Quarantine Requirements for the Importation of Dogs and Cats

Chapter One: General Provisions

Article 1

Terms used in this set of Requirements are defined as follows:

- 1.1 Inactivated vaccine: including the following:
 - 1.1.1 A vaccine consists of killed virus/bacteria; and
 - 1.1.2 A vaccine made from subunit antigen, killed virus/bacteria, recombinant protein, or non-self-replicable vectors derived from biotechnology.
- 1.2 Passing the (rabies) test: a dog/cat whose rabies neutralizing antibody titer level is at least 0.5 IU/mL in a blood sample tested by an OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health) rabies reference laboratory (hereinafter reference laboratory) or a laboratory designated by Taiwan's animal quarantine authority (hereinafter designated laboratory).
- 1.3 Disaster: as defined in Taiwan's Disaster Prevention and Protection Act (DPPA).
- 1.4 Disaster prevention and protection agency: a competent authority at various levels or the competent authority for related tasks at the central government as defined in DPPA.
- 1.5 Service dog: a dog trained to help people with disabilities or for special tasks. See Sections 1.6~1.9 below.
- 1.6 Assistance dog [for disability]: a dog/puppy certified under Taiwan's Regulations Governing Assistance Dogs for Visual, Hearing or Physical Disabilities, or a guide dog, hearing dog or physical assistance dog certified by a training agency accredited by the International Guide Dog Federation or the Assistance Dogs International (ADI).
- 1.7 Medical service dog: a dog with a medical service certificate issued by an ADI accredited training agency.
- 1.8 Duty dog: a dog on active official duty or in training as defined in Taiwan's Regulations Governing the Care of Duty Dogs in Public Agencies.
- 1.9 Search and rescue dog: A dog recognized by a disaster prevention and protection agency as capable of assisting in search and rescue tasks in a disaster area, including those in training.

1.10 Generic dog/cat: a dog/cat other than a service dog.

Article 2

Determination of rabies status of a country (zone) shall be based on the Declaration of List of Infectious Animal Diseases-free and infected Countries (Zones) – made according to Article 33 of the Statute for Prevention and Control of Infectious Animal Disease,

hereinafter the Statute –by Taiwan's central competent authority at the time the dog/cat is loaded onto a vehicle for leaving the country (zone).

Article 3

Provisions for Importation of Dogs/Cats from a Rabies-free Country (Zone) [Articles 4~9] are applicable only to a dog/cat meeting any of the following requirements (otherwise the provisions for importation from a rabies-infected country (zone) shall apply):

- 3.1 Under 180 days of age and has been kept in a rabies-free country (zone) continuously since birth.
- 3.2 Over 180 days of age and has been kept in a rabies-free country (zone) continuously during the 180 days prior to entering Taiwan.
- 3.3 Being kept continuously in a rabies-free country (zone) after exiting Taiwan and prior to re-entry into Taiwan.

Chapter Two: Importation of Dogs/Cats from a Rabies-free Country (Zone)

Article 4

A dog/cat to be imported into Taiwan from a rabies-free country (zone) shall meet both of the following conditions:

4.1 Implanted with a microchip; and

4.2 Inoculated with inactivated vaccine against rabies within 30 days to one year prior to importation, and the dog/cat shall be over 90 days of age when inoculated.

Article 5

5.1 To import a dog/cat from a rabies-free country (zone), the applicant shall submit an application for the Import Permit at least 20 days prior to entry – or before exiting Taiwan for subsequent re-entry – to the animal quarantine authority stationed at the port of entry along with photocopies of the following documents:

- 5.1.1 Applicant's identification document. Specifically, Taiwanese citizen ID for a registered Taiwanese citizen;
- 5.1.2 Veterinarian-signed certificate of inoculation against rabies with inactivated vaccine pursuant to Section 4.2; and
- 5.1.3 Taiwan's export quarantine document is also required for a dog/cat exported to a rabies-free country (zone) and is scheduled for re-entry within 180 days.
- 5.2 The certificate in Section 5.1.2 shall attest in Chinese or English the dog/cat's breed, sex, age, microchip number, inoculation date, that inactivated vaccine was indeed used, and other information pursuant to Section 4.2.

5.3 If there is a need to change the entry date on the Import Permit already obtained pursuant to Section 5.1, the applicant shall re-submit an application to the animal quarantine authority stationed at the port of entry.

