

CA response received 10 June 2013

ANNEX 1 Response of the Competent Authorities of Namibia to the recommendations of Report ref. DG(SANCO)/2013-6774-MR of an audit carried out from 19 February to 01 March 2013 in order to evaluate the operation of controls over the production of fresh bovine and ovine meat, farmed and wild game meat destined for export to the European Union, as well as certification procedures

N°.	Recommendation	Action Proposed by the Competent Authority
1	To ensure that the guarantees for public health attestations set out in point II.1.1 regarding Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point principles of the model certificates “BOV”, “OVI” and “RUW” as laid down in Regulation (EU) No 206/2010 are met.	Circulars on HACCP (implementation and auditing principles) will be updated and guidelines will be developed to ensure that the guarantees for public health with regards to Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point principles as laid down in Regulation (EU) No. 206/2010 are met. The circulars will include how official veterinarians/official auxiliaries and FBOs are to handle and close off food safety and microbiological criteria non-conformances. Deadline 31 July 2013.
2	To ensure that the guarantees for public health attestations set out in point II.1.6 regarding microbiological criteria for foodstuffs of the model certificates “BOV”, “OVI” and “RUW” as laid down in Regulation (EU) No 206/2010 are met.	Circular V16/2007 on microbiological criteria will be updated to include FBO and official veterinarian actions with regards to positive microbiological results and trend analysis to ensure that guarantees for public health attestations as laid down in Regulation (EU) 206/2010 are met. Deadline 31 July 2013.
3	In order to be in a position to comply with the certification and animal traceability requirements specified in the relevant sections of Regulation (EC) No 206/2010, to further improve the quality of the data registered in the computerised database, the Namibian Livestock Identification Traceability System and to ensure that data are verified during official controls.	In order to further improve the quality of the data registered on NamLITS and to ensure that official controls include data verification, NamLITS officials will train official veterinarians and official auxiliaries at export approved abattoirs by 30 November 2013. Official controls will include investigations into non-compliances with animal identification, livestock movements and any other traceability requirements.
4	To further improve enforcement to ensure that records are kept of treatments with all veterinary medicinal products, for all food	A circular will be developed and implemented by 31 July 2013 to improve enforcement to ensure that records are kept of treatments with all

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	producing species in order to reinforce guarantees of equivalence to the standards specified in Annex I, Part A, point III(8) to Regulation (EC) No 852/2004, as required by Articles 4(1) and 10 of that Regulation.	veterinary medicinal products for all food producing species. Revision of the Standard Operating Procedure for farm inspections in order to include individual animal treatment and update the medicines register on the farm. Verification for compliance will be done during farm inspections and community visits.
5	To further improve the procedures for issuing certificates and, in particular, replacement certificates, in order to meet the requirements laid down in Council Directive 96/93/EC, particularly Article 4 thereof, relating to the integrity of certification.	The policy on certification, in particular replacement certificates will be reviewed in order to meet the requirements laid down in Council Directive 96/93/EC relating to the integrity of certification. This policy will be shared with the European Union to assist with the return of original certificates covered by replacement certificates from EU border entry posts. Deadline 30 June 2013.
6	To ensure that adequate measures are taken for these establishments which fail to meet relevant European Union requirements in line with the requirements laid down in Article 12 of Regulation (EU) No 854/2004.	A circular will be developed by 30 June 2013 on procedures for export approval and listing as well as regulatory actions/measures taken by DVS for establishments that fail to meet relevant European Union requirements in line Regulation (EU) No. 854/2004.
7	In order to enhance the reliability of the guarantees provided in certificates for export to the European Union and to underpin the actions taken to address recommendations 1 to 6 above, to reinforce the systems for supervision and verification of official controls and to ensure that all official staff have the necessary skills and knowledge necessary for the effective performance of such controls. To this end, training should be provided, in	DVS will develop and implement a training programme starting August 2013 to ensure that all veterinary officials have the necessary skills and knowledge for the effective performance of verification of official controls. The training will focus primarily on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. HACCP based procedures including testing against microbiological criteria in line with Regulation (EU) No. 2073/2005;

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	particular in relation to controls on HACCP based procedure (including testing against microbiological criteria as laid down in Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005); animal identification & movement controls; and traceability of bovine, ovine and wild game meat.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">2. Animal identification and movement control3. Traceability of bovine, ovine and wild game meat