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# LAW OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA ON THE HEALTH QUARANTINE ON THE BORDER

Adopted by Decision No. 69 of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly on January 24, 1996, amended by Decree No. 182 of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly on December 3, 1998, and amended by Decree No. 2366 of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly on September 26, 2007

## Article 1 (Objective)

This Law is enacted for the purpose of preventing the spread of communicable diseases and protecting the lives and health of people by providing strict guidelines for health quarantine work on the border.

## Article 2 (Applicability)

This Law shall be applicable to the persons, transports and goods entering the Democratic People's DPRK of Korea from foreign countries or leaving it for foreign countries.

Any treaty concluded between the DPRK and a foreign country concerning health quarantine on the border shall prevail.

## Article 3 (Classification of communicable diseases to be quarantined)

Communicable diseases to be quarantined on the border shall include communicable diseases to be quarantined internationally and designated communicable diseases.

Communicable diseases to be quarantined internationally shall be prescribed by the World Health Organization and designated communicable diseases by the central public health guidance organ.

## Article 4 (Objects of quarantine inspection)

The following objects shall undergo quarantine inspection on the border:

1. Persons;
2. Transports such as railway trains, ships, airplanes and automobiles;
3. Delicatessen;
4. Medicine, blood and plasma;
5. Human pathogenic microorganism;
6. Goods whose quarantine inspection is required in foreign countries;
7. Coffins with corpses in; and
8. Goods coming from the areas of foreign countries with prevalent communicable disease.

## Article 5 (Functions of border quarantine office)

Health quarantine shall be conducted by the border quarantine office.

The border quarantine office shall prevent the spread of communicable diseases by tightening the quarantine inspection of border-crossing objects.

#### Article 6 (Place of quarantine)

Border quarantine inspection shall be conducted at the designated border passage points such as the border railway stations, trade ports, international airports and points on border boundary line.

Where, for unavoidable reasons, ships, airplanes and other vehicles come in at a place other than the border passage point, quarantine inspection shall be conducted at the place of arrival of the vehicle concerned.

#### Article 7 (Time of quarantine inspection)

Border quarantine inspection shall be carried out on the border passage point immediately upon arrival of the transports and pedestrian travelers. Quarantine inspection of ships shall be conducted anytime from the sunrise to the sunset.

Quarantine inspection of transports and pedestrian travelers leaving for foreign countries shall be conducted before the scheduled departure time.

#### Article 8 (Notification of entry or exit of transports)

The institution concerned shall notify the border quarantine office of the expected time of arrival and departure, name and nationality of the transport, number of crew, sanitary condition, description and quantity of the cargo and the country of departure.

#### Article 9 (Bearing of quarantine certificate at time of entry)

Citizens of the DPRK and foreigners entering the DPRK shall bear such quarantine certificates as an international vaccination certificate or international traveler's health certificate.

Persons without the afore-mentioned certificates shall be issued with a quarantine certificate after being vaccinated.

#### Article 10 (Issuance of quarantine certificate at time of exit)

Citizens going abroad shall be subjected to necessary medical check-up, and vaccination required by the epidemiological situation of the country concerned before being issued with an international vaccination certificate or an international traveler's health certificate.

No one without the afore-mentioned certificates shall be permitted to pass the border.

#### Article 11 (Health quarantine documents of entering or exiting transports)

Transports passing the border shall carry deratization certificate, deratization-exemption certificate and other necessary quarantine documents.

#### Article 12 (Notifying and handling of communicable cases and deaths)

Upon occurrence of a communicable case, or a death of unknown cause on the border-crossing transports the person in charge of the transport concerned shall notify the matter to the border quarantine office.

The border quarantine office shall, upon receipt of the notification, make an immediate on-site investigation and take necessary measures.

#### Article 13 (Application for quarantine inspection)

Institutions, enterprises and organizations that wish to import or export goods that must be subjected to quarantine inspection shall submit an application to that effect to the border quarantine office.

The application shall specify the description and quantity of the goods, country of export or import, mode of transport, border-crossing point and expected date of arrival or departure.

