

# AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH STANDARDS COMMISSION REPORT

## USA COMMENTS

OCTOBER 2008

### MODEL HEALTH CERTIFICATES FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN LIVE AQUATIC ANIMALS AND PRODUCTS OF AQUATIC ANIMAL ORIGIN

Article 4.1.1.

Notes for guidance on the health certificates for international trade in live aquatic animals and products of aquatic animal origin

1. General

Since health certificates are considered official documents by all parties involved in their generation or receipt, they should be carefully filled out with accurate and complete information, and signed by the appropriate certifying officials authorized by Competent Authorities, using the principles included in Chapter 1.3.2 on Certification Procedures.

~~Please complete the certificate on paper in capitals.~~ To confirm an option, mark the box with an “X” cross (X). Ensure that no portion of certificate is left blank in a manner that would allow it to be amended. Non-applicable fields may be ~~crossed out~~ cancelled by striking a line through that portion.

2. Part I. Details of dispatched consignment

Country:	Name of the country that issues the certificate.
Box I.1.	Name and full address of the <del>natural or</del> legal entity dispatching the consignment. Information on telephone and fax numbers or e-mail address is recommended.
Box I.2.	The certificate reference number is the number used by the Competent Authority of the country to identify the certificate.
Box I.3.	Name of the Competent Authority.
Box I.4.	Name and full address of the <del>natural or</del> legal entity to whom the consignment is destined at the time the certificate is issued.
Box I.5.	Name of the country from which the live aquatic animals or gametes are being exported. For aquatic animal products, name the country(ies) where the finished products were produced, manufactured or packed.
	“ISO code” refers to the international standard two-letter code (ISO 3166-1 Alpha-2)

	Code) for a country produced by the International Organization for Standardization.
Box I.6.	Name of the zone or compartment of origin, if relevant, in part II of the certificate.
Box I.7.	Name of the country of destination. “ISO code” refers to the international standard two-letter code (ISO 3166-1 Alpha-2 Code) for a country produced by the International Organization for Standardization.
Box I.8.	Name of the zone or compartment of destination, if relevant, in part II of the certificate.
Box I.9.	Name and full address of the place(s) from which the live aquatic animals or aquatic animal products are being exported; and official approval or registration number when required.
	For live aquatic animals and gametes: the establishment(s) or place of capture.
	For products of aquatic animal origin: the premises from which the products are to be dispatched.

<del>Box I.10.</del>	<del>Name of the place from which the live aquatic animals or aquatic animal products are being shipped (this will be a land, sea or airport).</del>
Box I.11.	Date of departure. For live aquatic animals include the expected time of departure.
<del>Box I.12.</del>	<del>Details of the means of transport.</del>
	<del>Identification of the means of transport at the time the certificate is issued: for air transport, the flight number; for maritime transport, the name of the vessel; for rail transport, the number of the train and the wagon and for road transport, the registration number of the road vehicle and the number of the trailer where used.</del>
<del>Box I.13.</del>	<del>Name of expected border post and, if available, its UN/LOCODE (refer to the United Nations Code for Trade and Transport Locations).</del>
Box I.14.	CITES permit number(s) if the commodity concerns species <u>is</u> listed in <u>relevant appendices published in</u> the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.
Box I.15.	Describe the commodity or use the titles as they appear in the Harmonised System of the World Customs Organization.
Box I.16.	Heading or HS Code of the Harmonized System set up by the World Customs Organization.
<del>Box I.17.</del>	<del>Total quantity or weight of the commodity.</del>
	<del>For live aquatic animals give the total count of aquatic animals or weight.</del>
	<del>For live aquatic animals products and gametes give the gross weight and the net weight in kg of the whole consignment.</del>
Box I.18.	Temperature of <u>products commodities</u> for transport and storage.
Box I.19.	For live aquatic animals or gametes give the total number of containers in which they are being transported. For aquatic animal products give the total number of packages.
Box I.20.	Identify the containers/seal numbers where required.
Box I.21.	Identify the type of packaging of aquatic animal <u>products commodities</u> as defined in Recommendation No. 21 – Code of Passengers, Type of Cargo, Package and Packaging Materials of UN/CEFACT (United Nation Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business).

