

No:

**HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR FISHERY PRODUCTS INTENDED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION TO
NORTH MACEDONIA - 8549EHC**

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL INSPECTOR AND EXPORTER.

Associated Document: 8549EHC

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Inspector (OV/FCCO) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export health certificate 8549EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8549EHC. 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.

It has been drafted to specifically cater for the export of fish for human consumption.

1. SCOPE

Export health certificate **8549EHC** may be used for the export from the UK to North Macedonia of fishery products intended for human consumption.

2. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL INSPECTOR (OV/FCCO)

This certificate may be signed by a Food Competent Certifying Officer (FCCO) or an Official Veterinarian (OV)], designated by the APHA on behalf of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Scottish Government or the Welsh Government. OVs must hold the Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) Products (OCQ(V)PX) authorisation.

In NI, a Veterinary Certifying Officer or FCCO, appointed or designated, respectively, by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Northern Ireland (DAERA) may issue this certificate.

COs should sign and stamp the health certificate with their personal official stamp in any colour **OTHER THAN** that in which the certificate is printed and using a permanent ink.

In GB, a copy (paper or electronic; must be legible) of the completed certificate and any supporting documentation, must be kept for the minimum required time (usually three years) and may be requested for audit and other purposes.

In NI, copies of certificates are stored on the official database (HPRM).

3. FORMAT OF THE CERTIFICATE

Please note due to the formatting of the certificate some paragraphs and fields of entry may appear out of sequence whilst others may be intentionally left blank.

4. COMPLETION OF PART I - DETAILS OF DESPATCHED CONSIGNMENT

I.2a. - intentionally left blank.

I.3. - Central Competent Authority

This has been pre-populated with "Defra".

I.4. - Local Competent Authority

The certifying officer should enter the name of the local office of APHA responsible for the exporting establishment. Where the exporting establishment is located in Northern Ireland, "DAERA" should be entered.

I.6. - intentionally left blank.

I.7. and I.9 - Country ISO Codes

The ISO Code for the whole of the United Kingdom is "GB" and this should be entered at **Box I.7.**

The ISO Code for North Macedonia is "MK" and should be entered at **Box I.9.**

I.8. - Region of Origin

In line with the Explanatory Notes referred to in paragraph 3 above, this paragraph may usually be left blank.

However, for frozen or processed bivalve molluscs, indicate the production area or origin - which means the area subject to water classification and its reference number.

This does not necessarily apply for scallops.

Additionally, if the UK and/or the product fall within the scope of emergency disease control legislation laid down by the importing authorities, **OR** the product originates in the separate health status region for the island of Ireland, and this is relevant to the product, then this paragraph should be completed with the appropriate region names and ISO codes, which may be specified under emergency legislation. In these cases, the APHA Specialist Service Centre - Centre for International Trade (CIT) in Carlisle or DAERA in Northern Ireland, should be consulted for further specific guidance.

I.10. - Intentionally left blank.

I.11. - Approval/Registration Number

The approval or registration number may be confirmed on sight of a valid approval document or by reference to the official published list of approved establishments (FSA/FSS websites). OV's should enter the relevant approval in addition to the address of the premises of origin. Please note that registration only numbers are not normally required, and the fish have to be processed in, and despatched from, a **food approved** establishment.

I.12. - intentionally left blank.

I.13. - Place of loading

The place of loading (onto the means of transport that will leave the UK border) or the port of embarkation must be entered.

I.14. - Date of departure

The date of departure must be entered.

I.15. - Means of transport

The means of transport i.e. aeroplane, ship, railway wagon, road vehicle must be indicated. The option 'Other' is not applicable to the movement of products and should not be selected. The flight number, name of the vessel, the train number and rail car or the number plate of the road vehicle should be entered as the means of identification as appropriate.

If the means of transport changes after the certificate has been signed, the consignor must inform the officials at the intended point of entry.

Optionally, the number of the airway bill, bill of loading, or the commercial number of the train or road vehicle may be entered as the documentary reference.

I.16. - Entry point

The exporter must advise the OV of the **point of entry** into the destination country (Republic of North Macedonia) and this must be entered.

I.17. - intentionally left blank

I.18. - Description of commodity

A veterinary description of the goods or a description based on the applicable HS Code (see below) must be entered

I.19. - HS Code

The Harmonised System (HS) Code is a commodity classification system used as a basis for customs tariffs and for international trade statistics. The appropriate HS Code, from the permitted options below, should be entered in **Box I.19**:

Information on HS Codes can be found online at:

<https://www.gov.uk/trade-tariff/sections>

and

<http://madb.europa.eu/madb/euTariffs.htm>

The OV should confirm with the exporter which of the permitted HS Codes best describes the products being consigned.

I.20. - Quantity of Product

Insert the total gross and net weights in Kg. It is not always necessary to add both. The exporter should check with North Macedonia the expected declaration for the product being exported.

I.21. - Temperature of product

Indicate whether the transport/storage temperature is ambient, chilled or frozen. The certificate notes make reference to live animals. These may travel at ambient or chilled conditions according to type.

I.22. - Number of packages

Insert the number of packages in the consignment.

I.23. - Seal/container no.

The container number of the consignment may be entered here. Please note that if a seal is applied, then the certificate requires this to be certified and indicated on the certificate.

I.24. - Type of packaging

Enter the type of packaging in the space provided.

I.25. - Commodities certified for

Indicate the intended use of the product, taking into account any guidance which may be offered in the footnote of the certificate.

I.26. - Intentionally left blank

I.27. - For import or admission into North Macedonia

The box should be ticked to confirm that this is an import or admission into North Macedonia, as opposed to a transit through North Macedonia to Turkey.

I.28. - Identification of the Commodity

Further to **Box I.11.** above, COs should enter the relevant approval number of the processing plant(s) in addition to the other required information.

5. PART II - HEALTH INFORMATION

The health attestation may be certified on the basis of the CO's familiarity with the EU Food Hygiene Regulations mentioned at II.1 and the sourcing, processing, handling and storage arrangements in place at the processing establishment and/or examination of relevant records and documentation including applicable laboratory test results.

II.1 - Public Health Attestation

Paragraph **II.1** refers.

The products being certified must have been prepared and stored in an establishment approved or registered in accordance with Regulations (EC) No 178/2002, (EC) No 852/2004, C) No 853/2004 and the Official Controls Regulation (EU) 2017/625, or derived from start material which is similarly compliant. The clauses contained in II.1 may then be certified on the basis of compliance with these regulations as specifically referenced.

The products or their starting material will bear the oval identifying marks in accordance with Section 1 of Annex II of 853/2004.

Approval and supervision of fish products establishments can be delegated by the "Competent Veterinary Service" to a service which has competence in this area, when UK or EU(NIP) legislation provides for such a delegation of competence. In the case of United Kingdom, this has been delegated to the FSA and the FSS. The OV can certify based on assurances from a food competent Environmental Health Officer or similar.

The Catch Vessel approval can be checked at:

(<http://www.food.gov.uk/enforcement/sectorrules/fishapprove>)

II.2 - ANIMAL HEALTH ATTESTATION FOR FISH AND CRUSTACEANS OF AQUACULTURE ORIGIN

Section II.2 of 8549EHC is not required if the fishery product for export is derived solely from wild caught fish, and should then be scored through.

In any case, IF paragraph **II.2.** is not required to be certified, it should be struck through in its entirety, and the remaining treatment options which do not apply, should also be struck through and these deletions should be signed and stamped by the CO in the usual manner.

6. 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#centre-for-international-trade-carlisle>