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STREAMLINED GB MODEL EXPORT HEALTH CERTIFICATES (EHCS) AND BTOM RISK CATEGORISATION, FOR IMPORT OF ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS INTO GB

As you will be aware, following our exit from the EU, GB has been developing a new border control regime for the import of SPS goods from all third countries. The new regime is set out in the Border Target Operating Model (BTOM) published on Gov.UK.

STREAMLINED EHCs

The BTOM includes a commitment to streamline the format and content of the Export Health Certificates (EHCs) for Animals and Animal Products imported to GB.

The streamlining has focused on;

- the production of a single suite of model certificates for all third countries – EU and Rest of World (ROW);
- standardisation of attestation clauses to ensure consistent wording across certificates; and
- reducing length of certificates via a rearrangement of attestations and the removal of guidance notes from the main body of the certificate to a detachable annex.

The new model certificates do not represent any change in the GB import requirements for SPS conditions from third countries but the format of the streamlined EHCs will differ from the current model certificates.

The new streamlined GB model certificates have now been published on Gov.UK.

The new streamlined certificates will be required for imports into GB from 30 April 2024. Therefore, we will accept the previous version of certificates signed on or before 29 April



2024, even if they arrive in GB after this date. Trading partners may, however, use the streamlined GB certificates before this date, as soon as they are available and competent authorities in exporting countries have made the necessary updates to their systems.

Please note that the model health certificates should not be used directly from the Gov.UK website. Competent authorities must create their own official documents for exporters which should include all the information on the model certificates, including the GB certificate number and version number.

Any comments or questions you may have regarding streamlined certificates can be sent to: GBHealthCertificates@defra.gov.uk

BTOM RISK CATEGORISATION

As outlined in the Border Target Operating Model, it is also our intention that ROW trading partners will begin to benefit from the proposed BTOM import regime from end of April 2024. The BTOM describes broad categories of high, medium and low risk, and this categorisation gives the details of how the new Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) regime will be applied. This means that those consignments classified as 'low risk' will no longer require an EHC to enter GB from 30 April 2024 and will only require commercial documentation. High risk and medium risk consignments will continue to require an EHC.

For animals and animal products, the categorisation is derived from a scientific assessment of the biosecurity and food safety risk that each commodity poses, weighted against the disease and pest risk of the country of origin. The risk categorisation for animals and animal products will be published [here](#)

Any comments or questions you may have regarding risk categorisation can be sent to: NonEuRiskEnquiries@defra.gov.uk

I would appreciate your assistance in cascading this information to the relevant competent authorities in your country.

Yours sincerely



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