Box I.22.	Intended use of the imported live aquatic animals <del>or aquatic animal products</del> <u>commodities.</u>
	Breeding: applies to gametes and broodstock.
	Grow out: applies to live aquatic animals, aquatic eggs and aquatic larvae <u>that will require further aquaculture</u>
	Slaughter: applies to live aquatic animals for slaughter.
	Restocking: applies to live aquatic animals for the purpose of rebuilding stocks.
	Ornamental: applies to live aquatic animals <del>kept-exported</del> for <u>purposes of companionship or enjoyment.</u>
	Competition/Exhibition: applies to live aquatic animals <del>exported used in an exhibition for display or contest purposes.</del>
	<del>Direct H</del> Human consumption: applies to aquatic animals or aquatic animals products <del>intended exported</del> for <u>direct</u> human consumption <u>without further aquaculture involved.</u>
Box I.22.	Aquatic animal feed: means any <del>product of animal origin</del> <u>aquatic animal commodity</u> (single or multiple), whether processed, semi-processed or raw, that is intended to be fed to aquatic animals.
	Further processing: applies to <del>products of</del> aquatic animal <u>origin commodities</u> that have to be further processed before being suitable for end use.
	Other technical use: applies to aquatic animal <del>products</del> <u>commodities</u> not intended for human or aquatic animal consumption. These include aquatic animal <del>products</del> <u>commodities</u> that are intended for use in the pharmaceutical, medical, cosmetic and other industries. Such <del>products</del> <u>commodities</u> may be subjected to extensive further processing.
	Technical use in live aquatic animals: applies to aquatic animal <del>products</del> <u>commodities</u> used in live aquatic animals, e.g. to stimulate ovulation.
Box I.23.	Mark, if appropriate.
Box I.24.	Details on the nature of the commodity sufficient to identify it.
	For live aquatic animals and gametes: Category (i.e. amphibian, crustacean, fish or mollusc); Wild stocks or Cultured stocks; Species (scientific name); <del>Quantity or Weight</del> , and if required, Identification system; Batch number or other identification details; Age; Sex.
Box I.24.	For <del>products</del> <u>commodities</u> of aquatic animal origin: Category (i.e. amphibian, crustacean, fish or mollusc); Wild stocks or Cultured stocks; Species (Scientific name); Nature of commodity; Treatment type; approval number of establishment(s) (e.g. processing plant; cold store); Lot identification/date code; <del>Quantity; Number of packages; Net weight.</del>

3. Part II. Zoosanitary information

Box II.	Complete this part in accordance with the requirements agreed between the Competent Authorities of the importing and exporting countries in accordance with the recommendations in the <i>Aquatic Code</i> .
Box II.a.	Reference number: see box I.2.
Certifying Official	Name, address, official position, date of signature and official stamp of the Competent Authority.

**General comment:** We understand the desire to uniformly label the boxes in both the live animal and the animal products certificates and the desire to have a single explanation of directions for completing the two forms. However, we found this system very confusing and recommend labeling the boxes in each of the certificates differently (e.g. A.1, A.2., etc for one certificate and B.1, B.2, etc for the other certificate) and using this same differentiation for the directions for completing the forms.

