



7 August 2017

R.M. Ramasodi  
Acting Director General  
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

[RamasodiM@daff.gov.za](mailto:RamasodiM@daff.gov.za)

Dear Mr Ramasodi,

Thank you for the Department's diligent effort to further the opportunities of the industry to export our products to China as an important future market of the Red Meat industry.

Following the visit of the Chinese delegation in January 2017 Industry requested to be debriefed on the Veterinary Public Health aspects pertaining to the protocol that was agreed. We took note that the abattoirs visited reflected a sample to assess the South African beef production system and to reflect the ability of our export approved facilities to be able to participate in this market. The further regulatory improvements and technical feedback pertaining to our facilities is of the utmost importance to the Red Meat industry and the Red Meat Industry Forum (RMIF) specifically would appreciate a debriefing session to provide for a common understanding on the requirements in order to assist as far as possible in opening this market and broaden industry participation beyond the export facilities and agencies approved to date.

We received a request on the 19<sup>th</sup> of May 2017 to comment on the protocol and VPN/02/2017-08, "Cattle and Sheep registered unit for exports of animal products (split system)" to which we contributed on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June 2017.

Despite various requests to Mr Serage, Dr Molefe, Dr Maja, Dr Modisane and yourself (i.e. 10 Feb 2017, 16 Mar 2017, 24 Mar 2017 and 9 Jun 2017) Industry has not had a favourable response to our request to be debriefed and we have since learned of a meeting between the Department and a select few interested parties to discuss the implementation and principles of the protocol.



Red Meat Industry Forum | [manager@rmif.co.za](mailto:manager@rmif.co.za) | 392 Church Ave, Lynnwood, 0081 | [www.redmeatsa.co.za](http://www.redmeatsa.co.za) | Tel: +27 79 162 6465

*Members: Mr D Ford (Chairman), Mr T Davidson (Vice-Chairman), Mr G Schutte, Mr G Southey, Dr K le Riche, Mr A Cocks, Mr A Mahanjana, Mr K van der Ryst, Mr K Louw, Ms T Rudman, Mr D Osborne, Mr F Kok, Mr A Vos, Ms M de Lange (General Manager)*

The RMIF would like to re-iterate our request to participate in consultative meetings pertaining to the SPS Protocol in the Agreement on Beef Exports to China.

Thank you in anticipation.

Kind Regards,



Dave Ford

Chairman  
Red Meat Industry Forum