**No:** .............

**EXPORT OF HORSES TO GUATEMALA VIA THE NETHERLANDS**

**NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER**

**IMPORTANT**

**These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 7500EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 7500EHC. We strongly suggest that exporters obtain full details of what Guatemala and the MS of transit need certified, and check these against the certificate before arranging shipment.**

1. **Scope of the certificate**

The export health certificate (7500EHC) is based on the request by Guatemala for horses returning to Guatemala via the Netherlands after participating in the World Endurance Championships in London in 2012.

2. **Certification by an Official Veterinarian (OV)**

This certificate may be signed by a Local Veterinary Inspector appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), Scottish Government – Rural Directorate, Welsh Government - Department for Rural Affairs, or an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Northern Ireland (DARDNI), who is an Official Veterinarian (OV) on the appropriate panel for export purposes. OVs/AVIs should sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV/AVI stamp in any colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to

AHVLA Specialist Service Centre – Exports in Carlisle, within seven days of issue.

The OV/AVI should keep a copy for his/her own records.

3. **Identification**

 The passport/identification document number(s) must be mentioned in the table on page 1 and the silhouette on page 3 completed regardless. The passport/identification document must be checked to confirm the horse’s identity. The identity must be checked by reference to the silhouette whenever the horse is examined or when samples are taken for laboratory tests.

4. **Paragraphs IV 1., 2. and 3.**

In the absence of any clues or indications (eg from the import permit) as to the timing of inspection, the horse must be inspected within 48 hours of shipment from the United Kingdom and the paragraphs certified on this basis.

5. **Notifiable disease clearance – Paragraphs IV 5. and 6.**

Certification of these paragraphs may be facilitated if written confirmation on form 618NDC has been obtained from AHVLA that the UK has been free - during the past 5 days - of FMD and equine diseases that are notifiable in the UK. Such a confirmation will, in effect, enable Paragraph IV.6 to be deleted, although the exporter/agent may decide/choose to cleanse and disinfect the hooves, in which case the paragraph may be left undeleted.

6. **Welfare**

Most horses and ponies exported from Great Britain need certification to satisfy British export welfare legislation **IN ADDITION TO** the export health certification. Information about the necessary requirements and application forms may be obtained from the Animal Welfare Department at the following offices:

**ENGLAND** Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

 9 Millbank, c/o 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR

 Tel: 0845 603 8395

**SCOTLAND** Scottish Government – Rural and Environment Directorate, Spur P, Saughton House, Broomhouse Drive, Edinburgh, EH11 3XD

Tel: 0300 244 9243 / Fax: 0300 244 9797

**WALES** WelshGovernment – Department for Rural Affairs, Crown Buildings, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF1 3NQ

 Tel: 02920 823593 / Fax: 02920 823352

**NORTHERN** Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

**IRELAND** Northern Ireland,

Animal Welfare Section, Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 3SB

Tel: 028 9052 4580 / Fax 028 9052 5012

7. **Disclaimer**

This certificate is provided on the basis of information available at the time and may not necessarily comply fully with the requirements of the importing country.  It is the exporter’s responsibility to check the certificate against any relevant import permit or any advice provided by the competent authority in the importing country. If these do not match, the exporter should contact the AHVLA Specialist Service Centre – Exports, in Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://animalhealth.defra.gov.uk/about/contact-us/tradeexports.html>