**Rationale:**

- The suggested introductory paragraph was added for clarification.
- The simple description of the ‘mark’ as an ‘X’ may be most accurate. The words ‘crossed out’ was altered for similar reasons.
- In Boxes I.1. and I.4: the term “natural” did not seem necessary or intuitive as to its meaning.
- In Boxes I.10, 12, 13 and 17: this information is not necessary for the competent authority of the country of origin to attest or certify to the health of the aquatic animals or products, which is the purpose of this Model Health Certificate. If the country of destination requires this type of information, then it should be incorporated into an import permit issued by the country of destination. Alternatively, if the decision is to retain Box 17, there is an error in this description that should possibly read: “For live aquatic animals and gametes, give the total count of ~~of aquatic animals~~ or weight. For live aquatic animals products and gametes give the gross weight and the net weight in kg of the whole consignment.”
- In Box I.22: the word “human” was added because other intended uses of the imported live aquatic animals or aquatic animal products, including ‘grow out’ and ‘slaughter’ could, conceivable, terminate in human consumption also.
- In Boxes I.18, 21, 22 and 24: the use of ‘products’ in these sections is not really consistent with the purpose of the health certificate, as it is for LIVE aquatic animals. ‘Commodities’ is the more inclusive and appropriate term. In addition, the description for aquatic animal feed states that it means any product of animal origin. We are unsure if the true intent is to use this form for certification of products from terrestrial animals as well as aquatic animals. We question whether it is important that feed containing any animal constituent is necessary, or just those of aquatic animal origin. We do not know of any terrestrial animal sourced feed constituent that may carry aquatic animal pathogens. We therefore recommend the addition of the word “aquatic” in the phrase “aquatic animal commodity”.
- Repetitive information in Boxes 17, 19 and 24, and on both certificates: The description and the two certificates indicate that “Quantity; Number of packages; Net weight” should be entered in Box I.24. However, “Total quantity/weight” and “Total number of containers” are recorded in Box I.17 and I.19. Recording in Box I.24 is repetitive.

## Article 4.1.2.

**Model Health Certificate for International Trade in Live Aquatic Animals and Gametes****COUNTRY :**

<b>Part I: Details of dispatched consignment</b>	I.1. Consignor: Name:	I.2. Certificate reference number:	
	Address:	I.3. Competent Authority:	
	I.4. Consignee: Name:  Address:		
	I.5. Country of origin: code*	ISO	I.6. Zone or compartment of origin**:
	I.7. Country of destination: code*	ISO	I.8. Zone or compartment of destination**:
	I.9. Place of origin: Name:  Address:		
	I.10. Place of shipment:	I.11. Date of departure:	
	I.12. Means of transport:  Aeroplane <input type="checkbox"/> Ship <input type="checkbox"/> Railway wagon Road vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	I.13. Expected border post:	
	Identification:	I.14. CITES permit No(s)**:	
	I.15. Description of commodity:	I.16. Commodity code (ISO code):	
	I.17. Total quantity/weight:		
I.18. <a href="#">Temperature of products commodities for</a>	I.19. Total number of containers:		

transport and storage.		
I.20. Identification of container/seal number:	I.21. <u>Identify the type of packaging:</u>	
I.22. Commodities intended for use as:		
Breeding <input type="checkbox"/>	Grow out <input type="checkbox"/>	Slaughter <input type="checkbox"/>
Ornamental <input type="checkbox"/>	Competition/Exhibition <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/> If other, specify.....
I.23. <del>For import or admission</del> <u>For importation or in-transit through a country:</u>		
<del>Definitive</del> <u>Importation</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	<del>Re-entry</del> <input type="checkbox"/>	<del>Temporary admission</del> <u>In Transit</u> <input type="checkbox"/>
I.24. Identification of commodities:		
Amphibian <input type="checkbox"/>	Crustacean <input type="checkbox"/>	Fish <input type="checkbox"/>
		Mollusc <input type="checkbox"/>
Wild stock <input type="checkbox"/>	Cultured stock <input type="checkbox"/>	
Species (Scientific name)	Quantity / Weight	Identification system*
Batch number*	Age *	Sex *

\* Optional and \*\* If referenced in Part II.

**Rationale:**

- The labels for text boxes I.18. and I.21. are missing and should be added.
- In Box I.23., we find the information sought for this box confusing as “For import or admission” suggests two different purposes. We suspect that the use of “definitive import” and “temporary admission” seek to distinguish between animals/gametes that are either imported or are in transit through a country. Furthermore we question the need for “re-entry.” If this is the intent, we believe that the following may be adequate for the intended purpose:

I.23. <u>For importation or in-transit through a country:</u>	
Importation <input type="checkbox"/>	In Transit <input type="checkbox"/>

**COUNTRY :**

<b>Part II. Zoosanitary information</b>	II.a. Certificate reference number:
	<p>II. The undersigned Certifying Official certifies that the animal(s)/hatching eggs described above satisfy(ies) the following requirements:</p>

Certifying Official:

Name and address (in capital letters):

Official position:

Date:

Signature:

Stamp:

