

## INFORMATION SHEET: IMPORTING DOGS AND CATS TO ISRAEL

The Israeli Veterinary Services & Animal Health requirements that will be effective from 01/05/2010

1. According to the Animal Disease Ordinance (Animal Imports), 5734 – 1974), the importation of dogs and cats to Israel requires an import license issued by the Director of the Veterinary Services in the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (hereafter, the Director).
2. No person will import an animal unless through the following ports of entry: Ben Gurion Airport, Haifa seaport, Ashdod seaport and Eilat seaport.
3. The import must be accompanied by an official veterinary health certificate, which was issued not more than 10 days prior the arrival and signed by a government veterinarian of the country of origin, that follows the model certificate, annex A, attached to the import permit, and which constitutes an integral part of it.
4. The dog/cat shall be no less than 4 months of age upon arrival in Israel, with the exception of arrivals from countries listed in point<sup>2</sup> from which the pet can be imported at 3 months of age.
5. Under the Regulations for the Control of Dogs (Imports of Dangerous Dogs), 5765 – 2004, it is prohibited to import a dog belonging to a dangerous breed<sup>1</sup>, as well as a dog that is the result of a cross with a dangerous breed and that exhibits behavior patterns and physical traits similar to those of a dangerous breed. Excluding exceptional instances, accompanied by a license from the director as set out in the said regulation.
6. All dogs and cats must be tagged with a subcutaneous electronic chip that transmits on a frequency of 134.2 kilohertz and can be read with a chip reader that conforms to the provisions of the ISO Standard No. 11784 or of Annex A of ISO Standard 11785. If the chip does not conform to these standards, the importer or the importer's representative is required to be in possession of another means to read it. It is important to note that such an electronic microchip does not conform the Israeli legal requirements for tagging
7. All dogs/cats require a veterinary health certificate, as per paragraph 3, which states that:
  - a) At the time of examination it did not exhibit any symptoms of contagious or infectious diseases
  - b) They have been vaccinated against rabies no more than one year and no less than 30 days prior to their arrival in Israel<sup>2</sup>.
  - c) 30 days after the rabies vaccination, A serological test for the animal, carried out on a sample taken by an approved veterinarian and tested in an OIE-approved laboratory, which states that the rabies neutralizing antibody titer was equal to or greater than 0,5 IU/ml.
8. The importer/owner is required to transmit by fax to the offices of the Veterinary Services at the port of entry<sup>3</sup> a notification according to the attached form, annex B, and the photocopy of the veterinary certificate accompanying the shipment. The fax must be sent two working days prior to loading the shipment on the vessel (plane or ship). The shipment is not to be released until this has been authorized by the Veterinary Services at the port of entry.
9. Dogs and cats that are imported as part of the accompanied baggage of their owners – up to a limit of two – are exempt from having to obtain an import license from the Director, provided they meet the provisions of paragraphs 3 through 6 above, are accompanied by a health certificate issued by a government veterinarian in the country of origin within 10 days prior to their date of import, that testifies that the animals were examined and found healthy and free of contagious diseases. The certificate should be accompanied by a declaration by the owners that the animals had been in their possession at least 90 days prior to being brought to Israel, annex C.  
Import of dogs and cats as accompanied baggage also requires provision of details as indicated in paragraph 8 above.
10. Dogs and cats that are healthy on arrival and accompanied by the required documentation, will not require a period of quarantine in Israel.
11. In the event that the demands of the Veterinary Services have not been met in full, the cats/dogs will be returned to their country of origin, destroyed or transferred to a quarantine facility at the discretion of the Director and according to the conditions he dictates.
12. The importer/owner will be charged with all costs incurred due to the return of the animals to their country of origin, their destruction and/or their transfer to and stay in quarantine, including examinations, diagnoses, vaccinations, and special treatments if ordered by the Government Veterinarian.
13. The valid version is the one published in the Israeli Veterinary Services and Animal Health web site in Hebrew.

Chief Import-Export Veterinary Officer

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<sup>1</sup> The dangerous breeds are: American Staffordshire Bull Terrier (Amstaff), Bull Terrier, Argentinean Dogo, Japanese Tosa, Staffordshire Bull Terrier (English Staff), Pitt Bull Terrier, Brazilian Fila and Rottweiler.

