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## EXPORT OF ELEPHANTS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO AUSTRALIA

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

#### IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 8535EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8535EHC. 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 OF THE CERTIFICATE

Export health certificate 8535EHC may be used for the export of elephants from the United Kingdom to Australia.

2. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV)

This certificate may be signed by an Official Veterinarian, appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), Scottish Government, Welsh Government, or AVI in the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Northern Ireland (DAERA), who is an Official Veterinarian (OV) on the appropriate panel for export purposes or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary)(OCQ(V)) authorisation. OVs should apply the OV stamp to the certificate in the normal manner.

The health certificate must be signed and stamped with an OV stamp in any colour OTHER THAN BLACK.

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to the issuing office (in GB, APHA, Centre for International Trade, Carlisle) and in the case of Northern Ireland to DAERA, Room 922 Dundonald House, Belfast, within seven days of signature.

All additional documentation requested by the importing authorities should be signed, stamped, dated by the OV if/as required to do so in accordance with any importing documentation instructions and included with the EHC.

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

#### RESIDENCY

Paragraph IV(a) refers. The OV may certify this requirement on the basis of documentation provided by the exporter, if the OV does not have first-hand knowledge of the origin of the animals. If the animals have been resident in more than one zoo the OV must be provided with all documentation, including details of place of birth of the animals.

3. CLINICAL INSPECTION

Paragraph IV(v) refers. The examination should consist of visual inspection, supported as necessary by clinical examination and laboratory reports.

4. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE

Paragraphs IV (b),(f), (i) and (j)refer. OVs may certify country freedom from foot and mouth disease, screw-worm-fly

myiasis/*Trypanosoma vivax*, Haemorrhagic Septicaemia and Surra provided written authority to do so has been obtained from the APHA, Centre for International Trade, Carlisle.

5. **ESTABLISHMENT DISEASE FREEDOM**

Paragraphs IV (c), (d), (e), (g), (h), (i) and (j) refer. OV's may certify premises freedom from the relevant diseases for the periods stated based on a review of records (e.g. animal movement, diseases surveillance and clinical records) at the relevant premises and, where required, (a) veterinary attestation(s) from the zoo veterinarian(s) overseeing animal disease surveillance and clinical veterinary care of the animals in the premises.

6. **TB TESTING REQUIREMENTS**

Paragraph IV(r) refers. Testing requirements should have been followed and recorded on the certificate as required

7. **TREATMENTS**

**Parasite treatment** paragraphs IV(s) and (t) refer for internal parasite treatment and paragraph IV(u) for external parasite treatment.

The animals must be treated with an approved anthelmintic and for external parasites before export. If these treatments are carried out by a veterinary surgeon other than the OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN, the exporter must provide the OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN with a letter or certificate from that veterinary surgeon with details of the active ingredient, manufacturer and licence number of each treatment; what it is effective against; and the date of administration.

8. **PRE-EXPORT QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS**

Paragraphs IV (k), (l), (m) and (n) refer. The import requirements for the Pre-export quarantine requirements should be met by the exporter prior to the export of the animals. The OV should be satisfied that the export has met the PEQ requirements. AWE may require/may have required additional documentation to be completed and submitted by the exporter, the OV should be provided with a [a copy/original] and if content/required to do so, to endorse/sign and stamp the document (all pages)

The pre-export quarantine facility (PEQ)\* must be located within a government registered or licenced zoological institution which the animals held in the premises are subject to a health monitoring program.

\*The pre-export quarantine facility must be located in a defined area where no clinical, epidemiological or other evidence of surra has occurred in elephants for 12 months immediately before export  
\*(delete if not applicable due to country freedom).

**Facilities**

The PEQ facility must be surrounded by a physical barrier (e.g. fencing) that provides sufficient security to isolate the animals in PEQ the animals in PEQ from all other animals except those that meet all the conditions described in the import permit.

The PEQ facility including buildings, yards, fences, feeding and watering arrangements must address welfare considerations.

Buildings holding animals in the PEQ facility must be constructed so that they can be cleaned and disinfectant applied and must be maintained in good order.

The PEQ facility must have a separate area for the cleaning and disinfection of vehicles for transporting animals and facilities for the safe loading and unloading of animals.

The PEQ facility must have facilities for veterinary examination and collection of samples.

#### **Operation**

The PEQ facility must have current approval from [Defra/APHA in the UK] before commencement of PEQ.

Defra/APHA may audit the approved PEQ facility.

All PEQ operations must be detailed in Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) consistent with a risk-based approach and approved by Defra/APHA.

The Official Veterinarian must inspect the PEQ facility before commencement of PEQ.

All feed to be used during PEQ and transport to Australia must enter the PEQ facility during PEQ.

All bedding to be used during PEQ must enter the PEQ facility before commencement of PEQ.

The PEQ period commences from the time the last animal in the export consignment has entered the PEQ facility and all animals have been examined by the Official Veterinarian.

All equipment used in feeding, handling and treating animals in PEQ must be new or cleaned and disinfected before entry, and must be used only in the facility during PEQ.

During PEQ, the facility must be occupied only by animals of the export consignment. If other animals are present, they must be of equivalent health and testing status.

Only personnel specifically authorised by the Official Veterinarian are permitted entry to the PEQ facility. Details of all visitor entries must be recorded.

Other than inspections, visits and treatments required for certification, all veterinary visits, health problems, tests, test results, treatments and reasons for removal from PEQ of any animal must be reported to the Official Veterinarian with 24 hours, and to Defra/APHA within 48 hours.

A detailed health record must be kept for each animal and be available to the Official Veterinarian and to Defra/APHA on request,

Animals that leave the facility during PEQ for any reason cannot re-join the consignment during PEQ.

#### **9. TRANSPORT AND LOADING**

Part VI of the EHC refers. This part of the certificate must also be signed, completed, stamped and dated by the OV.

#### **10. ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENT VETERINARIAN AT AIRPORT**

Part VII of the EHC refers. This part of the EHC should be signed etc. by a Government Veterinarian at the airport of departure, providing the Government Veterinary is satisfied to do so.

#### **11. WELFARE**

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 British 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. Information about the necessary requirements may be obtained from the Animal Welfare Team at any of the offices mentioned below:

**ENGLAND,  
SCOTLAND  
AND WALES**

Centre for International Trade, Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA), Eden Bridge House, Lowther Street, Carlisle, CA3 8DX  
Tel: 03000 200 301/ Fax 0208 0260 498/  
E-mail: [CentralOps.carlisle@apha.gov.uk](mailto:CentralOps.carlisle@apha.gov.uk)

**NORTHERN  
IRELAND**

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Northern Ireland,  
Animal Welfare Section, Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 3SB  
Tel: 028 9052 4580 / Fax 028 9052 5012

12. **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 APHA Centre for International Trade, in Carlisle, via the link below:

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