## Article 4.1.3.

**Model Health Certificate for International Trade in Products of Aquatic Animal Origin****COUNTRY :**

<b>Part I: Details of dispatched consignment</b>	I.1. Consignor: Name:	I.2. Certificate reference number:
	Address:	I.3. Competent Authority:
	I.4. Consignee: Name:  Address:	
	I.5. Country of origin:                      ISO code*	I.6. Zone or compartment of origin**:
	I.7. Country of destination:                      ISO code*	I.8. Zone or compartment of destination**:
	I.9. Place of origin: Name:  Address:	
	I.10. Place of shipment:	I.11. Date of departure:
	I.12. Means of transport:  Aeroplane <input type="checkbox"/> Ship <input type="checkbox"/> Railway wagon <input type="checkbox"/> Road vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	I.13. Expected border post:
	Identification:	I.14. CITES permit No(s).**:
	I.15. Description of commodity:	I.16. Commodity code (ISO code):
	I.17. Total quantity/weight:	
I.18. Temperature of product:  Ambient <input type="checkbox"/> Chilled <input type="checkbox"/> Frozen <input type="checkbox"/>	I.19. Total number of packages:	
I.20. Identification of container/seal number:	I.21. Type of packaging:	

<p>I.22. Commodities intended for use as:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;">                 Human consumption <input type="checkbox"/>                  Further processing <input type="checkbox"/>                  Other <input type="checkbox"/>                  If other, specify.....             </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;">                 Aquatic animal feed <input type="checkbox"/>                  Other technical use <input type="checkbox"/>                  Technical use in live aquatic animals <input type="checkbox"/>                  If Technical use, specify.....             </td> </tr> </table>		Human consumption <input type="checkbox"/> Further processing <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> If other, specify.....	Aquatic animal feed <input type="checkbox"/> Other technical use <input type="checkbox"/> Technical use in live aquatic animals <input type="checkbox"/> If Technical use, specify.....															
Human consumption <input type="checkbox"/> Further processing <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> If other, specify.....	Aquatic animal feed <input type="checkbox"/> Other technical use <input type="checkbox"/> Technical use in live aquatic animals <input type="checkbox"/> If Technical use, specify.....																	
<p>I.23. ?</p>																		
<p>I.24. Identification of commodities:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%; border: none;">Amphibian <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 25%; border: none;">Crustacean <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 25%; border: none;">Fish <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 25%; border: none;">Mollusc <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">Wild stock <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="border: none;">Cultured stock <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td colspan="2" style="border: none;"></td> </tr> </table> <table style="width: 100%; border: none; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">Species (Scientific name)</td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">Nature of commodity</td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">Treatment type</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none; text-align: center;">Approval number of establishments</td> <td style="border: none;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">Number of packages</td> <td style="border: none;">Net weight</td> <td style="border: none;">Lot ID/date code</td> </tr> </table>		Amphibian <input type="checkbox"/>	Crustacean <input type="checkbox"/>	Fish <input type="checkbox"/>	Mollusc <input type="checkbox"/>	Wild stock <input type="checkbox"/>	Cultured stock <input type="checkbox"/>			Species (Scientific name)	Nature of commodity	Treatment type		Approval number of establishments		Number of packages	Net weight	Lot ID/date code
Amphibian <input type="checkbox"/>	Crustacean <input type="checkbox"/>	Fish <input type="checkbox"/>	Mollusc <input type="checkbox"/>															
Wild stock <input type="checkbox"/>	Cultured stock <input type="checkbox"/>																	
Species (Scientific name)	Nature of commodity	Treatment type																
	Approval number of establishments																	
Number of packages	Net weight	Lot ID/date code																

\* Optional and \*\* If referenced in Part II.

**COUNTRY :**

<b>Part II. Zoosanitary information</b>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;"></td> <td style="width: 40%;">II.a. Certificate reference number</td> </tr> </table> <p>II. The undersigned Certifying Official certifies that the products of animal origin described above satisfy(ies) the following requirements:</p>		II.a. Certificate reference number
	II.a. Certificate reference number		

Certifying Official:

Name and address (in capital letters):

Official position:

Date:

Signature:

Stamp:

