfeits)*

10. Fees

Paid by the IMPORTER to the bank. Payment to BUREAU VERITAS BIVAC BV ordered by OCC.

Nevertheless, Bureau Veritas BIVAC may invoice the Seller in the event of supplementary inspection visits (in vain or unsatisfactory results) and for any additional assessment such as Control testing and audits that may be needed. The costs incurred by the Seller in presenting the goods for inspection, such as unpacking, handling, testing, sampling, repacking... are for the account of the Seller.

For additional information, the importer shall refer to the Liaison Office in Kinshasa and its province offices in DRC.

11. Contact

Bureau de Liaison à Kinshasa:
130 B Avenue Kwango
La Gombe
KINSHASA
Tel: (243) 99 00 36 910
bivac.kinshasa@bureauveritas.com

See contact sheet for details

12. Other relevant information

Additional details available on Verigates (https://verigates.bureauveritas.com/programmes/dr-congo)

(*) Updates

Annex 1: List of restricted goods

Items submitted to authorization:

- *Coins;*
- *Commemorative coins;*
- *Bank notes;*
- *Second-hand materials intended for investment;*
- *Weapons, ammunitions;*
- *Quinine (when part of a pharmaceutical product composition);*
- *Explosives;*
- *Insecticides, fungicides, biocides, fertilizers and herbicides (with the exception of those listed in Annex 2);*
- *Plastic bags, sacs and films; Plastic bottles and containers for foods or pharmaceuticals;*
- *Import of cigarettes / cigars subject to prior authorization by the Ministry of Health, Hygiene and Prevention.*

Annex 2: List of prohibited goods

- *Frozen tilapias and alevins originated from Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, Israel and Thailand following outbreaks of Tilapia Lake Virus (TiLV) in those countries (Ministerial Order n°001/CAB/MINETAT-COM.EXT/2017 dated August 12th 2017 from the Ministry of Foreign Trade)*
- *Poultry meat and by-products of poultry origin from Uganda following outbreaks of bird flu disease on wild and domestic poultry in the region of the Victoria lake at Wakiso (official communiqué No. 002/CAB/MIN-COM.EXT/2017 dated 13/03/2017 from the Ministry of ForeignTrade)*
- *Products listed in the Ministerial Decree 033 CAB/MINETET-COMEXT/2018 dated Feb 27, 2018 amending 022/CAB/MIN.COMPME/2011) such as:*
  - ✓ *Counterfeits,*
  - ✓ *Alcoholic beverages with an alcohol content exceeding 45%,*
  - ✓ *Hazardous waste,*
  - ✓ *All foodstuff and beverages containing saccharin,*
  - ✓ *Pornographic media and related products,*
  - ✓ *Used vehicles of more than 20 years expect motorcycles, heavy vehicles equipped with 4x4, 6X6,8X8 power driven, agricultural tractor, trailers, semi-trailers and lightweight trailers, tramways, civil engineering machines & Sanitary Engineering Equipment,*
  - ✓ *Non-iodized Salt (table salt),*
  - ✓ *Drugs,*
  - ✓ *Imitation weapons similar to weapons used by the Defense and Security departments,*
  - ✓ *GMO Seeds,*
  - ✓ *Substandard, expired products,*
  - ✓ *DDT pesticide (Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane, $C_{14}H_9Cl_5$)*
  - ✓ *Recalled products (pharmaceuticals, Chemicals…)*
- *Colza oil and its fractions (Order no.23-97/CAB/MIN/FIN/95 dd. July 1995 from the Ministry of Finance)*
- *Quinine in tablet (Ministerial Decree No. 1250/CAB/MIN/SP/009/CJ/2013 dd. 18/07/2013 and amendments)*
- *Foodstuff originated from Japan, following the earthquake and tsunami in Japan on March 11, 2011, causing radiation contamination in the regions of Fukushima, Ibaraki, Tochigi and Gunma (Official Communiqué dd. 13/4/2011 from the ministry of Commerce)*
- *Cosmetics containing hydroquinone (Interministerial Decree no. 004/CAB/MIN/IND/2007 and no. 1250/CAB/MIN/SP/011/JT/2007 dd. 31st July 2007)*
- *Television sets **not conforming** the DVB-T2 standard for the Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting and the MPEG4 standard for video encoding (Interministerial Decree No. 002/TNT/CAB/MCM/LMO/2015 dd. 25/04/2015 from the Ministry of Postal Services, Telecommunication, Information and Communication New Technology and the Ministry of Communication and Media)*
- *Poultry meat of animals slaughtered between 1st May 2015 and 30th June 2015 and originated from the Provinces of Kastamonu, Balikezir and Manisa in Turkey (official communiqué No. 003/CAB/MIN-COM/2015 dated 06/07/2015 from the Ministry of Trade)*
- *The following hazardous chemicals and pesticides (Letter No. 5011/1497/SG/AGRI.PEL/2014 dd. 08/11/2014 from the ministry of Agriculture and Rural Environment), listed in Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention:*

