

## ■ **SQCC AGRICULTURAL AND VETERINARY PRODUCTS POLICY**

The SQCC's Department of Hazard identification and Reduction has worked to develop a policy which outlines methods for the safe control and regulation of veterinary and agricultural products (i.e. veterinary pharmaceuticals, veterinary pesticides, agricultural pesticides, agro-chemical products, etc.).

The policy for the veterinary and agricultural products will be applied to any all importers, distributors and manufactures of veterinary and agricultural products. Importers and distributors will need to note that:

1. No pesticides, fertilizers and veterinary pharmaceuticals shall be imported, exported, distributed, stored, sold or offered for sale unless the product has been appropriately registered with the Somaliland Quality Control Commission (SQCC).
2. No person shall keep in the business of importing, exporting, manufacturing, distributing, formulating, supplying, repacking, storing, selling or marketing any veterianry or agro-chemical product without first presenting to the SQCC all the relevant and required documentation and certification.

### **(1) PESTICIDE AND VETERINARY DRUG REGISTRATION**

#### **1.1 Purpose of Registration:**

To ensure that veterinary pharmaceutical drugs and agro-chemical products such as pesticides meet the prescribed standards before they are imported, manufactured, distributed or sold in Somaliland.

#### **1.2 Standards set by the SQCC cover the following aspects:**

- Quality and suitability of the active ingredients and formulated products
- Safety to handlers
- Safety to consumers
- Safety to the environment
- Handling, packing and labeling requirements

#### **1.3 Labeling Requirements:**

Veterinary drug and pesticide labels must include the following:

- Statement of composition
- Registration or provisional permit number
- Name and address of company
- Product common name
- Net contents
- Directions for use
- Warning statements (warning precaution, signs and symptoms of poisoning, first aid procedures and note to physicians)
- Suitable indication of hazard
- Instructions for the safe disposal of used containers
- Lot number and date of formulation

**(2) Licensing, certifications and official recognition of pesticides and veterinary drugs dealers**

**2.1 Licensing of pesticides and veterinary drug companies: -**

Licensing requirements will include an application form for veterinary drugs and agro-chemical product companies. The application form will include:

- a) Common requirements for all veterinary drug and pesticide importers and suppliers
- b) Corporation/partnership ---copy of securities and exchange commission registration
- c) Copy of SQCC registration form

**2.2 Pesticides and veterinary drug importer/traders will require:-**

- SQCC registration license to import and trade veterinary drugs and pesticides
- Copy of contract with supplier
- Application form (reference) number

**2.3 Veterinary drug and pesticide distributors will need: -**

- Distributorship agreement/certification form the supplier
- Recommendation/inspection report from the SQCC
- Warehouse registration.
- Individual in charge
- Good storage-keeping compliant certificate.

**2.4 Veterinary drug and pesticide transport, storage and disposal procedures:**

a) Transport:

Safety in transport with minimum risk to people and environment.

b) Storage :

Control all factors that may cause deterioration of stored products

c) Disposal of pesticides and veterinary drug containers:

- High temperature combustion
- Burial/landfill
- Decontamination

**(3) Post Registration Activities: -**

**3.1 Monitoring: -**

To ensure the enforcement and compliance at the local level(for instance monitoring in case of poisoning, unusual environmental conditions, veterinary drug or pesticide contamination in birds or fish, contamination is underground or other water supplies, etc.).

### 3.2 Monitoring of product compliance:

- a) Product quality
- b) Residue of food and feed
- c) Environmental care
- d) Veterinary drug and pesticide poisoning

#### General requirements

All veterinary drugs, pesticides and other agro-chemical products must be:

- Non-toxic to humans and mammals
- Have short residual effects and
- Must be selective (i.e. so as not to kill any beneficial insects)

#### Quality and safety specifications

- **Understanding:** then risks and hazards associated with the use of pesticides and other chemicals.
- **Safe use of pesticides:** This includes safe procedures for each process such as usage, time of use, storage, preparation when using (spraying), proper handling of products, cleaning and sanitizing, pest control, transport and delivery. Also noting the causes of cross contamination.
- **Correct cleaning and sanitizing procedures:** cleaning products and their correct use, and the storage of cleaning items such as brushes, mops and cloths.
- **Personal hygiene and hand washing:** preventative measures against illness and the use of protective clothing.

#### Strategies for effective and efficient compliance to SQCC Regulations

The veterinary and agricultural product policy aims to set strategies that will lay the foundation for the sustained improvement in safe control or veterinary and agro-chemical products by:

1. Creating a more encouraging macro-environment to stimulate greater private sector investment in quality veterinary and agricultural products;
2. Rationalizing the roles of the tiers of government and the private sector in their promotional and supportive efforts to stimulate the use of safe veterinary and agricultural products;
3. Reorganizing the institutional framework for government intervention in the agricultural sector to facilitate the smooth and integrated development of the sector;
4. Articulating and implementing integrated rural development programs to raise the quality of life of the rural people.
5. Control of pests and diseases of national and international significance and the promotion of integrated disease and pest management;

#### **Legal requirements**

1. Agro-chemical products:

The SQCC will control and promote the use of quality agro-chemicals products by importers and distributors and will ensure the protection of the users, the eco-system and the environment through appropriate agricultural product legislation.

2. Establishment of an effective monitoring mechanism to ensure compliance with the law will be put in place.
3. Veterinary pharmaceutical drug products:  
The SQCC will also promote the use of safe quality veterinary pharmaceuticals.
4. Veterinary and pesticide product importers, suppliers and distributors must fulfill SQCC regulations and work accordingly and in cooperation with the SQCC. Failure to do so can lead to answering to relevant authorities within the government.