

INFORMATION NOTE ON THE IMPORT OF PET BIRDS

Measures to Reduce the Risk of Introduction of Avian Influenza

The following conditions as set out under <u>Commission Decision 2005/759/EC</u> as amended by <u>Commission Decision 2005/862/EC</u> applies to the import of pet birds from third countries.

Import of up to 5 live pet birds from a member country of the OIE belonging to a Regional Commission (as listed in Annex 1 of the Commission Decision) where **the birds are accompanied by a health certificate** (in accordance with the model certificate provided in Annex II of the Commission Decision stating that the birds:

1. Have undergone a 30 day pre-export isolation at the place of departure in a third country listed in Decision 79/542/EEC

or

2. Are subjected to a 30 day post-import quarantine in the Member State of destination on premises approved in accordance with article 3(4) of Decision 2000/666/EC.

or

3. have been vaccinated and at least on one occasion re-vaccinated within the last 6 months and not later than 60 days prior to dispatch, in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions against avian influenza using an H5 vaccine approved for the species concerned,

or

4. have been isolated for at least 10 days prior to export and have been subjected to a test for the detection of H5N1 antigen or genome, as prescribed in Chapter 2.1.14 of manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals carried out on a sample taken not earlier than on the third day of isolation.

The veterinary certificate shall be complemented by:

- a) a declaration by the owner or the representative of the owner in accordance with Annex III of the Commission Decision, and
- b) a confirmation as follows: "Pet birds in accordance with Article 2 of Decision 2005/759/EC"

Derogation

This Commission Decision does not apply to the import into the EU of pet birds accompanying their owners from Andorra, Faeroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland and the Vatican City State.

Designated Entry Points

Dublin and Shannon Airports are the designated entry points for imports of pet birds.

Food Safety Liaison Division Jamnuary 2006