Draft Veterinary Health Certificate for Import[1] of Equid Semen into India

I. General Information

<table>
<tr><td>1. Veterinary Health certificate No:
Date:</td><td>2. Competent Authority
2.1 Ministry:
2.2 Department:
2.2 Contact Details and Email:</td></tr>
<tr><td>3. Name of the product:----------
3.1 Date of collection: ----------
3.2 Information concerning the donor animal
• Name:----------
• Species :----------
• Breed : ----------
• Name :----------
• Date & Place of Birth : ----------
• Place of Birth :----------
• Identification mark/No: ----------
• Registered entry in the herd/stud book: ----------
• Date of approval of animal for Artificial Insemination purposes:----------</td><td>4. Quantity with details (CAN ID):
4.1 Invoice No. and Date:
4.2 Type of packaging:
4.3 No. of straws &packages:
4.4 Net weight:
4.5 Lot no./Batch No.:
4.6 Size and colour of straw:
4.7 Seal No:
4.8 Identification of Container:
4.9 Temperature of the Product:</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">5. Consignor / exporter
Name:
Address:
Tel. no. and Email:</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">6. Consignee /importer:
Name:
Address:
Tel. no. and Email:</td></tr>
<tr><td>7. Country of origin:</td><td>ISO Code:</td></tr>
</table>

8. Place of loading:		
9. Country of Destination:		ISO Code:
10. Declared Port of Entry:		
11. Mode of Transport:		
12. Identification of the product as described below:		
a)	Description of the product along with HS code:	Intended purpose:
b)	Name and address of manufacturing establishment(s)/Processing plant/Semen collection Center:	Approval number/s of manufacturing establishment(s)/Processing plant/Semen Collection Center (Number /Date / Validity) along with Name and address of the Registration / Accreditation Authority
c)	Import License number, date and validity: (Issued by the Director General of Foreign Trade)	

[1] Import of livestock products into India is subjected to fulfillment of the Live-stock Importation Act, 1898 and the rules / regulations there under as notified time to time.

II. Sanitary Conditions

The undersigned official veterinarian certifies that the product (equid semen) described above satisfies the following requirements:

(1) the donor stallion is progeny tested and is free of any known genetic disorders and is not associated with genetic abnormalities in the breeding program.

(2) the donor stallion was born or has continuously lived in the country of origin (name of the country) for last one year prior to collection of semen.

(3) the donor stallion shows no sign of disease on the day of collection and for the following thirty days.

(4) the donor stallion satisfies the following requirements:

(i) **African Horse Sickness:** the country of origin of the donor animal is free from African Horse Sickness Virus (AHSV) for the last two years preceding the export as per World Organisation for Animal Health listing, when African Horse Sickness is a notifiable disease in the whole country, importation of equids and their semen, oocytes or embryos are carried out in accordance with Chapter 12.1 of Terrestrial Animal Health Code of World Organization for Animal Health;

(ii) the Semen has been derived from donor stallion which was resident for the period of three months, immediately prior to semen collection, on premises and artificial semen collection center where infectious or contagious diseases of Equidae including Equine infectious anaemia, Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis, Equine viral arteritis, Salmonella abortus-equi, Dourine, Glanders, Contagious equine metritis has not been reported and no such disease have been occurred on any adjoining premises during the same period of time;

(iii) the donor was kept for at least thirty days prior to semen collection in an approved artificial semen insemination/collection center where no equid has shown any clinical sign of Equine Viral Arteritis and other diseases (transmitted by semen) during that period and on the day of semen collection. No Equine Viral Arteritis or other disease (transmitted by semen) shedder stallions are known to have been present in the semen collection center during thirty days prior to semen collection;

(iv) the donor stallion has ever not been treated with gonadotropin releasing hormone antagonist.

(5) the donor stallion was subjected to the following specified tests;

(i) **Equine Infectious Anemia**

the country of origin is free from Equine infectious anemia;

Or

the donor stallion was subjected to the Agar Gel Immuno-Diffusion test or Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay for Equine Infectious Anemia not less than twenty-one days after entry into the semen collection centre, with negative results.

Date of sampling: ……., Test used:……, Result:……..

(ii) **Equine Viral Arteritis**

the country of origin is free from Equine Viral Arteritis;

Or

the donor stallion was subjected to a test for Equine Viral Arteritis on a blood sample with a negative result within fourteen days prior to semen collection, and had been separated from other equids not of an equivalent Equine Viral Arteritis status for fourteen days prior to blood sampling until the end of semen collection.

Date of sampling: ……., Test used:……, Result:……..

(iii) **Contagious Equine Metritis (CEM)–Taylorella equigenitalis and Taylorella asinigenitalis**

the country of origin has been free from Contagious Equine Metritis for the last two years preceding the exportation as per World Organisation for Animal Health listing;

or

a) the donor stallion was kept for at least sixty days prior to semen collection in a herd in which no case has been reported during that period; and

b) the donor stallion was subjected to tests for the detection of the agent, with negative results, carried out on samples collected on three occasions, within a twelve days period with an interval of no less than three days between sample collections, the last one being carried out within thirty days prior to shipment. Equids have not been treated with antibiotics for at least seven days nor subjected to antiseptic washing of genital mucous membranes for at least twenty-one days prior to the first sample collection, and have not been mated or inseminated after the first sampling.

Date of sampling: ……., Test used:……, Result:……..

(iv) **Dourine–Trypanosoma equiperdum**

the country of origin is free from Dourine for ninety days prior to semen collection;

or

the donor stallions:

has been kept for at least ninety days prior to semen collection in an establishment in which surveillance in accordance with Articles 12.3.11. to 12.3.14. of Terrestrial Animal Health Code of World Organization for Animal Health demonstrates that no case of infection with T. equiperdum had occurred during the past six months;

and

was subjected, before collection, to an antibody detection test by Complement Fixation Test (CFT), on a blood sample taken on two occasions, with an interval of thirty days, with negative results.

Date of sampling: ……., Test used:……, Result:……..

(v) **Glanders–Burkholderia mallei**

the country of origin is free from Glanders;

or

the donor stallion;

on the day of collection, showed no clinical signs of infection with B. mallei and were examined clinically for signs of orchitis and cutaneous lesions on the penis or other parts of the body, with negative results;

and

the donor stallions were subjected to Complement Fixation Test (CFT) with negative results not less than seven days after entering the semen collection centre.

Date of sampling: ……., Test used:……, Result:……..

(vi) **Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis**

the country of origin is free from Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis;

or

the donor stallions were subjected to Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) with negative results not less than fourteen days after entering the semen collection centre.

Date of sampling: ……., Test used:……, Result:……..

(vii) **Brucellosis**

the country of origin is free from Brucellosis;

or

the donor stallions showed no clinical sign of infection with Brucella on the day of collection of the semen and the donor animals were not vaccinated against infection with Brucella and were kept in a semen collection centre complying with Chapter 4.6of Terrestrial Animal Health Code of World Organization for Animal Health;

and

were kept in a herd and establishment free from infection with Brucella and tested every six months for infection with Brucella with negative results, and the semen was collected, processed and stored in accordance with Articles 4.6.3. to 4.6.5 of Terrestrial Animal Health Code of World Organization for Animal Health.

Date of sampling: ……., Test used:……, Result:……..

(viii) **Leptospirosis**

the country of origin is free from Leptospirosis;

or

the donor stallions have been annually tested and also in the semen collection centreagainst all serovars of leptospires prevalent in equid in semen producing country and those found positive are removed and not used for semen collection.

(***Note:*** All testing was conducted at a laboratory approved by the Veterinary Administration to conduct testing for export and testing for national disease control programs, and laboratory test result for all donor stallions are annexed)

(6) **Semen Collection;-**

(i) the semen is obtained from donor animal with normal libido and semen comes from a semen collection centre that is accredited and approved by the country of origin and is under oversight of the competent veterinary authority. The semen has been collected, handled or processed by technicians under the supervision of a veterinarian, specially approved for this purpose in accordance with the provisions of the Chapter 4.6- "General hygiene in semen collection and processing centres" of Terrestrial Animal Health Code of the World Organisation for Animal Health.

