

No: .....

**EXPORT OF HATCHING EGGS AND DAY OLD CHICKS OF DOMESTIC CHICKEN  
(*Gallus gallus*) TO THE REPUBLIC OF RWANDA**

**NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV) AND EXPORTER**

1. **IMPORTANT**

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

*Up on arrival in Rwanda, day old chicks will be put in proper quarantine on a designated farm (s) for a maximum period of 21 day ( The incubation period of avian influenza is 3 to 5 days in general but may be longer. Maximal incubation period is 21 days as defined by the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code.) This quarantine will be removed after an inspection visit by RAB veterinarians who will decide to take laboratory samples or not*

2. **Scope of the certificate**

This certificate may be used for the export of hatching eggs and day old chicks of domestic chicken to the Republic of Rwanda.

3. **Official Signature**

This certificate may be signed by an Official Veterinarian appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), The Scottish Government, The Welsh Government, or an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Northern Ireland (DAERA), 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 APHA - Exports in Carlisle, within seven days of issue.

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

**Means of Transportation**

4. Paragraph III (c) refers. The OV should write 'air', 'sea' or 'road' as appropriate, and provide the flight number, ship name, or truck registration.

**Notifiable Disease Clearance**

5. Paragraphs IV. (a) and (c) refer. These paragraphs may be certified by the OV provided that he/she has received written authority (Form 618NDC) which will be sent to him/her by (in GB, APHA)- Exports, Carlisle) or the relevant issuing office in N. Ireland within 10 days before shipment.

In paragraphs (a) and (c) the OV must delete ONLY those lines which do NOT apply.

In the case where the UK HAS been affected by a recent outbreak, but the OV thinks that the export might be able to proceed on the basis of options (ii) or (iii), the OV should consult (in GB, APHA Exports, Carlisle) or the relevant issuing office in N. Ireland.

6. **Laboratory Tests**

Paragraphs IV (b) refers.

The samples shall either be sent to APHA Weybridge / Lasswade, AFBI Stormont or another Government (UKAS) accredited veterinary laboratory. The exporter should make arrangements in advance with the laboratory to obtain the necessary data about the materials for the avian influenza test. Samples shall be submitted to allow for the necessary turnaround time of the testing.

The test results must be attached to this veterinary health certificate.

7. **Support Certification**

Paragraphs IV (d), (e), (f), (g) and (h) refer.

In cases where the OV is not personally responsible for the flock(s) of origin, he/she may certify the statements referring to those flocks on the basis of a support certificate (8577SUP) provided by the veterinarian who is regularly responsible for those flocks. The support health certificate will be issued by (in GB, APHA Carlisle) or the relevant issuing office in N. Ireland at the same time as the export health certificate.

**Disease Surveillance under Directive 2009/158/EC**

8. Paragraph IV (d) refers. Directive 2009/158/EC is the European poultry trade Directive. Poultry traded between member states of the EU must comply with the Directive. All of the conditions in the Directive are fully implemented in GB by the Poultry Health Scheme (PHS), and in Northern Ireland by the Northern Ireland Poultry Health and Assurance Scheme (NIPHAS). Therefore membership of either of these schemes means that the premises are officially approved and tested for these diseases in accordance with Directive 2009/158/EC.

**National Surveillance Programme for Salmonellas of Human Concern**

9. Paragraph IV (e) refers. This paragraph may be certified on the basis that the flock(s) of origin have been routinely monitored bacteriologically as required under the National Control Programme for Salmonella.
- The programme lays down procedures for the routine monitoring of chicken and turkey breeding flocks for zoonotic Salmonellas, in accordance with EU Regulation 2160/2003. It is implemented in England by the Control of Salmonella in Poultry Order 2007, and the equivalent in the devolved administrations.
- The OV is personally responsible for checking that testing has been carried out, and that any suspicion of infection has been ruled out (any doubtful or positive results which have been re-examined according to the current PHS or NIPHAS protocols and determined to be false doubtful or false positives can be regarded as negative).

**Routine Inspection of Flocks of Origin**

10. Paragraph IV (h) refers. Directive 2009/158/EC requires that flocks of origin must either be examined by an OV at the time of export to another member state, or they must be subject to routine monthly examinations. Most poultry breeding flocks in the UK opt for the monthly inspections.

The full requirements in order to certify this paragraph are: An official veterinarian must have carried out routine monthly health visits to each flock of origin, the last of which must have been within the past 31 days. In this case the certifying OV must also obtain a written statement (by fax or email) from the flock manager within 24 hours prior to the intended time of despatch of the eggs or day old birds, to confirm that on the basis of production and mortality records, any other relevant reports, and the manager's personal observation, there is no suspicion of disease in the flock(s) of origin.

**Packing and Transport Conditions**

11. Paragraphs IV (m) and (n) refer. In order to certify these paragraphs it is necessary for the OV to personally observe the packing materials and the internal compartment of the vehicles used for transport.

Under EU Council Regulation EC/1/2005, implemented in England by the Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006 and its equivalent in the devolved regions, vehicles carrying live poultry must be cleaned and disinfected prior to loading. Other instructions about disinfection of the vehicle are given in Directive 2009/158/EC, Article 18. 7. It simply says that disinfection must be "in accordance with the instructions of the competent authority". The OV may certify the paragraph if, in his/her professional judgement, the methods are adequate and effective.

A DEFRA approved disinfectant must be used for disinfecting the internal cargo compartment of the vehicle. Disinfectants are approved under the Diseases of Animals (Approved Disinfectants) (England) Order 2007 (as amended). The list contains over 200 brands of disinfectant, and there is a sub-group specifically approved for use with poultry, on the basis of their efficacy against Newcastle disease and avian influenza viruses. DEFRA approved disinfectants carry a statement on the container, and other references to their approval may be found in their data sheets or label instructions.

12. **Disclaimer**

This certificate is provided based on 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>

13. **Welfare of Animals**

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