

Federal Law No. (6) of 1979
Concerning Veterinary Quarantine

We Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan

UAE President,

- Pursuant to the Provisions of the Interim Constitution,
- And the Federal Law No. of 1972 on the Functions of the Ministries and the Powers Vested upon the Ministers and the Laws Issued in amendment thereof,
- And with Regard to the Submission of the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Approval of the Cabinet, the Federal National Council and the Supreme Council of Federation,

Do hereby promulgate the following law:

Article (1)

The following terms shall have the meanings assigned to them unless the context otherwise requires:

Country	: The United Arab Emirates.
Minister	: The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.
Competent Authority	: The Competent Department of Veterinary Quarantine.
Quarantine	: The premise or the barn (zareba) where imported animals or their products are isolated for veterinary observation without allowing their direct or indirect association with any other animals upon their arrival into the country and where animals shall be medically examined to ascertain being free from any contagious or epidemic diseases.

Animal	: All animals including birds, poultry imported for slaughtering purposes, human consumption, and breeding or for decoration slaughtering purposes.
Infected Specimen	: All specimens taken from animals for pathological diagnosis such as worms, excretion or any other pathological specimen and animal parts used for diagnosis or any other purposes.
Live Animals Products	: Impregnable eggs for breeding purposes, fish eggs and serum used for artificial insemination.
Meat and the Like	: All parts of the animal used for eating, poultry table eggs, fishes, milk and dairy products, animal products used for human or animal consumption.
Animal or Domestic Animal Meat	: Animal offal used for productive processing and all parts taking from animals for manufacturing like skin fur wool hooves horns bones or grease.
Centre	: The area placed under the supervision of the veterinarian.
Supervising Veterinarian	: The designated veterinarian by the Department of veterinary quarantine.
Disease	: All contagious and epidemic diseases mentioned in the attached appendix to this law and it shall be permissible to add or omit the name of any of the contagious and epidemic diseases by a decision of the Cabinet upon the submission of the Minister.
Consignment	: All imported or exported animals, their meat and the like, their products and offal under the provisions of this law.

Article (2)

All imported live animals, their meat and the like, their products and their offal which are prohibited from entry into the country till they are proved free from epidemic or contagious diseases.

Article (3)

The competent authority may ban importation of animals, their meat, the kind and their products from the infected countries unless receiving an official notification that they are free from any epidemic or contagious diseases.

Article (4)

No imported animals shall be permitted to enter into the country by road, sea or air except through the approved entry points where veterinary centers are available.

The concerned authority may permit the imported animals to enter into the country through other inlets, other than the approved entry points provided that these animals shall be retained in the veterinary quarantine centers according to the period of time determined by this authority.

Animals cross the borders in purpose of pasturing, slaughtering or breeding purposes shall not be permitted to enter into the country before being examined by the responsible veterinarian of the center in order to determine the appropriate action to be taken.

Article (5)

All consignments of animals, their products or offal shall have the following documents:

1. An official veterinary health certificate issued from the exporting country including the distinctive marks of the consignment, its origin, evidence that it has been checked directly before shipment and found free of epidemic and contagious diseases and duly attested from the Embassy of UAE if available.
2. A report shall be prepared by the Captain of the plane, ship or the carrier of vehicle about cases of demolish among the imported animals and that they haven't come in connection with any infected animals of contiguous or epidemical diseases, or passed through infected areas during their journey.
3. Slaughtering animals should be accompanied by an attested certificate from the UAE embassy in the exported country if available that they were slaughtered according to Islamic

Law. Documents shall be submitted to the responsible of the veterinarian quarantine upon receiving the shipment and before off- loading.

Article (6)

Imported animals for slaughtering shall be subject to quarantine detention for thirty days as from the date of their custody in the quarantine station.

The Minister shall have the right to extend the retention period and the owner of the animals shall continue to provide the animals with sufficient quantities of fodder and water during the period of quarantine detention otherwise the Ministry shall arrange to feed them at the expense of the owner. Local animals shall subject to the slaughtering measures of the slaughtering houses in the country.

Article (7)

Living birds and animals imported from non infected areas and accompanied by official and attested health certificates that they are free from contagious and epidemic diseases shall only be subject to medical examination upon their arrival and the veterinarian in the nearest entry point shall observe them according to the period deems necessary. Imported animals from non-infected countries which were not accompanied by attested health certificates shall be medically examined according to the following:

1. Equine species (horses- mules- asses-ponies) shall be retained for 48 hours after examination.
2. Non equine species shall be kept under observation for 48 hours and shall be vaccinated.

