

IMPORT CONDITIONS FOR IMPORTATION OF PET DOGS/CATS INTO BHUTAN

1. Definition

Pet dogs/cats refer to domestic dogs (*Canis familiaris*) and domestic cats (*Felis catus*), respectively, limited to breeds approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, and imported for the purpose of companionship or breeding.

2. General requirements

The pet dog/cat must be accompanied by International Veterinary Certificate issued by a Government Authorized Veterinarian of the exporting country attesting that:

- 2.1. The pet dog/cat is permanently identified using microchip.
- 2.2. The microchip number, age, breed, sex, colour, markings or other points of identification of pet dog/cat are recorded and verified on the certificate and laboratory reports accompanying the pet dog/cat.
- 2.3. The laboratory or laboratories conducting the pre-export testing specified in the import conditions are approved by the Competent Authority of the exporting country.
- 2.4. The pet dog/cat has been treated with a broad-spectrum endo-parasiticide and ecto-parasiticide drugs licensed or registered for use on dogs/cats according to the manufacturer's recommendations within seven days prior to shipment and found to be free of ectoparasites at the time of export.
- 2.5. The pet dog/cat was examined within 24 hours of shipment and were found to be in good health and free from clinical signs of any infectious or contagious diseases and fit to travel at the time of shipment.
- 2.6. The container used for transporting the pet dog/cat complies with International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards and is clean, dry, and free from pests.
- 2.7. In the case of land transport, the pet dog/cat is transported in a secure and appropriate crate or cage.
- 2.8. Importers are informed that the pet dog/cat must not come into contact with other animals during transport and transit to the destination, to minimize the risk of exposure to infectious or contagious diseases and to ensure the integrity of the animal's certified health status upon arrival.

3. Disease-specific requirements

The pet dog/cat must be accompanied by International Veterinary Certificate issued by a Government Authorized Veterinarian of the exporting country attesting that:

- 3.1. The pet dog/cat have a valid and up to date vaccination against rabies in accordance with the recommendations of the vaccine manufacturer, with a vaccine that was produced in accordance with the WOAHP Terrestrial Manual.
- 3.2. The pet dog/cat has been subjected to an antibody titration test, as prescribed in the WOAHP Terrestrial Manual, on a sample collected not less than three months and not more than 12

months prior to shipment, with a result of rabies neutralising antibody titre of at least 0.5 IU/ml.

- 3.3. In the case of a pet dog, the dog was vaccinated according to the vaccine manufacturer's recommendations and not less than two weeks prior to export against Canine Distemper virus, Canine Parvovirus, Canine infectious hepatitis, Canine parainfluenza, and Leptospirosis (*Leptospira interrogans Canicola* and *Leptospira interrogans Icterohaemorrhagiae*).
- 3.4. In the case of pet cat, the cat was vaccinated according to the vaccine manufacturer's recommendations and not less than two weeks prior to export against Feline calicivirus, Feline herpesvirus-1 and Feline Panleukopenia virus.

Important notes:

1. These conditions will also apply to all the tourists and temporary visitors in the country.
2. The requirements relating to post-arrival procedures, quarantine, and the documents to accompany pet dogs/cats shall be specified by the BFDA.
3. The import conditions are subject to change as and when the disease situation changes.