

No:

EXPORT OF CATS AND DOGS FROM GREAT BRITAIN TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 3899EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 3899EHC. 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**

Certificate 3899EHC may be used for the export of cats and dogs from the United Kingdom to Dominican Republic

2. **CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV)**

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

OVs must sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in any ink colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

Certified Copy Requirements - England, Wales and Scotland

Guidance concerning return of certified copies of EHCs has changed and only specific certified copies are required to be returned to the APHA. Certifying OVs must return a certified copy of EHCs only for the following EHC types:

- if the exported commodity is cattle, pigs, sheep, goats or camelids;
- if the certificate was applied for manually and the application documents have been emailed to APHA and not applied for via the Exports Health Certificates Online (EHCO) system.

Certified copies should be emailed on the day of signature to the Centre for International Trade Carlisle (CITC) at the following address: certifiedcopies@apha.gov.uk.

For certificates that have been issued to the Certifying OV via the EHCO system, the Certifying OV must complete the certifier portal with the status of the certificate and the date of signature.

A copy of all EHCs and supporting documentation certified must be retained for two years.

Certifying OVs are not required to return certified copies of other EHCs issued, however CITC may request certified copies of EHCs and supporting documentation in order to complete Quality Assurance checks or if an issue arises with the consignment after certification.

DAERA Export Health Certificates: Provision of certified copies

aPVPs certifying DECOL produced Export Health Certificates must return a legible, scanned copy of the final EHC to the relevant DAERA Processing Office within 1 working day of signing.

Good quality photographic copies will be accepted by the department, where obtaining a scanned copy is not feasible – for example, where 'on site' certification is undertaken and scanning facilities are not available.

For record purposes, a copy of the final Export Health Certificate and associated Support documents should be retained by the aPVP for a period of 2 years from the date of certification.

The Department will carry out periodic audits of all aspects of export certification to ensure that a high standard of certification is being maintained.

3. CLINICAL INSPECTION

Paragraph **IV**. a) refers. The inspection must be carried out within 72 hours prior to the intended time of shipment.

6. RABIES VACCINATIONS

Paragraph IV(c) refers.

In case of primary vaccination a full course, in accordance with manufacturer's instructions, should be given. Following primary vaccination the animal should be revaccinated at the intervals recommended by the manufacturer.

Initial rabies vaccination must be carried out more than 21 days prior to export. The rabies vaccination certificate should be attached to the Export Health Certificate.

7. LEGALISATION OF DOCUMENTATION

Once the export health certificate has been signed by the Official Veterinarian, the certificate must be legalised.

For the purposes of legalising the above certificates, exporters should apply to the Legalisation Office via: <https://www.gov.uk/get-document-legalised>

Telephone: 020 4623 3100 (lines open 24/7)

For general enquiries: Legalisation@fcdo.gov.uk

Customers with short deadlines should contact UrgentLegalisation@fcdo.gov.uk for assistance

DECLARATION BY CAPTAIN

A certificate signed by the ship's captain or aircraft's pilot should state that during the voyage or flight the animal concerned had not been ashore and that it did not come into contact with any other animal likely to be infected with rabies. This must be presented on arrival. There is no standard format for such a certificate.

8. TRAVELLING THROUGH OTHER COUNTRIES

It is the responsibility of the exporter/agent to apply to the relevant authorities of the countries shown at paragraph 3 of EXA1 for permission to transport the through these countries. Additional health certification may be required.

9. RESIDENCY IN UNITED KINGDOM

3899NFG (Cleared 13/09/2010) (Revised 15/10/2025)

We understand that the veterinary authorities in Dominican Republic require animals to have been resident in United Kingdom for at least six months prior to export, or since birth. Exporter must provide the Official Veterinarian with a written declaration to this effect. The declaration must also confirm that it is the exporters intention to export the animals concerned.

10. **WELFARE**

Exporters and transporters must comply with all the legislation for the welfare of live animals during transport. The welfare conditions required during transport, are set out in Council Regulation EC No 1/2005 (as retained), implemented in England by The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006, with parallel legislation in Scotland and Wales.

If transported by air, animals should also be transported in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards.

Information about welfare during transport in Great Britain and the necessary requirements can be obtained from the Animal and Plant Health Agency: Welfare in Transport Team
Centre for International Trade
Eden Bridge House
Lowther Street, Carlisle
CA3 8DX
Phone: +44 (0) 3000 200 301
E-mail: WIT@apha.gov.uk

Or, in the case of Northern Ireland, DAERA at Dundonald House, Belfast.

11. **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, Carlisle or DAERA, via the link or e-mail address below:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/contact-apha>

DAERA - Email: vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk