

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: May 09, 2024

Report Number: SF2024-0010

Report Name: Pre-Authorization Required for Importation and Exportation of Live Animals and Genetics

Country: South Africa - Republic of

Post: Pretoria

Report Category: Agricultural Situation

Prepared By: Makoma Makgopa and Amy Caldwell

Approved By: Ali Abdi

Report Highlights:

Previously exporters and importers of live animals and genetic materials only required a permit, but a new directive requires prior authorization from the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development's Animal Production Directorate before applying for the permit. Although game animals, cats, and birds appear to be excluded, this directive does appear to apply to the importation and exportation of most other animals including dogs. Interested importers and exporters may seek the prior authorization via email. In 2023, live animals and genetics valued at \$US 2.4 million were exported from the United States to South Africa.

Background

On April 10, 2024, the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) released an announcement that alerted importers and exporters of live animals about the newly introduced directive regarding the authorization required for the purposes of importation and/or exportation of live animals. DALRRD says this preauthorization will assist to fast-track permit applications and track the progress of the certificate requests.

This authorization can be obtained by emailing VivianM@Dalrrd.gov.za, Hazelmad@dalrrd.gov.za, and HulisaniM@dalrrd.gov.za to obtain an application form. The application forms appear to be different based upon the animal.

The newly introduced directive is in line with the requirement for import authorization for live animals in terms of the Animal Improvement Act, 1998 (Act No. 62 of 1998) (AIA). According to the DALRRD communication, the directive is aimed at intensifying compliance with Section 16 of the AIA. The authorization for the importation and exportation of live animals and related genetic materials must be applied for in terms of the AIA.

APHIS is currently seeking further clarification on these guidelines. All stakeholders are encouraged to conduct their own review of the attached guidance.

Attachments:

[DALRRD Directive Import and Export of live animals 20240405 \(003\).pdf](#)

[notification-on-the-newly-introduced-directive-for-importation-and-exportation-of-live-animals.pdf](#)