Chemical	HS code Pure substance	HS code Mixtures, preparations containing substance	Category
Alachlor	2924.29		Chemical
Aldicarb	2930.90		Chemical
Endosulfan	2920.90		Chemical
2,4,5-T and its salts and esters	2918.91	3808.50	Pesticide
Aldrin	2903.52	3808.50	Pesticide
Binapacryl	2916.19	3808.50	Pesticide
Captafol	2930.50	3808.50	Pesticide

Chemical	HS code Pure substance	HS code Mixtures, preparations containing substance	Category
Chlordane	2903.52	3808.50	Pesticide
Chlordimeform	2925.21	3808.50	Pesticide
Chlorobenzilate	2918.18	3808.50	Pesticide
DDT	2903.62	3808.50	Pesticide
Dieldrin	2910.40	3808.50	Pesticide
Dinitro-ortho-cresol (DNOC) and its salts	2908.99	3808.91 3808.92 3808.93	Pesticide
Dinoseb and its salts and esters	2908.91	3808.50	Pesticide
1,2-dibromoethane (EDB)	2903.31	3808.50	Pesticide
Ethylene dichloride	2903.15	3808.50	Pesticide
Ethylene oxide	2910.10	3808.50 3824.81	pesticide
Fluoroacetamide	2924.12	3808.50	Pesticide
HCH (mixed isomers)	2903.51	3808.50	Pesticide
Heptachlor	2903.52	3808.50	Pesticide
Hexachlorobenzene	2903.62	3808.50	Pesticide
Lindane	2903.51	3808.50	Pesticide
Mercury compounds	2852.00	3808.50	Pesticide
Monocrotophos	2924.12	3808.50	Pesticide
Parathion	2920.11	3808.50	Pesticide
Pentachlorophenol and its salts and esters	2908.11 2908.19	3808.50 3808.91 3808.92 3808.93 3808.94 3808.99	Pesticide
Toxaphene		3808.50	Pesticide
Tributyltin oxide	2931.00	3808.99	Pesticide
Tributyltin fluoride	2931.00	3808.99	Pesticide
Tributyltin methacrylate	2931.00	3808.99	Pesticide
Tributyltin benzoate	2931.00	3808.99	Pesticide
Tributyltin chloride	2931.00	3808.99	Pesticide
Tributyltin linoleate	2931.00	3808.99	Pesticide
Tributyltin naphthenate	2931.00	3808.99	Pesticide
Methamidophos	2930.50	3808.50	Severely hazardous pesticides formulation
Methyl-parathion	2920.11	3808.50	Severely hazardous pesticides formulation
Phosphamidon	2924.12	3808.50	Severely hazardous pesticides formulation
Benomyl at or above 7 %		3808.92	Severely hazardous pesticides formulation
Carbofuran at or above 10 %		3808.92	Severely hazardous pesticides formulation
Thiram at or above 15 %		3808.92	Severely hazardous pesticides formulation

- *The following phytosanitary products that are harmful to health and environment:*

Chemical	HS code	Category
Dicofol	2906.29	Pesticide
Brodaficoum		Pesticide
Coumachlor		Pesticide
Diazinon	2933.59	Insecticide
Dichlorvos	2919.90	Insecticide
Carbendazim		Fungicide
Chlorothalonil		Fungicide
Malathion		Insecticide
Naphtalene		Special Health Hazard substance
Paraquat	2933.39	Herbicide

Annex 3: List of exempted goods

- *Imports with a FOB value below USD 2 500;*
- *Weapons, ammunitions imported by the Administration;*
- *Live animals;*
- *Fresh eggs;*
- *Fresh or refrigerated (temperature is reduced to around 0°C, without being frozen) fruits, vegetables, fish and meat.*
- *Current newspapers and periodicals;*
- *Re-imports without modification;*
- *Personal effects and moves, including motorised vehicles imported by residents returning to their country;*
- *Post parcels without commercial value;*
- *Commercial samples;*
- *Donations by foreign governments or international organizations to foundations, charities and humanitarian organizations declared of Public Utility;*
- *Personal gifts;*
- *Donations by foreign governments or international organizations or private persons in case of disaster;*
- *Gifts and supplies imported by diplomatic entities, by United Nations entities or other NGOs having customs taxes exemptions, for their own use.*
- *Goods purchased with donations and external resources, including loans.*