Article (8)

Imported Animals from non infected areas which connected with animals from the infected areas during their journey as well as the animals which seem having the symptoms of contagious diseases shall be subject to the measures stated in the provisions of this law concerning the imported animals from the infected areas. In case that any symptoms or suspect of an epidemic or contagious disease may appear on animals, offal or animal

products the competent authority shall proceed with the following procedures:

- Request the importer to send back the consignment of animals to the exporting party.
- Slaughtering and destroying the animals.
- Sterilize the products and the offal if possible or destroy them.

Article (9)

Animals imported for slaughtering and accompanied by certificates which meet the conditions stated in the fifth article of this law and are not suspected to carry an epidemic disease shall be permitted to be taken directly to the slaughtering area or to the market.

Suspected animals shall be retained in the veterinary quarantine for not less than the incubation period of the suspected disease before being permitted to associate with other animals unless being allowed by the responsible veterinarian for slaughtering after 48 hours of retention.

Article (10)

Perished animals due to contagious disease shall be burned or buried according to regulations of animal health and the owner shall not have the right to claim for remuneration.

Article (11)

Importation of animal vaccinations shall be impermissible unless obtaining prior permit from the Ministry provided that they should be accompanied by an attested certificate that these vaccinations are used in the country of origin.

If any change likely to be harmful to the animal was observed after delivery of the vaccinations, accordingly the competent authority shall have the right to confiscate and destroy them or to be sent back at the expense of the importer.

Article (12)

The competent authority shall have the right to prevent any ship, plane, vehicle or any other means of transport from entering into the country if reported by the competent veterinary authority that it carries or was carrying livestock, animal products or offal infected by an epidemic disease and the carrier hasn't been sterilized in a way that ensure being disinfected by any contagious disease may affect man or animal health.

Article (13)

If any consignment of animal products or offal entered into the country by any of the vessels referred to in the above Article and found after examination carrying harmful materials may cause harm to the health of man and animal, accordingly it should be sterilized before departure.

The competent authority shall have the right to request the importer to sterilize the consignment according to the way it finds appropriate, or that the Ministry shall arrange to sterilize the consignment at his own expense or to retain the consignment in the veterinary quarantine center as it may deem necessary to the public interest.

Article (14)

The owner of the withholding animals shall provide them with sufficient fodder and water during their detention in the veterinary quarantine center in accordance with the request of the veterinarian and if it was found unfeasible, the competent authority shall have the right to take whatever action deemed to be necessary to the public interest and mercy of animal.

In case the veterinary quarantine center was not available, animals shall be isolated to keep them away from association with other animals and this shall be considered as a replacement to the veterinary quarantine.

Article (15)

All transit consignments of animals, their products and the offal shall be subject to inspection by the competent authorities according to the provisions of this law.

Article (16)

Without prejudice to any punishment stated by the punitive law or any other law, all persons violate the provisions of this law shall be sentenced to imprisonment for a period not exceeding three months and a fine not exceeding ten thousand dirham or one of these penalties and confiscate the animals, their parts, products and offal in question.

Article (17)

The employees of the veterinary quarantine assigned by the Minister to pursue the implementation of the provisions of this law shall be deemed to be as judicial detection inspectors and shall have the right to enter the customs areas to inspect any means of transportation or vessels suspected to carry animals, animal products and meat or laboratory samples.

The concerned authorities of customs and ports shall provide all available facilities to ease their function.

Article (18)

The Minister shall issue the necessary decrees for the implementation of this law with particular emphasis on the following:

1. Identify the functions of the veterinary quarantine centers and the fees due for payment for animals placed under the quarantine observation and the cases subject to exemption.
2. Determine the fees due against placement of animals imported for slaughtering in the veterinary quarantine stations for any duration in excess of the period as stated in Article (6) of this law.
3. Determine the regulations and measures for examination of exported animals, their products, offal for certification that the animals are free from any infection and fixation of payable fees.
4. Determine the measures should be taken for disposal of animals in the veterinary

quarantine centers and the precautionary measures should be carried out.

5- Stipulate a procedure for financial encouraging reward for those who seize or contribute to seize animals, their products or offal which enter into the country in a manner that contrive the provisions of this law.

Article (19)

This law shall be published in the official Gazette and come into effect three months after its publication.

Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan

UAE President

Issued at the presidential palace in Abu Dhabi on:

20 / 4 / 1399

Corresponding to 19 / 3 / 1979