

EXPORT OF FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCTS FROM WILD (HARVESTED) FISHERIES TO
BRAZIL
NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE CERTIFYING OFFICER - 8180EHC

Associated Document: 8180EHC

1. **IMPORTANT**

These notes provide guidance to Certifying Officers and exporters. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8180EHC. 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.

2. **SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE**

Export health certificate 8180EHC may be used for the export to Brazil of Fishery Products (includes unprocessed and frozen whole or gutted fish) from wild harvested fishery activities.

3. **CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL INSPECTOR**

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.

**** IMPORTANT ****

Brazil does not allow manual strikethroughs or alterations to final certificates. OVs / FCCOs must cross out electronically any sections not applicable before printing EHCs for Brazil.

For exports from Great Britain, this functionality will be added to the certificates produced by EHC Online. The editable certificate must be downloaded from EHC Online and opened in Adobe Reader to ensure the correct sections of the certificate are properly struck through.

For exports from Northern Ireland, guidance is available on the DAERA website at <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/apvp-notes-guidance>.

Consignments arriving in Brazil with an EHC containing manual strikethroughs or alterations may be detained or refused entry into Brazil.

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).

4. **COMPLETION OF PART A – DETAILS OF DESPATCHED CONSIGNMENT:**

A.3 Competent Authority: Enter "DEFRA".

Where the exporting establishment is located in Northern Ireland, "DAERA" should be entered.

A.4 Local Competent Authority: Enter 'APHA' followed by the regional APHA office name (for OVs) or the LA name (for FCCOs) responsible for the exporting establishment. COs in NI can simply insert 'DAERA' a second time, or the Local Authority in which they are employed.

A.6 Country of origin: For wild harvested fish outside of UK territorial waters, please enter the flag state of the vessel landing the catch;

or if processed after landing, the country in which the catch was processed prior to export.

For UK landed and/or processed fish, state **United Kingdom**.

Country of origin ISO code: Enter the country of origin ISO code. Information on ISO codes can be found online at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/iso-country-codes--2>

A.7 Country of dispatch/ Country of dispatch ISO code:

This has been prepopulated with "GB". (The international ISO code for the UK is 'GB')

A.8 Country of destination:

This has been correctly prepopulated as "Brazil"

Country of destination ISO code:

This has been pre-populated with the correct ISO code 'BR' for Brazil.

A.9 Place of loading: The place of loading or the port of embarkation should be entered.

A.10 Means of transport: The means of transport, i.e. airplane (flight number), Ship Name, must be indicated.

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

A.11 Point of entry: The exporter must evidence to the CO a point of entry into the destination country, and this should be entered on the certificate.

A.12 Conditions for transport/storage: Indicate whether the transport/storage temperature is ambient, chilled, or frozen.

A.13 Identification of container(s)/Seal number(s):

Where goods are shipped in an international shipping container, the container number must be entered. If and when the importing country or importer requires a seal on the container, the seal number should be added. Sealing and seal numbers must be witnessed by, or evidenced to the satisfaction of, the Certifying Officer. The EHC may not be issued without these details having been completed by the Certifying Officer. If a seal number is not certified, there should be no space left where a seal number could be entered later.

A.14 Identification of food products/manufacture establishment:

Following the UK exit from the EU, establishments must be approved in accordance with the Hygiene package, which includes Regulations EU 2017/625 (laying down specific rules for the organisation of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption), (EC) 852/2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs and 853/2004 laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin.

Following the end of the transition period, these regulations will be retained as UK legislation and continue to apply.

In England, the EU Hygiene package is implemented and enforced by the Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013 (as amended). Similar legislation exists in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The approval or registration number may be confirmed on sight of a valid approval document or by reference to the responsible local authority.

HS Code: The HS assigns specific six-digit codes for varying classifications and commodities. The Harmonised System (HS) Code is a commodity classification system used as a basis for customs tariffs and for international trade statistics. Countries are allowed to add longer codes to the first six digits for further classification.

The Brazilian Customs System (NCM System) adds two digits to the International Harmonized System (HS).

In order to export products into Brazil, goods must comply with its customs system by transposing HS codes into NCM code. NCM means "Nomenclatura Comum do Mercosul", an 8-digit code set up by the Brazilian Government to identify the nature of the goods.

It is unknown at the time of drafting these notes for guidance whether both codes must be entered, although if the code happens to be the same in both systems it stands to reason to enter it once only.

It is the exporter's responsibility to ensure that the HS and/or NCM code is correct and accurately reflects the product(s) being consigned.

Further information on HS Codes can be found online at:

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

and

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

Purpose: This has been prefilled with 'For Human Consumption'

Description of the product: The description of the product should be entered.

Scientific name of species: The scientific name of the species should be entered.

Lot or production date: The lot or production date should be entered.

Type of packaging: The type of packaging should be entered. The international reference system for packaging description should be used. <https://www.iso.org/obp/ui/#iso:std:iso:21067:-1:ed-1:v1:en>

Number of packages: The number of packages should be entered.

Net weight (Kg): The total net weight in KG should be entered. If the space on the certificate proves insufficient, a schedule may be added to the EHC, appropriately referenced containing the details.

5. COMPLETION OF PART B - HEALTH INFORMATION:

- I. a This paragraph can be certified if the inspector has received supporting evidence that the fish were caught and handled on board vessels that are registered or officially approved by the local authority and are therefore subject to official controls according to UK hygiene standards, in particular Regulations 852 and 853 of 2004;
- I. b-k. The inspector will be able to certify these paragraphs based on his/her personal knowledge or based on written evidence received from the exporter which shall be kept on record together with a copy of the certificate.

Additional Notes:

g. This point is only relevant to fresh products shipped chilled and not frozen.

II - ANIMAL HEALTH ATTESTATION:

This may be certified on the basis of the certifying official's knowledge of the production/processing facility and the products to be exported, and on sight of relevant supporting documentation as required.

'Note' in the EHC:

**** refers to terrestrial gastropods only and has been referenced to Part B I.a. This is incorrect and should be ignored as an instruction.**

6. DISCLAIMER

This certificate is provided on the basis of information available at the time and may not necessarily reflect fully 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 APHA, Carlisle - the Centre for International Trade (CIT), via the link below:

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