



## IMPORTATION OF DOGS AND CATS FROM SCHEDULED (RABIES NON-ENDEMIC) COUNTRIES

### Conditions for importation:

#### Presently, this includes the following countries:

Antigua, Australia, Barbados, Dominica, Jamaica, Montserrat, New Zealand, Republic of Ireland, St. Kitts, Anguilla, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, U.S. Virgin Islands, United Kingdom.

- 1) Animal(s) must be accompanied by an **export health certificate** issued by the **\*veterinary authority** in the country of origin stating:
  - (a) Proper identification of animal(s): Animals must be permanently identified with a microchip transponder or tattoo.
  - (b) That the dog(s) and/or cat(s) is/are healthy and free from symptoms of infectious or contagious diseases.
  - (c) That animal(s) is/are treated against internal and external parasites.
  - (d) That the dog(s) has/have been vaccinated against Canine Parvovirus, Distemper, Hepatitis/Adenovirus, Parainfluenza, Leptospirosis, and Lyme Disease.
  - (e) That the cat(s) has/have been vaccinated against Panleukopenia, Feline Rhinotracheitis, Feline Calicivirus and Feline Leukemia.
  - (f) That the dog(s) / cat(s) has/have been in the country of origin/export for at least six (6) months immediately preceding importation into the Territory.
  - (g) That there has been no Rabies among un-quarantined animals in the country of origin/export for the past twenty-four (24) months.
- 2) Dog(s) / Cat(s) must be found clinically healthy on arrival.
- 3) **All required conditions must be met, and all relevant documents (import permit, veterinary health certificate, vaccination certificate, lab test results, etc.) must be presented at the port of entry to facilitate veterinary clearance and to avoid the otherwise unpleasant, but necessary measures such as animals being kept in a facility, deportation or euthanasia.**
- 4) **The Veterinary Division must be given at least 24 hours notice of confirmed arrival date, time, airline/vessel and the port of entry. This will facilitate unnecessary delays, and avoid detention of animal(s) for veterinary clearance at the port of entry. Therefore, the granting of permits for animals to be presented for inspection to enter the Virgin Islands does not signify automatic entry.**
- 5) Upon submission of the application, the specified fee schedule will be applied.
- 6) Animal(s) must be kept in confinement (carrier) until granted entry into the Territory. Failure to do so can cause entry of animal(s) being denied.

**\*An official health certificate is a document issued and certified by a veterinarian working full time with the government of the country of origin (e.g. USDA, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, DEFRA, etc.). The document may be filled out and signed by a licensed veterinarian, but must also be endorsed by a government veterinarian.**

Please be advised, these requirements are subject to change since animal disease status in various countries is dynamic. Therefore, the granting of permission for animals to enter the Virgin Islands does not signify automatic entry. It is your responsibility to contact the Veterinary Division, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries to confirm these conditions are current.

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#### Contact Information:

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