#### Article 14 (Quarantine inspection of persons)

Border quarantine office shall check whether the citizens and foreigners passing the border are carrying such quarantine certificates as an international vaccination certificate or international traveler's health certificate, and conduct health examination by reference to the health declaration.

Luggage shall be checked thereafter.

#### Article 15 (Quarantine inspection of transports)

The border quarantine office shall either require the person in charge of the transport to produce quarantine documents or ask contents thereof, and check crew's health condition and inspect the crew's quarters, dining room, kitchen, storeroom and toilet.

#### Article 16 (Quarantine certificate for sailing)

The DPRK ships that wish to sail abroad shall undergo quarantine inspection before being issued with a sailing quarantine certificate.

Ships without the sailing quarantine certificate shall not leave the port.

#### Article 17 (Transports under quarantine)

No one shall, without permission, embark on or disembark from, or load or unload goods from the transports under quarantine.

Persons that embarked on or disembarked from the transports or goods loaded or unloaded therefrom without the permission of the border quarantine office shall be subjected to quarantine inspection.

#### Article 18 (Quarantine inspection of goods)

Quarantine inspection of goods shall be conducted by checking necessary documents and examining samples.

Sampling method and quantity of sample shall be determined by the central border quarantine guidance institution.

#### Article 19 (Measures applicable in the course of quarantine)

Border quarantine office may take following measures while conducting quarantine inspection:

1. To place in isolation persons who contacted communicable diseases or are suspected thereof;
2. To disinfect places that are contaminated or suspected thereof, and to restrict or prohibit access thereto;
3. To disinfect or bury under earth contaminated or suspected contaminated goods, ban their movement or return them;
4. To hold a postmortem examination or cremate a corpse that had contacted communicable disease or suspected thereof;
5. To take steps to get rid of such carriers of communicable diseases as rats and insects;
6. To provide vaccination and medical treatment; and
7. To keep watch on the transport concerned until quarantine inspection is over

#### Article 20 (Issuance time of border quarantine certificate)

The border quarantine office shall, upon completion of quarantine inspection, issue a quarantine certificate.

Objects that are under decontamination treatment shall be issued with a certificate after the completion thereof.

Article 21 (Quarantine inspection of workers embarking on transports, their foodstuff and drinking water)

Border quarantine office shall perform quarantine inspection of workers embarking on the transports, and their foodstuff and drinking water.

Article 22 (Quarantine inspection of exiting transports and persons of foreign countries)

Foreign transports and persons leaving the DPRK shall be subjected to quarantine inspection only upon application thereof being made.

Article 23 (Disposal of garbage or contaminated materials on transports)

Transports that have entered the territory of the DPRK shall not arbitrarily dump garbage or contaminated materials.

Garbage or contaminated materials shall be dumped in the designated place after being subjected to decontamination treatment with the permission of the border quarantine office.

Article 24 (Provision of conditions for quarantine inspection)

Border quarantine office may, while conducting quarantine inspection, require the person in charge of a transport, or the institution, enterprise or organization and an individual citizen to provide assistance.

The person in charge of a transport, or the institution, enterprise or organization and an individual citizen shall provide the required condition.

Article 25 (Repeated quarantine inspection)

Border quarantine office may, in case of need, repeatedly conduct quarantine inspection of the objects that have already undergone quarantine inspection.

For those objects the quarantine inspection of which cannot be finished on the border passage point, inspection may be conducted at the place of arrival.

Article 26 (Fees)

Fees shall be paid for quarantine service.

Fees shall be prescribed by the central price fixing institution.

Article 27 (Prohibition or restriction of border crossing)

Where an emergency situation builds up threatening the spread of a communicable disease, the central public health guidance institution and the central border quarantine guidance institution shall, subject to the approval of the Cabinet, take such steps as prohibiting or restricting the border crossing.

Article 28 (Administrative or penal liability)

Officials of the institutions, enterprises and organizations, and individual citizens that have seriously affected people's lives and health through violation of this Law shall, depending on the seriousness of the offence, be liable to administrative or penal responsibility.