

## EXPORT OF CATS AND DOGS FROM GREAT BRITAIN TO EQUATORIAL GUINEA

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

#### IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The Notes for Guidance (NFG) should have been issued to you together with export certificate 4798EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 4798EHC. We strongly suggest that exporters obtain full details of the importing country's requirements from the veterinary authorities in the country concerned, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

#### 1. SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS

- Export health certificate issued by DEFRA;
- Animals must be examined by a Official Veterinarian not more than 48 hours prior to export;
- Rabies vaccination is not compulsory, but may be done at the owner's request;
- On arrival in Equatorial Guinea the dog must be taken to the Veterinary Services of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Stockfarming for official registration and identification.

#### 2. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV)

This certificate may be signed by an OV appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Scottish Government or the Welsh Government, who is on the appropriate panel for export purposes or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary)(OCQ(V)) authorisation, or an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs - Northern Ireland (DAERA).

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 the issuing office (in GB - the Centre for International Trade, Carlisle) within seven days of signing, or in the case of Northern Ireland, to DAERA, Dundonald House, Belfast.

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

#### 3. RABIES VACCINATION

Paragraph IV(c) refers. If rabies vaccination has been given, the date it was administered must be entered at paragraph IV(c) (i). Whilst vaccination against rabies is not compulsory, animals may be vaccinated at the owners request.

#### 4. COUNTRY FREEDOM FROM RABIES

Paragraph IV d) refers. OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS may certify country freedom from rabies provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the issuing office on form EC618.

#### 5. TRAVELLING THROUGH OTHER COUNTRIES

The exporter/agent should apply to the relevant authorities of the countries through which the animal(s) will travel for permission to transport the animals through these countries. Additional health certificate(s) may be necessary for these transit countries.

6. **WELFARE DURING TRAVEL**

Welfare conditions during transport are laid down by Council Regulation EC 1/2005, implemented in England by The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006, and parallel legislation in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

Exporters must comply with the UK welfare laws relating to the export of animals. If transported by air, animals should be transported in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards.

Further information about the necessary requirements may be obtained from the Animal Welfare Team at any of the offices mentioned below:

England, Scotland & Wales

Welfare in Transport Team at the APHA Centre for International Trade - Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#centre-for-international-trade-carlisle>

Northern Ireland

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Ballymiscaw, Belfast, BT4 3SB.

DAERA Helpline number 0300 200 7852.

DAERA Helpline email [daerahelpline@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:daerahelpline@daera-ni.gov.uk)

DAERA Textphone 18001 0300 200 7852

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 Centre for International Trade - Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening>