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General Secretariat

**Brussels, 25 October 2019**

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**LIMITE**

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**WORKING DOCUMENT**

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From:	European Commission
To:	Trade Policy Committee (Deputies)
Subject:	Harmonised certificates for export to Iran of beef and sheep meat

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
Directorate-General for Trade

Directorate D - Sustainable Development; Economic Partnership Agreements - African, Caribbean and Pacific; Agri-food  
**Agriculture, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Market Access, Biotechnology**

Brussels, 25 October 2019  
Trade.dga1.d.3/PS/ir (2019)7362410

*Limited*<sup>1</sup>

## NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE TRADE POLICY COMMITTEE

**SUBJECT:** Harmonised certificates for export to Iran of beef and sheep meat

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**COPIED TO:**  Potsdam group  Roosendaal group

**OBJECTIVE:** *For information and feedback*

### **REMARKS:**

With the note WK 15031/2017, Member States were informed of the Commission's work to improve market access for EU exports to Iran. In the note WK 3485/2018, the Commission gave an update on its discussions with Iran, and consulted Member States on two proposals for harmonised conditions for export of beef and sheep meat.

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Although Iran initially signalled that it would accept the EU proposals, it seemed to backtrack by the end of 2018, resulting in a situation of uncertainty for EU exporters. The Commission continued to push for a definitive position from Iran, and finally, on 3/10/2019, received from Iran the attached letter **confirming its acceptance of the harmonised certificates**.

The new certificates are simple and use the standard language of EU regulations. As such, they are expected to be easier for EU exporters to use. On substance, they improve several aspects of the previous sanitary conditions applicable to EU Member States:

1. The requirement that shipments of bovine and sheep meat be supervised and certified by Iranian inspectors in the exporting country (“double certification”) is no longer mentioned in the certificates;
2. There is no longer the requirement that the meat must come only from live animals slaughtered below a certain age (in the case of beef, 30 months and in the case of sheep 18 months);
3. There is no requirement that bovine and sheep meat must come from animals born, raised and slaughtered in the same EU Member State. Instead, they can originate from another approved Member State;
4. The import of bone-in meat is now allowed.

The Commission would welcome any feedback from Member States regarding the use of the new certificates for their meat exports, and in particular the observance by Iran of point 1 above.

The letter from Iran and its annexes can also be found in the Market Access Database, <https://madb.europa.eu/madb/indexMs.htm>. The certificates appear on the page of the Iranian Veterinary Organisation under the following address: <https://e.ivo.ir/listEn.aspx?grp=4>. They should be made available soon in the TRACES system.

The Commission will continue to engage with Iran regarding related market access issues, which are not yet transparent, in particular the approval of Member States and establishments for export of meat and live animals.

\* \* \*

Annexes: 2 model certificates for the export of beef and sheep meat  
Letter from the Iranian CVO

**EUROPEAN UNION**

**Ovine meat for export to Iran – Export Certificate**

Part I : Details of dispatched consignment	I.1. Consignor Name Address  Country		I.2. Certificate reference number		I.2.a. TRACES reference number																										
			I.3. Central competent authority																												
			I.4. Local competent authority																												
	I.5. Consignee Name Address  Country		I.6. No.(s) of related original certificates		No.(s) of accompanying documents																										
			I.7. Country of origin		ISO code	I.8. Region of origin																									
	I.9. Country of destination		ISO code	I.10. Region of destination																											
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	I.13. Place of loading Name Region Postal code		I.14. Date and time of departure																												
	I.15. 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"/> Identification Number(s)		I.16. Entry Point																												
			I.17. CITES																												
I.18. Temperature of products Chilled <input type="checkbox"/> Frozen <input type="checkbox"/>		I.19. Number/Quantity		I.20. Total number of packages																											
I.21. Seal/Container number																															
I.22. Commodities certified for:  Human consumption: <input type="checkbox"/>																															
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COUNTRY

Ovine meat for export to Iran – Export Certificate

Part II: Certification	II. Health information	II.a. Certificate reference number	II.b.
	<p><b>II.1 Animal health attestation</b></p> <p>I, the undersigned official veterinarian hereby certify, that the meat described in Part I:</p> <p>II.1.1 derives from animals identified and registered in the national identification system ensuring the traceability of the animals to the herd of origin.</p> <p>II.1.2 derives from animals that were born and bred in the exporting EU Member State or in another EU Member States that has been approved by Iran for export of ovine meat.</p> <p>II.1.3 derives from animals that have remained in a region which has been free from foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) for the previous 12 months and has not practised vaccination against FMD during that period.</p> <p>II.1.4 contains only meat of skeletal muscle origin or derives from animals coming from herds that were not subject to animal health restrictions due to ovine or caprine brucellosis during the past 42 days.</p> <p>II.1.5 derives from herds that are not placed under movement restrictions for the control of anthrax during the 20 days prior to slaughter and that have not come into contact with animals coming from herds which do not meet these conditions.</p> <p>II.1.6 does not derive from animals removed as part of a disease eradication programme;</p> <p>II.1.7 derives from animals which showed no clinical evidence of epidemic, infectious, parasitic or zoonotic diseases recognised by the OIE as significant in the trade of this meat;</p> <p><b>II.2. Public health attestation</b></p> <p>I, the undersigned official veterinarian hereby declare that I am aware of the requirements of Regulations (EC) No. 852/2004, (EC) No.853/2004 and (EC) No.854/2004 and certify that the meat described in Part I was produced according to those requirements, in particular that:</p> <p>II.2.1 the meat comes from an establishment(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Authorized by the competent authority</li> <li>- Implementing programmes based on the principles of Hazard Analysis and Critical</li> </ul>		