(ii) the donor animal has been kept in a semen collection center at least six month prior to semen collection center officially approved by the country of origin with donor animals individually identified by a unique number of alphanumeric code, permanently applied to the animals by means of identification or tattoo, correlating with the semen collection documents with trace backing and the identification numbers should be stated in this certificate.

(iii) on the day(s) of collection of semen for export to India, the donor stallion was free from any evidence of infectious diseases caused by micro-organisms transmissible through semen. The donor stallion had passed all pre-isolation and isolation tests needed for entry into the resident herd at the semen collection centre and had not been used for natural mating.

(iv) all products of animal origin, other than egg yolk, used in the collection, processing and storage of the equid semen were certified as either sterile preparations or as having been screened for adventitious viruses, including tests for cytopathology in appropriate cell cultures, for haem-agglutinating and haem-adsorbent viruses, and for Pesti-viruses by Immuno-peroxidase or immune fluorescence techniques, with negative results in each case.

(v) all biological products used in the process have been handled in a manner that ensures their sterility was maintained.

(vi) an effective combination of antibiotics was added to the semen extender/diluents/media. The combination must produce an effect at least equivalent to the following:

a) 500 IU per ml streptomycin; or
b) 500 IU per ml penicillin; or
c) 150 µg per ml lincomycin;or
d) 300 µg per ml spectinomycin; or
e) 50 µg per ml gentamycin.

Names and concentrations of antibiotics included in semen diluent:……

(7) **Storage and Transport;-**

(i) all straws/ampoules are clearly marked with the identification of the donor stallion and the date of semen collection. If a code is used for this information, it's decipher must accompany the consignment;

(ii) the semen was stored only with other semen that were eligible for export to India. The containers were held in an approved storage place under the supervision of the Veterinary Authority of the exporting country until export;

(iii) the semen straws/ampules are sealed at the time of freezing, labeled held in sealed liquid nitrogen containers for a minimum period of thirty days, after collection of semen to cover the normal incubation period of the diseases;

(iv) the Guidelines for International transfer (IATA guidelines) or other Internationally approved guidelines including packaging (Triple layered) shall be followed as per the category and nature of the product and spillage and leakage must be strictly avoided;

(v) the adequate precautions were taken after collection, processing and during transit to avoid contact and contamination of product with any potential source of infection. The semen is packed and transported in container that is fresh and sterilized in a manner acceptable to Government officials of the country of origin and the container is not exposed to any products with potential source of infectious materials and not known to contain pathogenic micro-organisms;

Method of disinfection (if applicable):.....
Date of disinfection (if applicable):.....

Signature _____

Place: Name and address of the Official Veterinarian
Date: (Official Stamp)

(Note:The signature and the stamp must be in a different colour to that of the printing.)

Post-import Requirements:

1. on arrival in India, the consignment and the documents shall be examined by Animal Quarantine and Certification Services, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India.

2. the samples shall be taken for the testing of African Horse Sickness, Brucellosis, Equine Viral Arteritis, Glanders, Dourine and other tests (with documented technical justification) as found relevant during post-import quarantine through Indian Council of Agricultural Research-National Research Centre on Equines, Hisar.

3. in case, the documents are not conforming to the requirements and the product is not as per protocol or tested positive for any disease, appropriate action shall be taken by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India at the cost of importing agency as per the notification no. S.O. 2666 (E) dated 17th October, 2014 of the Government of India in the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries.

4. the material shall be handled as per guidelines related to Laboratory biosafety and biosecurity guidelines and the destination laboratory shall have the regulatory approvals and proper biosafety levels.

5. the disposal, if any shall be as per Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules.

6. the semen shall be used for the intended purpose only.