



Conflict of Interest Declaration

Article 4.1a of Council Directive 96/93/EC

"The competent authorities shall take all necessary steps to ensure the integrity of certification. In particular they shall ensure that certifying officers designated by them have a status which ensures their impartiality and have no direct commercial interest in the animals or products being certified or in the holdings or establishments in which they originate."

Opinions expressed during a recent Food and Veterinary Office (FVO) mission indicate that a veterinarian who owns or part owns either a business producing a commodity for export, or who is a paid employee of that business cannot certify.

OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code Articles 3.2.7 and 5.2.2

"The certifying veterinarian should have no conflict of interest in the commercial aspects of the animals or animal product being certified and be independent from the commercial parties."

The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Third Principle of Certification

"Veterinarians should not issue a certificate which might raise questions of a possible conflict of interest, e.g. in relation to their own animals."

With reference to the above paragraphs, please answer the following questions:

Name and Address of company on whose behalf you are acting:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Do you have any direct financial interest in the exporting company or product being exported (e.g. owner / part owner)? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Are you an employee of the exporter / exporting company? (As opposed to being a sole practitioner or a partner / assistant in a veterinary practice which charges the company for work undertaken) | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Does your work for this company constitute a significant proportion of your, or the practice's income? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. In your opinion is there any possible conflict of interest, or could anyone perceive a conflict of interest if you were to certify the final health certificate for the exporting company? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |

If the answers to any of the above questions are 'Yes' then the final export health certificate may have to be signed by an independent Official Veterinarian (OV) possibly on the basis of a support document or pre-certificate signed by you as a Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. Any fees incurred for this certification will be the responsibility of the exporter.

I understand that should my circumstances change in a way that would affect my answers given above then I will immediately notify the Centre for International Trade - Carlisle.

After due consideration of the statements above I believe that I am / am not* able to certify the final export health certificate for the above named company.

**Delete as appropriate*

Signed	<table border="1"><tr><td> </td></tr></table>	 	MRCVS	Date	<table border="1"><tr><td> </td></tr></table>	
Print Name	<table border="1"><tr><td> </td></tr></table>				 	
Veterinary Practice/ Company Address	<table border="1"><tr><td> </td></tr></table>				 	

If an OV is in doubt as to whether they have a potential conflict of interest they should discuss the matter with a specialist Veterinary Officer at the Centre for International Trade -Carlisle.If in doubt or pending resolution the OV Official must not certify any consignments for export.

FAIR PROCESSING NOTICE

Defra, the Scottish Government, the Welsh Government and the Food Standards Agency are Data Controllers in Common in respect of personal data processed by the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA). For the purposes and usage of the data by APHA and the data sharing arrangements, please see the full Personal Information Charter on the apha.gov.uk website. A hard copy of this can be provided if required; please contact your local APHA Field Service office. APHA will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality or act in contravention of their obligations under the Data Protection Act 1998. APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Food Standards Agency.

The Animal and Plant Health Agency is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs working to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.