**COUNTRY**

**Ovine meat for export to Iran – Export Certificate**

<b>II. Health information</b>	<b>II.a. Certificate reference number</b>	<b>II.b.</b>								
Control Points (HACCP) in accordance with Regulation (EC) No. 852/2004, and under the supervision of the official Authority.										
II.2.2	the meat has been found fit for human consumption following ante and post-mortem inspections carried out in accordance with Chapter II of section I and Chapters I and IX of Section IV of Annex I to Regulation (EC) NO 854/2004									
II.2.3	the exporting country has introduced a national monitoring and control programme for residues in animals and animal products ensuring that drugs used in veterinary medicine comply with provisions laid down in Directive 96/23/EC and hormonally active substances for growth promotion are not used.									
II.2.4	the meat is obtained from animals which were not fed with mammalian-derived proteins.									
II.2.5	the meat complies with limit values laid down by the Codex Alimentarius Commission for specific substances and residues thereof in line with Directive 96/23/EC.									
II.2.6	the meat complies with the relevant criteria set out in Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005 concerning microbiological criteria for foodstuffs.									
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II. Health information	II.a. Certificate reference number	II.b.
<div data-bbox="172 405 272 902" style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg); border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"><b>Part II: Certification</b></div> <p data-bbox="284 443 691 477"><b>II.1 Animal health attestation</b></p> <p data-bbox="400 517 1334 551">I, the undersigned official veterinarian hereby certify, that the meat described in Part I:</p> <p data-bbox="284 589 1407 651">II.1.1 derives from animals identified and registered in the national identification system ensuring the traceability of the animals to the herd of origin.</p> <p data-bbox="284 689 1407 752">II.1.2 derives from animals that were born and bred in the exporting EU Member State or in another EU Member States that has been approved by Iran for export of bovine meat.</p> <p data-bbox="284 790 1407 887">II.1.3 derives from animals that have remained in a region which has been free from foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) for the previous 12 months and has not practised vaccination against FMD during that period.</p> <p data-bbox="284 925 1407 1021">II.1.4 contains only meat of skeletal muscle origin or derives from bovine animals coming from herds that were not subject to animal health restrictions due to bovine brucellosis during the past 42 days.</p> <p data-bbox="284 1059 1407 1155">II.1.5 derives from herds that are not placed under movement restrictions for the control of anthrax during the 20 days prior to slaughter and that have not come into contact with bovines coming from herds which do not meet these conditions.</p> <p data-bbox="284 1227 691 1261"><b>II.2. Public health attestation</b></p> <p data-bbox="400 1301 1407 1397">I, the undersigned official veterinarian hereby declare that I am aware of the requirements of Regulations (EC) No. 852/2004, (EC) No.853/2004 and (EC) No.854/2004 and certify that the meat described in Part I was produced according to those requirements, in particular that:</p> <p data-bbox="284 1435 1407 1715">II.2.1 With regard to bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="400 1469 1407 1715">- The meat comes from an EU Member State with negligible or controlled BSE risk status as recognized by OIE. The meat or meat products do not contain and are not derived from specified risk material as defined in Annex V to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 of the European Parliament and Council), or mechanically separated meat from the skull and vertebral column from cattle over 30 months of age; and the animals from which this product is derived have not been slaughtered after stunning by means of gas injected into the cranial cavity or killed by the same method or slaughtered by laceration of central nervous tissue by means of an elongated rod-shaped instrument introduced into the</li> </ul>		

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**Bovine meat for export to Iran – Export Certificate**

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<p>cranial cavity;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The animals were born after the effective enforcement of Regulation (EC) 999/2001 regarding the ban on feed from animal protein derived from mammals.</li> </ul> <p>II.2.2 The meat comes from an establishment(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Authorized by the competent authority</li> <li>- Implementing programmes based on the principles of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) in accordance with Regulation (EC) No. 852/2004, and under the supervision of the official Authority.</li> </ul> <p>II.2.3 The meat has been found fit for human consumption following ante and post-mortem inspections carried out in accordance with Chapter II of section I and Chapters I and IX of Section IV of Annex I to Regulation (EC) NO 854/2004</p> <p>II.2.4 The exporting country has introduced a national monitoring and control programme for residues in animals and animal products ensuring that drugs used in veterinary medicine comply with provisions laid down in Directive 96/23/EC and that hormonally active substances for growth promotion are not used.</p> <p>II.2.5 The meat is fit for human consumption and was treated in such a way as to avoid contamination with tissues defined as specific risk material (SRM);</p> <p>II.2.6 The meat complies with limit values laid down by the Codex Alimentarius Commission for specific substances and residues thereof in line with Directive 96/23/EC.</p> <p>II.2.7 The meat complies with the relevant criteria set out in Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005 concerning microbiological criteria for foodstuffs.</p>										
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Iran Veterinary Organization  
I.V.O



Islamic Republic of Iran  
Ministry of Jihad-e-Agriculture

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**Date:** 3/10/2019

**No:** 98/10/50543

Mr.Jerzy plewa

Director General for Agriculture and Rural Development

**RE: Health certificates required for exporting ovine and bovine meat into Iran**

**Dear Mr.Jerzy plewa,**

Enclosed please find two specimens of Health certificates required for exporting ovine and bovine meat into Iran.

It would be highly appreciated if you could inform the beneficiary parties who intends to export the above commodities into Iran.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Dr. Alireza-Rafieipoor

Head of ~~Iran Veterinary organization~~

Iran Veterinary Organization (I.V.O)

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