

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Trader Notice MPD 005/2014

To: All Food Business Operators intending to export Dairy Products

Subject: Early application for Health and Veterinary Certificates

Background

On the 25th of June a meeting took place between DAFM and the Industry to discuss the outcome of the Russian audit and the steps that the audited companies would be taking to rectify issues identified by the RF authorities.

One of the issues raised by the Industry at that meeting was the delay in receiving the hard copy of the Veterinary certificate for Russia. In response to this issue the Department has decided to slightly alter the application process on the online system for applications that only require a Veterinary certificate.

The countries that currently only require a Veterinary certificate are:

- Russia Federation,
- India,
- Turkey,
- Morocco,
- Chile.

The Veterinary certificates for these countries can take longer to process than the headquarters certificates as they have to be sent to the local Veterinary Inspector for checking. If several manufacturers are involved the process can take even longer as checks have to take place in several different plants.

Update

In the past the Dairy Certification Section has asked applicants to make the relevant application on the online certification system in good time to allow the necessary checks to take place. Unfortunately we have been informed by the Industry that the Container/Seal Number is not usually received until 1 or 2 days before shipment.

The Department has decided, therefore, that the Veterinary Inspectors will now write the Container/Seal Number on the hard copy of the Veterinary certificates for the countries listed above. This will mean that applicants need not delay in applying for the certificate until they have this

information and, therefore, earlier applications should allow time for the necessary checks to take place.

Milk Policy Section would also like to remind you that back-up documentation pertaining to the shipments must be provided to the Veterinary Inspectors well in advance of the date of the bill of lading. Veterinary certificates will not be signed until all necessary back-up documentation has been provided as per Trader Notice MPD 1/2012, if the product is despatched in advance of the request for certification and VI inspection, this increases the possibility of the product being ineligible for certification. Therefore consignments should not be shipped until after the vet cert has been received.

Milk Policy Section

August 2014