

REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

THE ANIMALS AND BIRDS ACT (CHAP.7)

**VETERINARY CONDITIONS FOR THE IMPORTATION OF
PET ANIMALS – SMALL MAMMALS (2/2)**

I **COUNTRY OF EXPORT**

Any country.

II **PURPOSE**

As personal pets or for commercial purposes.

III **IMPORT LICENCE**

Each consignment of animals shall be accompanied by a valid Import Licence issued by the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) of Singapore.

IV **VETERINARY CERTIFICATION**

Each consignment of animals shall be accompanied by a veterinary health certificate dated within seven (7) days prior to the date of export and signed by a government veterinary authority or a registered veterinarian of the country of export, giving details of the consignment (consignor, consignee, quantity, type, breed, sex and colour, markings or other points of identification of each animal and the name of the breeding facility if applicable) and certifying to the effect that:

(in the case of commercial consignments)

- (i) the animals are captive bred and do not originate from the wild,
- (ii) the animals have been kept continuously since birth or for the past six (6) months immediately prior to export in an AVA approved breeding facility which is in a country which has been free from rabies;

OR

- the animals have been kept continuously since birth or for the past twelve (12) months immediately prior to export, in a AVA approved breeding facility where no case of rabies has been reported in the past twelve (12) months prior to export,
- (iii) the animals have been kept continuously since birth or for the past six (6) months immediately prior to export in an AVA approved breeding facility which has been free from evidence of the following diseases and disease agents for the past twelve (12) months:
 - (a) Lymphocytic choriomeningitis, Hanta virus infection, Sendai virus, tularemia and yersiniosis for GUINEA PIG/RODENTS/CHINCHILLAS;
 - (b) Myxomatosis, tularaemia, rabbit haemorrhagic disease, and yersiniosis for RABBITS.
- (iv) no case of monkeypox has occurred in the facility in the preceding six (6) months prior to export;
- (v) the animals have not been inoculated with any micro-organisms nor been in contact with animals which have been inoculated with any micro-organisms,
- (vi) the animals have been treated for external parasites (state active ingredient) not less than four (4) days and not more than fourteen (14) days prior to export,
- (vii) the animals are healthy and free from any clinical sign of infectious or contagious disease and external parasites at the time of export and deem fit to travel.

(in the case of personal pets)

- (i) the animals have been kept as pets continuously since birth or for the past six (6) months immediately prior to export;
- (ii) the animals have been treated for external parasites (state active ingredient) not less than four (4) days and not more than fourteen (14) days prior to export,
- (iii) the animals are healthy and free from any clinical sign of infectious or contagious disease, including rabies, monkeypox, and
 - (a) Lymphocytic choriomeningitis, Hanta virus infection, Sendai virus, tularaemia and yersiniosis for GUINEA PIG/RODENTS/CHINCHILLAS;
 - (b) Myxomatosis, tularaemia, rabbit haemorrhagic disease, and yersiniosis for RABBITS.as well as external parasites at the time of export and deem fit to travel.

V **DECLARATION FROM MASTER/CAPTAIN OF SHIP/AIRCRAFT**

Not required.

VI QUARANTINE

The animals shall be subject to two (2) weeks quarantine at an AVA approved premises. AVA officers may inspect the animals at the quarantine premises during the quarantine period. Any outbreak of disease or mortality during the quarantine period must be reported to Import & Export Division immediately.

VII APPLICATION FOR IMPORT LICENCE

The owner or his agent must apply for the import licence by submitting an online application through AVA's website (www.ava.gov.sg>e-Services>Animals&Pet Sector>Licence to Import/Export/Transship of Animals/Birds/Eggs/Biologics) 30 days prior to the arrival of animals.

VIII NOTIFICATION OF ARRIVAL

The owner or his agent shall contact the Quarantine Office as stated in the Import Licence at least five (5) working days before the arrival of the animals.

IX VETERINARY INSPECTION

On arrival at the port of disembarkation in Singapore, the animals and documents (Import Licence and Veterinary Health Certificate) shall be examined by an authorised Veterinary Officer. If the animals are found to be healthy and documents are in order, the animals shall be allowed into Singapore. The owner must confirm the address where the animals will be quarantined on the import Licence.

X PENALTY

If the animals are not healthy or if documents are not in order or if quarantine space is not approved, the animals shall be detained for two (2) weeks for observation prior to quarantine or destroyed or returned to the country of export at the discretion of the Director-General of Agri-Food and Veterinary Services. In addition, the importer may be subject to prosecution.

XI FEES

- (i) Import Licence)
- (ii) Veterinary inspection and processing of documents) see Fee Schedule: Attachment-2
- (iii) Accommodation Fee at Changi Animal & Plant Quarantine Unit)

XII OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- (i) Animals must be derived from approved breeding facilities. Approval of the facility must be sought before applying for an import licence by supplying technical information of the breeding facility eg. name, address and location of facility, type and population of animals, diseases reported in the past year, results of serological surveys conducted on animals in the facility, contingency plans to handle disease outbreaks, sanitation and hygiene practices, management practice and vaccination regime.
- (ii) Animals must be consigned to Singapore in a secure container that meets the relevant container requirements specified in the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animals Regulations.
- (iii) Only AVA approved establishments with quarantine premises can import animals for commercial purposes and the number of animals allowed in each consignment would be in accordance to the holding capacity of the premises.
- (iv) Import of animals as personal effects is restricted to only 5 animals regardless of species.
- (v) Importation of animals for consumption is not allowed.
- (vi) Any expenditure incurred in the process of importation shall be borne by the importer.
- (vii) Regulations and fees are subject to change without notice notwithstanding the issuance of a Licence by AVA.
- (viii) Small mammals means only rabbits, hares, mice, rats, hamsters, gerbils, cavies (guinea pigs) and chinchillas.

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