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

**EXPORT TO BOTSWANA OF DIAGNOSTIC SPECIMENS - 7124EHC**

**NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN**

**Associated Documents: 7124EHC and 372DMR**

**IMPORTANT**

**These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 7124EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 7124EHC. 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. SCOPE

This export health certificate, 7124EHC, may be used for the export of diagnostic specimens for laboratory use including blood, tissues, organs and viruses from the United Kingdom to Botswana providing that it meets the conditions specified in the valid import permit for the consignment issued by the competent authority of the Republic of Botswana.

**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), The Scottish Government – Rural Directorate, Welsh Assembly 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 issuing Animal Health Office within seven days of issue.

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

**3.** **DESCRIPTION OF THE PRODUCTS**

Paragraph I(a) refers. The Official Veterinarian must check records provided by the exporter to confirm the nature of the product and that any relevant processes or procedures relevant to bio-containment have been applied to the material in the consignment. For example if the consignment contains an inactivated virus that causes epizootic disease (such as FMD virus), the Official Veterinarian must check records to confirm that the inactivation process(es) involved have been applied to the material in the consignment for export. These checks can be carried out by reference to records provided by the exporter and by sight of a signed declaration from a Veterinarian.

**4.** Paragraph IV 1 may be certified on the basis of familiarity with the procurement, processing and handling procedures in place at the manufacturing establishment and/or examination of relevant records.

**5.** Paragraph IV 2 and 3 may be certified on the basis that the certifying OV has physically inspected and sealed the leak-proof containers containing the product and has entered the relevant seal numbers in the space provided at paragraph IV 2. In addition, the certifying OV should make due enquiry to confirm that the consignment is to be transported in the containers he/she sealed and that the consignment is intended for dispatch to the testing/research institute specified in paragraph IV 3. If necessary this can include references to written declarations from an authorised signatory of the exporter or manufacturer of the consignment. If used, OVs should retain copies of these declarations for record purposes.

**6.** **DISCLAIMER**

The DEFRA disclaimer (Form 372DMR) will be issued to the exporter with this certificate for his/her information. The 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 Central Operations for Exports in Carlisle via the link below:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalhealth/about-us/contact-us/centrops.htm>