Article 6

The veterinary certificate issued by the animal quarantine authority (hereinafter Export Veterinary Certificate) of a rabies-free exporting country shall attest – in Chinese or English – all of the following information:

- 6.1 The dog/cat's breed, sex, age, and microchip number;
- 6.2 That the dog/cat shows no clinical sign of rabies upon inspection;
- 6.3 Date of vaccination against rabies, that inactivated vaccine was indeed used and other information required pursuant to Section 4.2; and
- 6.4 That the dog/cat has been kept continuously for 180 days prior to exportation or since birth in a rabies-free country (zone). However, for a dog/cat that re-enters Taiwan within 180 days subsequent to exiting to a rabies-free country (zone), the statement "the dog/cat has never been to a third country after entering this country" is required.

Article 7

Upon a dog/cat's arrival at a Taiwanese port from a rabies-free country (zone), the importer shall submit the following documents to the animal quarantine authority stationed at the port of entry to apply for quarantine inspection:

7.1 Photocopy of the Import Permit;

7.2 The original Export Veterinary Certificate; and

7.3 Photocopy of the bill of lading, airway bill or customs declaration.

Article 8

In response to the application submitted pursuant to Article 7, the animal quarantine authority will issue the Import Veterinary Certificate, but only after confirming that requirements in Articles 4 and 6 are met, and the dog/cat gives no cause for suspicion of notifiable animal infectious diseases.

- 9.1 A dog/cat from a rabies-free country (zone) will be returned to sender, euthanized and destroyed, or sent to a post-entry quarantine facility if it is in any of the following circumstances:
 - 9.1.1 Without a microchip implant.
 - 9.1.2 Without the original Export Veterinary Certificate.
 - 9.1.3 The Export Veterinary Certificate is provided but without microchip number, or the number is inconsistent with the actual one on the dog/cat.
 - 9.1.4 The Export Veterinary Certificate is provided but without the dog/cat's breed, sex, and/or age; or the information is inconsistent with that of the actual animal; or without a statement saying the dog/cat shows no clinical sign of rabies upon inspection.
 - 9.1.5 The Export Veterinary Certificate fails to comply with Section 6.3.
 - 9.1.6 The Export Veterinary Certificate fails to comply with Section 6.4.
 - 9.1.7 The dog/cat has been transferred from one transportation vehicle to another in a rabies-infected country (zone) on its way from the exporting country to Taiwan.
- 9.2 The Import Veterinary Certificate will be issued for a dog/cat described in Section 9.1 only after confirming that the dog/cat gives no cause for suspicion of notifiable animal infectious diseases, and meets the following conditions after post-entry quarantine:
 - 9.2.1 For the circumstances in Sections 9.1.1~9.1.3 and 9.1.6, the dog/cat shall be inoculated with inactivated vaccine against rabies pursuant to Article 10, and be detained in quarantine until 187 days after the date of blood sampling that passes the rabies test. For the circumstance in Section 9.1.1, the dog/cat shall get a microchip implant immediately after entering the post-entry quarantine facility.
 - 9.2.2 For the circumstance in Section 9.1.4, the dog/cat shall be detained in a post-entry quarantine facility for 7 days.
 - 9.2.3 For the circumstance in Section 9.1.5, the dog/cat shall be inoculated with inactivated vaccine against rabies pursuant to Section 4.2, and be detained in quarantine until 30 days after the inoculation.
 - 9.2.4 For the circumstance in Section 9.1.7, the dog/cat shall be detained in quarantine for 7 days. However, quarantine may be waived for such a dog/cat if it complies with any of the following requirements:
 - 9.2.4.1 The transportation cage was sealed by the exporting country's animal quarantine authority, and the seal number is shown on the Export Veterinary Certificate.
 - 9.2.4.2 The dog/cat is accompanied by a document issued by the animal quarantine authority or customs authority of the transshipping country (zone), or by the airline or shipping company, attesting that the dog/cat did not leave the airport or harbor while transferring and had no contact with other animals susceptible to rabies.
- 9.3 For the circumstances in Sections 9.1.4~9.1.7, disease mitigation measures
 (vaccination, blood testing, etc.) already been completed pursuant to this set of
 Requirements according to statements of the Export Veterinary Certificate do not
 need to be repeated during post-entry quarantine.

Chapter Three: Importation of Generic Dogs/Cats from a Rabies-Infected Country (Zone)

Article 10

A generic dog/cat to be imported into Taiwan from a rabies-infected country (zone) shall meet all of the following conditions:

10.1 Implanted with a microchip;

- 10.2 Inoculated with inactivated vaccine against rabies within 30 days to one year prior to importation, and the dog/cat shall be over 90 days of age when inoculated; and
- 10.3 Passing the rabies test with the blood sampled during any of the following periods:

10.3.1 Within 180 days to one year prior to importation.

- 10.3.2 Within 180 days to one year subsequent to the previous date of blood sampling that passed the rabies test, and within one year prior to importation.
- 10.3.3. Before exiting Taiwan and within one year prior to re-entry.

Article 11

- 11.1 To import a generic dog/cat from a rabies-infected country (zone), the applicant shall submit an application to the animal quarantine authority stationed at the port of entry for the Import Permit and reservation for a space at post-entry quarantine facility or arrangement of relevant procedure at least 20 days (30 days for circumstances in Sections 11.1.5~11.1.6) before entry or before exiting Taiwan for subsequent reentry along with photocopies of the following documents:
 - 11.1.1 Applicant's identification document. Specifically, Taiwanese citizen ID for a registered Taiwanese citizen;
 - 11.1.2 Veterinarian-signed certificate of inoculation against rabies with inactivated vaccine pursuant to Section 10.2;
 - 11.1.3 Test report issued by a reference or designated laboratory attesting that the dog/cat has passed the rabies test; in circumstance described in Section 10.3.2, the previous test report must be attached;
 - 11.1.4 Taiwan's export quarantine document is also required for a generic dog/cat scheduled for re-entry within 180 days after exiting Taiwan by complying with Section 10.3.3;
 - 11.1.5 Medical chart is also required to apply for an alternative designated post-entry quarantine place pursuant to Section 34-1.2 of the Statute for a generic dog/cat with a non-infectious serious medical condition (hereinafter dog/cat with serious medical condition) which makes its stay in a regular quarantine facility inappropriate; and
 - 11.1.6 A separate Project-Oriented Quarantine Plan is required concerning post-entry quarantine for short-term importation of a generic dog/cat to participate in or to accompany the importer to participate in international events that take place in Taiwan or to attend activities on invitation by government agencies.
- 11.2 The certificate in Section 11.1.2 shall attest in Chinese or English the dog/cat's breed, sex, age, microchip number, inoculation date, that inactivated vaccine was indeed used, and other information pursuant to Section 10.2.
- 11.3 The applicant for importation of dogs/cats described in Section 11.1.6 shall be the organizer of the event/activity or the host agency extending the invitation.
- 11.4 A generic dog/cat (from a rabies-infected country (zone)) which has passed the rabies test but the blood sampling date fails to meet the requirement in Section 10.3 may apply pursuant to Section 11.1 for importation and detention in post-entry quarantine facility until 187 days after the blood sampling date.
- 11.5 If there is a need to change the entry date on the Import Permit already obtained pursuant to Section 11.1, the applicant shall before the Permit expires submit to the animal quarantine authority stationed at the port of entry an application for the change along with a photocopy of the original Import Permit.

Article 12

The Export Veterinary Certificate for a generic dog/cat imported from a rabies-infected country (zone) shall attest – in Chinese or English – all of the following information: 12.1 The dog/cat's breed, sex, age, and microchip number;

12.2 That the dog/cat shows no clinical sign of rabies upon inspection;

- 12.3 Date of vaccination against rabies, that inactivated vaccine was indeed used and other information required pursuant to Section 10.2; and
- 12.4 That the dog/cat has passed the rabies test, the blood sampling date, and the name of the testing laboratory. Such information may be waived if an original test report is attached to show the dog/cat has passed the test. For the circumstance described in Section 10.3.2, additional information regarding the previous test shall be attested, or the original report of the previous test shall be provided.

