



**REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE**

**THE ANIMALS AND BIRDS ACT (CHAP.7)**

**VETERINARY CONDITIONS FOR THE TEMPORARY  
IMPORTATION OF HORSES**

**I COUNTRY OF EXPORT**

Argentina, Australia, Canada, Denmark France, Germany, Hong Kong SAR, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Macau SAR, Malaysia, New Zealand, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and the United States of America.

**II PURPOSE**

Temporary for racing, equestrian competition and shows.

**III IMPORT LICENCE**

Each consignment of horses 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 horses shall be accompanied by current individual international equine passports recognized by the respective national racing associations and a veterinary health certificate dated not more than forty-eight (48) hours prior to export and signed or endorsed by the competent Veterinary Authority of the country of export describing the age, breed, sex, colour, markings or other points of identification, and the passport number and the name and address of the premises of origin of each horse, and certifying to the effect that:

- (i) the country has been free from **African horse sickness** for the last two (2) years prior to the date of export, and no vaccination is permitted in the country against this disease,
- (ii) the country has been free from **Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis** for the last two (2) years prior to the date of export , and no vaccination is permitted in the country against this disease **OR** no case of Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis has occurred in the country for the last two (2) years prior to the date of export,
- (iii) the country has been free from **Eastern** and **Western equine encephalomyelitis** for the last two (2) years prior to the date of export, and no vaccination is permitted in the country against these diseases **OR** the horse has been vaccinated within 12 months but not within 30 days of export against Eastern and Western equine encephalomyelitis with vaccines approved by the Veterinary Authority of the country of export and AVA,
- (iv) the country has been free from **glanders** for the last two (2) years prior to the date of export **OR** the horse was tested with mallein with negative result(s) within 15 days of export,
- (v) the country has been free from **surra** for the last 12 months prior to date of export **OR** the horse was tested for **Trypanosoma evansi** by haematocrit centrifugation test with negative results within 30 days of export,
- (vi) the country has been free from **dourine** for the last 12 months prior to date of export **OR** the horse was tested for **Trypanosoma equiperdum** by the complement fixation test with negative results within 15 days of export,
- (vii) the country has been free from **equine infectious anemia** for the last 12 months prior to date of export **OR** the horse was tested for equine infectious anemia by the immunodiffusion (Coggin's) test with negative results within 30 days of export,
- (viii) the country has been free from **equine viral arteritis** for the last 12 months prior to date of export **OR** the horse was tested for equine viral arteritis by the serum neutralisation tests with negative results or with stable or declining antibody titres at dilution of 1 in 4, twice 14 days apart within 30 days of export,



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- (ix) the country has been free from **equine piroplasmosis** for the past 12 months **OR** the horse was subjected to a fluorescent antibody test for equine piroplasmosis with negative results within 30 days of export,
- (x) the country has been free from **rabies** in the past two (2) years **OR**
  - (b) (1) during the 6 months prior to export, the horse has not suffered from or been exposed to nor been in premises infected with rabies, and
  - (2) the horse has not been vaccinated against rabies **OR** was vaccinated against rabies using an approved vaccine not less than 30 days and not more than 12 months prior to export,
- (xi) no case of **Hendra-virus infection** has been reported in horses in the country for the last 3 months prior to export **OR** if **Hendra-virus infection** were reported, the horse will be subjected to a pre-export quarantine for 21 days continuously prior to export, under veterinary supervision and the horse has been tested for Hendra virus infection by ELISA test with negative results within 14 days prior to export,
- (xii) no case of **Nipah virus infection** has been reported in horses in the country for the last 2 years prior to the date of export **OR** no case of **Nipah virus infection** has been reported in horses in the country for the past 6 months, or such other period as may be specified by AVA, prior to the date of export and the horse has undergone two (2) weeks' pre-export isolation at premises approved by AVA and tested during pre-export isolation for Nipah virus infection with negative results prior to export,
- (xiii) a) the country has been free from **West Nile virus infection** for the last 12 months prior to the date of export **OR**
  - (b) the horse has been subjected to an antibody-capture immunoassay for serum IgM to West Nile virus with negative results within 15 days of export **OR**
  - (c) the horse has been vaccinated within 12 months but not within 30 days of export against West Nile virus with inactivated vaccines approved by the Veterinary Authority of the country of export.
- (xiv) all tests were carried out in a laboratory approved by the Veterinary Authority of the country of export and AVA, using OIE prescribed methodologies,
- (xv) the horses had been resident in any of the country or countries listed in this Regulations continuously for at least sixty (60) days immediately prior to export.
- (xvi) during the 3 months prior to export, the horse has not suffered from or been exposed to nor been in premises infected with any condition or disease including the following: equine infectious anemia, equine viral encephalomyelitis, horse pox, scabies, anthrax, glanders, dourine, surra, strangles, epizootic lymphangitis, ulcerative lymphangitis, equine rhinopneumonitis, equine viral arteritis, equine piroplasmosis, equine influenza, Vesicular Stomatitis, Getah virus infection, Hendra virus infection, Nipah virus infection, West Nile virus infection or any other disease of horses notifiable in the country of export.
- (xvii) the horse was treated with an approved long-acting and broad spectrum anthelmintic and parasiticide effective against ticks within 30 days but at least 14 days of export,
- (xviii) the horse had not been vaccinated with any vaccine within 30 days of export **OR** the horse had been vaccinated within 30 days with a vaccine or vaccines approved by AVA (submit name and purpose of vaccine and date of vaccination),
- (xix) the horse had been examined and was found clinically healthy and free from external parasites and any clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease at time of export.

