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

**EXPORT OF DAIRY PRODUCTS TO MOZAMBIQUE - 7645EHC**

**NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF THE CERTIFYING OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN**

**Associated Documents:** 7645EHC and 618NDC

1. **IMPORTANT**

## These NFG notes provide guidance to the Official Veterinarian (OV) and the exporter. They should have been issued to you together with the corresponding export health certificate. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with the health certificate.

 The certificate is issued to the exporter's OV on a 'Cleared' basis. This means that it contains all the assurances which Defra believes that the importing country's authorities would require, but Defra has not received official confirmation from the importing country that the certificate meets all its requirements.

## THEREFORE IF EXPORTERS CHOOSE TO USE THIS CERTIFICATE, THEY WILL BE DOING SO AT THEIR OWN RISK. THEY ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO CHECK WITH THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY OF THE IMPORTING COUNTRY THAT IT FULLY MEETS THEIR IMPORT REQUIREMENTS.

1. **SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE**

Export health certificate 7645EHC may be used for the export of dairy products from the United Kingdom to Mozambique.

1. **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, 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 the Specialist Service Centre – International Trade, Carlisle, within seven days of issue.

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

4. **Certification of Imported Products**

 Paragraphs IV.1 and IV.2 refer. If the OV is asked to certify a large consignment of mixed goods it is possible that some dairy products will have a UK origin and others may have originated in the EU or a Third Country. The OV should delete only those sub- paragraphs which definitely do not apply. It is acceptable to leave 2 or 3 subparagraphs undeleted.

# 5. Notifiable Disease - Official Restrictions

Paragraphs IV**.** 1(a) and IV. 2(a) refer. This is about the animals and dairy facilities in the United Kingdom from which the raw milk used in the product was derived. The relevant restrictions are those for diseases which are transmissible through the milk (i.e. Foot and

 mouth disease, rinderpest, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia and lumpy skin disease).

These paragraphs may be signed on behalf of the Department by an Official Veterinarian, provided written authority to do so on Form 618NDC has been obtained from the issuing office, within 10 days of shipment;

# 6. Official Restrictions affecting Imported Products

Paragraphs IV. 1(b) and (c), and IV 2(b) and (c) refer.

These paragraphs may be certified by the OV on the basis that the items are legally admitted to a cold store which is inspected, issued with an approval number, and regularly audited by the Local Authority, acting under the delegated authority of the Food Standards Agency (FSA). The cold store is approved by the Local Authority on behalf of the FSA under EU Food Hygiene Regulations. The Local Authority on behalf of the FSA is responsible for ensuring that every item that enters the cold store from the UK or any other part of the EU must have conformed with these Regulations during the production, manufacturing and processing procedures prior to arriving in the cold store. The principal regulations are Regulation (EC) 852/2004, 853/2004/ and 854/2004. In the UK the EU legislation is implemented by the Food Hygiene (England) Regulations 2006, and its equivalent in the devolved regions.

In the case of dairy products that may have been imported from a Third Country, health assurances are based on the fact that no dairy product can be imported into the EU unless it is accompanied by an EU model health certificate confirming that it meets all the equivalent standards to any dairy item derived from an EU source. Most of the dairy products entering the cold store will carry the official EU oval health mark identifying their source. The conspicuous exception will be pizzas, which are exempted from the health mark requirement by article 1.2. of Regulation 853/2004. However any dairy product, notably cheese, used in composing the pizzas must have been health marked prior to arrival at the manufacturing premises, and the pizzas must have been manufactured in a premises which is registered and overseen by the local competent food health authority (article 4 of Regulation 853/2004).

The OV may certify each of the listed paragraphs on the basis of the fact that the Local Authority on behalf of the FSA has approved the cold store and routinely monitors its practices. The OV can assume that this oversight of the cold store means that every item entering it meets the relevant EU food hygiene requirements contained in the listed paragraphs.

# 7. Processing Information

 Paragraph IV.3. (a) to (d) refers.

This paragraph may be certified on the basis of familiarity with the treatment process/HACCP audits, suitable/satisfactory evidence and examination of the records available at the establishment, and any other necessary information which the OV may request from management.

# 8. Further Food Safety Information

 Paragraphs IV. 4 and 5. may be certified on the basis that the items are legally admitted to an authorised cold store, as outlined above at paragraph 5.

9. **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 – International Trade, in Carlisle, via the link below:

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