Article 13

Upon a generic dog/cat's arrival at a Taiwanese port from a rabies-infected country (zone), the importer shall submit the following documents to the animal quarantine authority stationed at the port of entry to apply for quarantine inspection:

13.1 Photocopy of the Import Permit;

13.2 The original Export Veterinary Certificate; and

13.3 Photocopy of the bill of lading, airway bill or customs declaration.

Article 14

In response to application submitted pursuant to Article 13, the animal quarantine authority will issue the Import Veterinary Certificate, but only after confirming that the requirements in Articles 10 and 12 are met, and the dog/cat gives no cause for suspicion of notifiable animal infectious diseases after being detained for seven days in a post-entry quarantine facility. However, for such a dog/cat, quarantine in the prescribed post-entry facility may be waived if it meets any of the following conditions:

- 14.1 Re-enters Taiwan within three months after exiting,
- 14.2 Has applied for the "serious medical condition" status pursuant to Section 11.1.5 and deemed to need special medical care by animal quarantine authority upon examination at the post-entry quarantine facility after arrival, the dog/cat may be allowed to go through quarantine at an alternative designated facility.
- 14.3 Has obtained an Import Permit pursuant to Section 11.1.6, the Project-Oriented Quarantine Plan approved by the animal quarantine authority shall be followed.

Article 15

- 15.1 A generic dog/cat from a rabies-infected country (zone) will be returned to sender, euthanized and destroyed, or sent to a post-entry quarantine facility if it is in any of the following circumstances:
 - 15.1.1 Without a microchip implant.
 - 15.1.2 Without the original Export Veterinary Certificate.
 - 15.1.3 The Export Veterinary Certificate is provided but without microchip number, or the number is inconsistent with the actual one on the dog/cat.
 - 15.1.4 The Export Veterinary Certificate is provided but without the dog/cat's breed, sex, and/or age; or the information is inconsistent with that of the actual animal; or without a statement saying the dog/cat shows no clinical sign of rabies upon inspection.
 - 15.1.5 The Export Veterinary Certificate fails to comply with Section 12.3.
 - 15.1.6 The Export Veterinary Certificate fails to comply with Section 12.4, and an original test report showing that the dog/cat has passed the rabies test is not provided.
 - 15.1.7 The dog/cat has passed the rabies test, but the blood sampling date fails to comply with Section 10.3.

15.2 The Import Veterinary Certificate will be issued for a dog/cat described in Section 15.1 only after confirming that the dog/cat gives no cause for suspicion of notifiable

animal infectious diseases, and meets the following conditions after post-entry quarantine:

- 15.2.1 For the circumstances in Sections 15.1.1~15.1.3 and 15.1.6, the dog/cat shall be inoculated with inactivated vaccine against rabies pursuant to Article 10, and be detained in quarantine until 187 days after the date of blood sampling that passes the rabies test. For the circumstance in Section 15.1.1, the dog/cat shall get a microchip implant immediately after entering the post-entry quarantine facility.
- 15.2.2 For the circumstance in Section 15.1.4, the dog/cat shall be detained in a postentry quarantine facility for 30 days.
- 15.2.3 For the circumstance in Section 15.1.5, the dog/cat shall be inoculated with inactivated vaccine against rabies pursuant to Section 10.2, and be detained in quarantine until 30 days after the inoculation.
- 15.2.4 For the circumstance in Section 15.1.7, the dog/cat shall be detained in a postentry quarantine facility until 187 days after the date of blood sampling that passes the rabies test.
- 15.3 For the circumstances in Sections 15.1.4~15.1.7, disease mitigation measures (vaccination, blood testing, etc.) already been completed pursuant to this set of Requirements–according to statements of the Export Veterinary Certificate – do not need to be repeated during post-entry quarantine.

Chapter Four: Importation of Service Dogs from a Rabies-infected Country (Zone)

Article 16

A service dog to be imported into Taiwan from a rabies-infected country (zone) shall meet all of the following conditions:

- 16.1 Implanted with a microchip;
- 16.2 Inoculated with inactivated vaccine against rabies within 30 days to one year prior to importation, and the dog shall be over 90 days of age when inoculated; and
- 16.3 Passing the rabies test with the blood sampled during any of the following periods: 16.3.1 Within 90 days to one year prior to importation;
 - 16.3.2 Within 90 days to one year subsequent to the previous date of blood sampling that passed the rabies test, and within one year prior to importation; or
 - 16.3.3 Before exiting Taiwan and within one year prior to re-entry.

