



**STANDARD GUIDELINES FOR SANITARY TRANSPORT
OF COCOA BEANS IN CONTAINERS AND/OR TRAILERS**

**INCLUDES ALL AMENDMENTS APPROVED
BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS & MEMBERSHIP**

August 21, 2014

THE COCOA MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.

STANDARD GUIDELINES FOR SANITARY TRANSPORT OF COCOA BEANS IN CONTAINERS AND/OR TRAILERS

The Cocoa Merchants' Association of America, Inc. ("the Association") hereby establishes "Guidelines for Secure and Safe Transport of Cocoa Beans in Containers and/or Trailers" to provide food safety measures to prevent the physical or chemical contamination of cocoa beans when transported in a trailer or container. The container or trailer is to be inspected for each of the conditions listed below. If the condition is present, the container or trailer will fail and not be loaded unless the condition can be remedied prior to loading. The Association nor member make any representation that the guidelines are a substitute for and/or preemption of the authority vested by law in all pertinent Federal, State and local regulatory agencies.

Check to determine the following:

- Container or trailer is free of visible evidence of pest infestation.
- Container or trailer is free of visible evidence of previous cargo.
- Container or trailer is free of visible residue from cleaning or sanitation chemicals.
- Container or trailer is free of strong off odor conditions from previous cargo or chemical use.
- Container or trailer that has side panels or material lining the side wall, ensure that any gap between the lining and the side walls are free of residue from previous cargo or chemicals.
- Container or trailer is free of holes or cracks that would allow contamination from outside environmental conditions, (i.e. rain, snow, pest entry).
- Container's or trailer's doors and rubber flashing are intact and allow for a proper seal to prevent contamination from outside environmental conditions.
- Container's or trailers seal point is intact and shows no signs of modification or can be dismantled from outside.