<sup>2</sup> with the exception of arrivals from Oceania, Great Britain, Japan, and Cyprus; such dogs, if they were not vaccinated, must be vaccinated against rabies within 5 days of their arrival in Israel.

<sup>3</sup> Ben Gurion Airport Fax: +972-3-9772033, Haifa: +972-4-8622455, Ashdod: +972-8-8565673 and Eilat: +972-8-6323054



מדינת ישראל  
STATE OF ISRAEL  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
VETERINARY SERVICES & ANIMAL HEALTH

**VETERINARY CERTIFICATE FOR DOMESTIC DOGS, CATS AND FERRETS ENTERING ISRAEL**

COUNTRY of dispatch of the animal: \_\_\_\_\_

Serial number of the Certificate: \_\_\_\_\_

I. OWNER/RESPONSIBLE PERSON ACCOMPANYING THE ANIMAL	
First name:	Surname:
Address:	
Postcode:	City:
Country:	Telephone:

II. DESCRIPTION OF THE ANIMAL	
Species	Breed:
Sex:	Coat (colour and type):
Date of birth:	

III. IDENTIFICATION OF THE ANIMAL <sup>1</sup>	
Microchip number:	
Location of microchip:	Date of microchipping:
Tattoo number:	Date of tattooing:

IV. VACCINATION AGAINST RABIES <sup>2</sup>		
Manufacturer and name of vaccine:		
Batch number:	Vaccination date:	Valid until:

V. RABIES SEROLOGICAL TEST (when required) <sup>3</sup>
I have seen an official record of the result of a serological test for the animal, carried out on a sample taken on (dd/mm/yyyy) _____, and tested in an OIE-approved laboratory, which states that the rabies neutralizing antibody titer was equal to or greater than 0,5 IU/ml.

<b>VI. CLINICAL EXAMINATION</b>
At the time of examination it did not exhibit any symptoms of contagious or infectious diseases

OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN OR VETERINARIAN AUTHORISED BY THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY (*) (in the latter case, the competent authority must endorse the certificate)	
First name:	Surname:
Address	SIGNATURE, DATE & STAMP:
Postcode:	
City:	
Country:	
Telephone:	
(*) Delete as applicable	
ENDORSEMENT BY THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY (not necessary when the certificate is signed by an official veterinarian)	
DATE & STAMP:	

The certificate is valid for 10 days

- Notes:
- <sup>1</sup> All dogs and cats must be tagged with a subcutaneous electronic chip that transmits on a frequency of 134.2 kilohertz and can be read with a chip reader that conforms to the provisions of the ISO Standard No. 11784 or of Annex A of ISO Standard 11785. If the chip does not conform to these standards, the importer or the importer's representative is required to be in possession of another means to read it.
  - <sup>2</sup> All dogs/cats require a veterinary confirmation that they have been vaccinated against rabies no more than one year and no less than 30 days prior to their arrival in Israel with the exception of arrivals from Oceania, Great Britain, Japan, and Cyprus; such dogs, if they were not vaccinated, must be vaccinated against rabies within 5 days of their arrival in Israel.
  - <sup>3</sup> The sample referred to in Part V must have been taken more than 1 month after the rabies vaccination with the exception of arrivals from Oceania, Great Britain, Japan, and Cyprus;

## נספח ב' Annex B

### Notification on Pet Arrival

### הודעה בדבר הגעת בעל חיים

The pet will arrive to:

בעל החיים יגיע ל:

Ben Gurion Airport	+972-3-9772033	
Haifa	+972-4-8622455	
Ashdod	+972-8-8565673	
Eilat	+972-8-6323054	

### Importer/owner details

פרטי יבואן / בעלים

שם משפחה	שם פרטי	אזרחות	מספר דרכון
Family Name	First Name	Nationality	Passport Number

כלי הובלה	מס' טיסה	תאריך	שעה
Vessel (plane or ship)	Flight Number	Day	Hour

### Contact Details

דרכים להתקשרות

פאקס	דוא"ל
Fax	E-mail

**Annex C**

**נספח ג'**

**Declaration of the Pet Owner**

I, the undersigned declare that:

1. The pet will be accompanied during the movement by a person that is responsible for the animals.
2. The animals are not intended for commercial purposes.
3. The animals had been in my possession at least 90 days prior to being brought to Israel.

.....  
Date

.....  
Name

.....  
Place

.....  
Signature