Article 17

- 17.1 To import a service dog from a rabies-infected country (zone), the applicant shall submit an application for the Import Permit at least 20 days prior to entry or before exiting Taiwan for subsequent re-entry to the animal quarantine authority stationed at the port of entry along with photocopies of the following documents:
 - 17.1.1 Applicant's identification document. Specifically, Taiwanese citizen ID for a registered Taiwanese citizen;
 - 17.1.2 Service dog certificate as described in Sections 1.6~1.9;
 - 17.1.3 Veterinarian-signed certificate of inoculation against rabies with inactivated vaccine pursuant to Section 16.2;
 - 17.1.4 Test report issued by a reference or designated laboratory attesting that the dog has passed the rabies test; in circumstance described in Section 16.3.2, the previous test report must be attached; and
 - 17.1.5 Taiwan's export quarantine document is also required for a service dog scheduled for re-entry within 90 days after exiting Taiwan by complying with Section 16.3.3

- 17.2 The certificate in Section 17.1.3 shall attest in Chinese or English the dog/cat's breed, sex, age, microchip number, inoculation date, that inactivated vaccine was indeed used, and other information pursuant to Section 16.2.
- 17.3 A service dog (from a rabies-infected country (zone)) which has passed the rabies test but the blood sampling date fails to meet the requirement in Section 16.3 may apply – pursuant to Section 17.1 – for importation and detention in post-entry quarantine facility until 90 days after the blood sampling date.
- 17.4 If there is a need to change the entry date on the Import Permit already obtained pursuant to Section 17.1, the applicant shall re-submit an application to the animal quarantine authority stationed at the port of entry.

The Export Veterinary Certificate for a service dog imported from a rabies-infected country (zone) shall attest – in Chinese or English – all of the following information:

- 18.1 The dog's breed, sex, age, and microchip number;
- 18.2 That the dog shows no clinical sign of rabies upon inspection;
- 18.3 Date of vaccination against rabies, that inactivated vaccine was indeed used and other information pursuant to Section 16.2; and
- 18.4 That the dog has passed the rabies test, the blood sampling date, and the name of the testing laboratory. Such information may be waived if an original test report is attached to show the dog has passed the rabies test. For the circumstance described in Section 16.3.2, additional information regarding the previous test shall be attested, or the original report of the previous test shall be provided.

Article 19

Upon a service dog's arrival at a Taiwanese port from a rabies-infected country (zone), the importer shall submit the following documents to the animal quarantine authority stationed at the port of entry to apply for quarantine inspection:

19.1 Photocopy of the Import Permit;

19.2 The original Export Veterinary Certificate;

19.3 The original service dog certificate; and

19.4 Photocopy of the bill of lading, airway bill or customs declaration.

Article 20

In response to the application submitted pursuant to Article 19, the animal quarantine authority will issue the Import Veterinary Certificate, but only after confirming that requirements in Articles 16 and 18 are met, and the dog gives no cause for suspicion of notifiable animal infectious diseases.

Article 21

- 21.1 A service dog from a rabies-infected country (zone) will be returned to sender, euthanized and destroyed, or sent to a post-entry quarantine facility if it is in any of the following circumstances:
 - 21.1.1 Without a microchip implant.
 - 21.1.2 Without the original Export Veterinary Certificate.
 - 21.1.3 The Export Veterinary Certificate is provided but without microchip number, or the number is inconsistent with the actual one on the dog/cat.
 - 21.1.4 The Export Veterinary Certificate is provided but without the dog's breed, sex, and/or age; or the information is inconsistent with that of the actual animal; or without a statement saying the dog shows no clinical sign of rabies upon inspection.
 - 21.1.5 The Export Veterinary Certificate fails to comply with Section 18.3.