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

Each consignment of horses shall be accompanied by a signed declaration from the master/captain of the ship/aircraft in which the horses were carried stating that:

- (i) the horses had been embarked or emplaned in the country of export (to state the name of the country) and had not been landed at any intermediate port (unless it is an approved stopover ports at Part XII) during the voyage or flight to Singapore,
- (ii) no horse from another country was carried in the ship/aircraft during the time that the horses to which such declaration refers were on board the ship/aircraft (unless prior approval obtained from AVA),



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- (iii) no fodder from another country was carried in the ship/aircraft during the time that the horses to which such declaration refers were on board the ship/aircraft (unless prior approval obtained from AVA). The use of hay or straw bedding during transport is prohibited; treated wood shavings, sterilised peat and soft boards may be used.
- (iv) the interior of the aircraft carrying the horses had been sprayed with an approved insecticide just prior to its departure from the country of export, the approved intermediate port(s), and on landing in Singapore (only applicable for exporting countries and stopover(s) at approved intermediate port(s) in countries which cannot certify country freedom against Venezuelan, Western and Eastern equine encephalomyelitis, trypanosomiasis, equine infectious anemia or piroplasmosis).
- (v) in a case where the aircraft has stopped at an intermediate port not approved by AVA as a stopover port but for refuelling purpose, the cargo hold where the horses are carried in the aircraft had not been opened during the entire time of its refuelling stop and the interior of the aircraft carrying the horses had been sprayed with an approved insecticide just prior to its arrival at the port and also prior to departure from the port.

### VI ISOLATION

- (i) Horses from one country shall have no contact with horses from other countries other than during race for the first 14 days after import, unless otherwise approved by AVA.
- (ii) Horses from Argentina, Canada, United Arab Emirates and United States of America shall be housed in vector-protected stables and an insect repellent effective for the duration of removal from the stables shall be thoroughly applied to the horses prior to their removal from the stables under official veterinary supervision for the first 14 days. Stables shall be treated with a long-acting insecticide to cover the period of residence of the horses in Singapore.
- (iii) Facilities for isolation shall be on equine establishments approved by AVA.
- (iv) Training and race in the night in the first 14 days of import may be permitted under official veterinary supervision subject to the above conditions in this Section being satisfied and AVA's approval.

### 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](http://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. The applicant must indicate the route of travel, including any stopover or refueling stops, at the time of application.

### VIII NOTIFICATION OF ARRIVAL

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

### IX VETERINARY INSPECTION

On arrival at the port of disembarkation in Singapore, the horses and documents (Import Licence, Veterinary Health Certificate and Captain's Declaration) shall be presented to and examined by an authorised Veterinary Officer. If the consignment of horses is found to be healthy and documents are in order, the horses shall be allowed entry into Singapore.

### X PENALTY

If any animal is not healthy or if any document is not in order, the animals shall be quarantined for 30 days or destroyed/returned or re-exported at the discretion of the Director-General of Agri-Food and Veterinary Services at the owner's expense without recompense. In addition the owner or his agent is subject to prosecution.

### XI FEES

- (i) Import Licence: )
- (ii) Veterinary inspection and processing of documents – ) See Fee Schedule: Attachment-2 (outside office hours)

### XII OTHER REQUIREMENTS/INFORMATION

- (i) Stopover of aircraft at all Australian airports, all Canadian airports, Amsterdam, Anchorage, Bahrain, Basel, Berlin, Brussels, Chicago, Copenhagen, Dubai, Dublin, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, Honolulu, London, Los Angeles, Luxembourg, Manchester, New York, Paris, San Francisco, Taipei, Tokyo, Vienna and Zurich may be permitted but no horse is allowed to leave the aircraft.
- (ii) All mares destined for Singapore must not be pregnant. Any pregnant mare as well as in-contact material may be detained in quarantine or returned to the country of origin at the importer's/exporter's expense.



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- (iii) Any expenditure incurred in the process of importation of the horse shall be borne by the owner or his agent.
- (iv) If a horse dies or is destroyed while under the custody of AVA, AVA will not be liable for any compensation
- (v) Horses must be kept in places licensed by the Director-General of Public Health, Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, Singapore.
- (vi) Application for import from any other country other than those listed in (i) should be made to AVA through the competent veterinary authority of the country of export at least 6 months prior to date of intended export to Singapore. The competent veterinary authority should also submit relevant details on its veterinary infrastructure, organisational structure and manpower strength, professional qualifications of its veterinary services personnel, veterinary laboratory diagnostic capabilities, national disease surveillance programmes, point of entry control capabilities, compulsorily notifiable diseases and current status of OIE-listed diseases in the country.
- (vii) Horses must be re-exported within 14 days after completion of the international race.
- (viii) Horses should be transported in accordance with latest recommendations of the OIE International Animal Health Code and International Air Transport Association Live Animal Regulations, unless otherwise agreed by AVA.
- (ix) Regulations and fees are subject to change without notice notwithstanding the issuance of a licence with AVA.

ISSUED BY:

HEAD/REGULATORY & HEALTH PLANNING DIVISION  
AGRI-FOOD & VETERINARY AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE  
5 MAXWELL ROAD #03-00  
TOWER BLOCK, MND COMPLEX  
REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE 069110  
FAX: [65] 62206068

APPLICATION/ENQUIRIES:

HEAD/IMPORT & EXPORT DIVISION  
5 MAXWELL ROAD #02-00  
TOWER BLOCK, MND COMPLEX  
SINGAPORE 069110  
TELEPHONE: [65] 62270670  
FAX: [65] 62276305  
E-mail: AVA\_Import&Export\_Animals@ava.gov.sg

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