- 21.1.6 The Export Veterinary Certificate fails to comply with Section 18.4, and an original test report showing that the dog has passed the rabies test is not provided.
- 21.1.7 The service dog has passed the rabies test, but the blood sampling date fails to comply with Section 16.3.
- 21.2 The Import Veterinary Certificate will be issued for a dog described in Section 21.1 only after confirming that the dog gives no cause for suspicion of notifiable animal infectious diseases, and meets the following conditions after post-entry quarantine:
 - 21.2.1 For the circumstances in Sections 21.1.1~21.1.3, the dog shall be inoculated with inactivated vaccine against rabies pursuant to Article 10, and be detained in quarantine until 187 days after the date of blood sampling that passes the rabies test. For the circumstance in Section 21.1.1, the dog shall get a microchip implant immediately after entering the post-entry quarantine facility.
 - 21.2.2 For the circumstance in Section 21.1.4, the dog shall be detained in a post-entry quarantine facility for 7 days.
 - 21.2.3 For the circumstance in Section 21.1.5, the dog shall be inoculated with inactivated vaccine against rabies pursuant to Section 16.2, and be detained in quarantine until 30 days after the inoculation.
 - 21.2.4 For the circumstance in Section 21.1.6, the dog shall be inoculated with inactivated vaccine against rabies pursuant to Article 16, and be detained in quarantine until 90 days after the date of blood sampling that passes the rabies test.
 - 21.2.5 For circumstance in Section 21.1.7, the dog shall be detained in a post-entry quarantine facility until 90 days after the date of blood sampling that passes the rabies test.
- 21.3 For the circumstances in Sections 21.1.4~21.1.7, disease mitigation measures (vaccination, blood testing, etc.) already been completed pursuant to this set of Requirements – according to statements of the Export Veterinary Certificate – do not need to be repeated during post-entry quarantine.

- 22.1 A search and rescue dog imported upon the consent of a disaster prevention and protection agency for rescue tasks in response to domestic disasters shall be exempted from requirements in Articles 3~21.
- 22.2 Prior to the entry of a search and rescue dog described in Section 22.1, the applicant shall submit an application for Import Permit along with photocopy of the rabies vaccination certificate, and the disaster prevention and protection agency's written consent to the quarantine authority stationed at the port of entry.
- 22.3 Upon arrival of the search and rescue dog described in Section 22.1, the importer shall submit the original Export Veterinary Certificate to the animal quarantine authority stationed at the port of entry. The Import Veterinary Certificate will be issued only after confirming that the dog is consistent with the following information attested by the original Export Veterinary Certificate:

22.3.1 The search and rescue dog's breed, sex, age, and microchip number;

22.3.2 Date of vaccination against rabies; and

22.3.3 That the search and rescue dog shows no clinical sign of rabies upon inspection.

22.4 After importation of the search and rescue dog, the local animal disease control authority of the disaster area, and the animal quarantine authority may send officials to check on the health of the search and rescue dog.

Chapter Five Additional Provisions

The applicant is to bear the cost incurred by the dog/cat for detention, transport, clinical check-up, quarantine (feeding, handling, medical care, sampling/testing, microchip implanting, vaccination, etc.), as well as re-export, euthanization and destruction for safety precaution or other measures deemed necessary.

Article 24

- 24.1 Unless otherwise stipulated in this set of Requirements, a dog/cat subject to postentry quarantine shall be – upon arrival at the port of entry – escorted to the quarantine facility by the animal quarantine authority.
- 24.2 With the consent of the animal quarantine authority, the transport vehicle for transportation described in Section 24.1 may be provided by the importer/applicant.
- 24.3 The animal quarantine authority may commission the escort operation described in Section 24.1 to another agency, legal entity or organization.

Article 25

A dog/cat in the following circumstances during post-entry quarantine shall be subject to corresponding measures:

- 25.1 A booster inoculation against rabies with inactivated vaccine shall be required if a post-entry blood test shows a rabies neutralizing antibody titer level less than 0.5 IU/mL.
- 25.2 A booster inoculation against rabies with inactivated vaccine shall be required if one year has elapsed since the most recent vaccination date.
- 25.3 If a dog/cat gives birth during post-entry quarantine, the mother and offspring shall all be detained in quarantine until the end of the mother's quarantine period.

Article 26

A quarantine officer shall – on his/her own initiative – take necessary actions to dispose of an imported dog/cat contracting or giving cause for suspicion of notifiable animal infectious diseases; a dog/cat suspected to have an animal infectious disease other than the

notifiable ones may be detained in quarantine isolation until the suspicion is ruled out. Article 27

For dogs/cats imported before the implementation of this set of Requirements but have not yet obtained the Import Veterinary Certificate issued by the animal quarantine authority, the animal quarantine authority may issue the Import Veterinary Certificate upon the confirmation of the dog/cat's compliance with this set of Requirements.