

## **FEDERAL LAW NO. 6**

Issued on 19/3/1979

Corresponding to 20/4/1344 H.

### **CONCERNING THE VETERINARY QUARANTINE**

**Amended by:**

**Federal Law no. 7/1992 dated 13/1/1992**

We, Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates State,

Pursuant to the perusal of the provisional Constitution<sup>1</sup>; and

Federal Law no. 1 of 1972, regarding the Jurisdiction of Ministries and the Powers of Ministers and the amending laws thereof; and

Acting upon the proposal of the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, the approval of the Council of Ministers and the Federal National Council, and the ratification of the Federal Supreme Council,

Have promulgated the following Law:

#### **Article 1**

The following expressions and words shall have the meanings shown opposite to each unless otherwise provided by the context:

The State: the United Arab Emirates State.

The Minister: the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The Competent Authority: the competent administrative authority regarding the veterinary quarantine.

The Quarantine: each and every construction or barn where the animals and their imported products are secluded in order to undergo the veterinary examination without letting them mingle with other animals whether directly or indirectly when reaching the country. In this quarantine the animals shall be subject to an examination to make sure they are not infected with epidemic and contagious diseases.

The Animal: all species of animals, including poultries, domestic animals whether edible, or raised for a benefit or decoration; furthermore it includes the animals intended for slaughtering which are imported for the said purpose and which shall remain under the vet supervision from the date of their arrival and till their slaughtering. The same applies for the livestock imported for another purpose than slaughtering.

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<sup>1</sup> The word "provisional" has been deleted from the Constitution of the United Arab Emirates, wherever mentioned, by virtue of Article One of the Constitutional Amendment no. 1/1996 dated 2/12/1996; this Constitution has become the permanent Constitution of the State.

The Pathologic Samples: it includes all samples taken from animals to be pathologically studied such as worms, stools and the pathological samples; it also includes each and every animal constituent used in the exam or other.

Animals' Living Products: it includes maculation eggs used for breeding, fish eggs and sperm used in artificial insemination.

Meat and Similar Products: all edible parts of the animals, poultries eggs, all kinds of fish, milk and its products, animal products intended for human or animal consumption, livestock's meat, animal leftovers used for processing, all what is extracted from the animals to be manufactured such as leather, fur, fleece, hooves, horns, bones and grease.

Center: is a specific area of one of the country's regions subject to the control of the supervising vet.

The Supervising Vet: is the vet appointed by the competent administrative authority in the veterinary quarantine.

The Disease:

As amended by Federal Law no. 7 dated 13/1/1992:

All epidemic and contagious diseases mentioned in the appendix affixed to this Law. A disease can be added or removed from the said appendix, by decision of the Council of Ministers upon the Minister proposal.

The Shipment: all that is imported into and exported from the State of animals, meat and the like, as well as their products and leftovers, subject to the provisions of the present Law.

## **Article 2**

Imported animals, their meat and similar products and leftovers shall be banned from entering the State until they comply with the measures of the veterinary quarantine, to ensure they are not infected with an epidemic or contagious disease.

## **Article 3**

The competent authority shall be entitled to ban the importation of animals their meat and similar products, and their products from infected countries until receiving an official notice of the extinction of the said epidemic disease from the country.

The country shall be considered infected in view of the decision of the competent Ministry and the veterinary health notifications coming from the said country.

## **Article 4**

Imported animals may not enter the State whether imported by land, sea or air, except through the entries authorized by the Government where veterinary quarantines are set up.

The competent authority shall grant license when need be, to bring imported animals through entries other than the ones authorized by the Government, provided that these animals shall be placed in quarantines for a period of time set by the said authority. Nevertheless, animals coming to the State on foot cannot enter whether coming for grazing, slaughtering or farming before undergoing an examination by the supervising vet in the Center and deciding the action to be taken.

### **Article 5**

All imported animals, their products and leftovers shall be accompanied with the following documents:

1- An official veterinary health certificate from the country of origin showing the distinct particularities of the shipment, its origin, and a proof that it underwent an examination before its shipment stating that it is free from epidemic, contagious diseases and provided that it's ratified by the embassy of the State in the country of origin if existing.

2- A report issued by the pilot of the plane, the captain of the ship, the person in charge of the transporting cars, stating the presence or absence of dead animals among the imported ones during the travel, and that they had not mingled with other animals infected with epidemic and contagious diseases and that they had not come or passed by infected areas during their transportation.

3- Should the animals be slaughtered, they shall come with an official certificate ratified by the embassy of the State if existing in the country of origin, stating that they were slaughtered in conformity with the Islamic Shari'a.

The aforementioned documents shall be submitted to the delegate of the veterinary quarantine upon the arrival of the shipment and before the unloading.

### **Article 6**

Living animals imported for slaughtering shall be quarantined for a period of time that may reach thirty days as of the day they were confined in the quarantine.

The Minister shall issue a decision extending the period of quarantining in quarantines that he shall designate. The depositor of the animals shall feed them during the time of their confinement, otherwise the Ministry shall feed them at his expense.

Non-imported animals shall be slaughtered in accordance with the regulations of the local slaughterhouses.

## **Article 7**

Animals and poultries coming from uninfected countries with veterinary certificate issued by the competent authority, complying with the provisions, certifying that they are free from epidemic and contagious diseases shall be subject to an examination carried out by a vet upon their arrival to the borders of the sate provided that the supervising vet notifies the nearest center for raising to monitor them for the period of time that he shall deem appropriate. As for animals coming from these countries without a veterinary Certificate or with an attestation not complying with the provisions; the following measures shall be applied in addition to the veterinary examination:

1- Equine breed (horses, mules, donkeys) shall be put under control in the quarantine for 48 hours after examination.

2- Animals (other than the equine breed) shall be put under control in the quarantine for 48 hours and immunized with the appropriate vaccines.

## **Article 8**

Shipments of animals coming from uninfected areas, which have mingled during the shipment with animals coming from infected areas, and showing symptoms of contagious diseases, shall be subject to the measures mentioned in this Law, pertaining to animals coming from infected areas. If the animals, their leftovers or animal products show a contagious disease or even if there is a doubt of the presence of a contagious disease, the competent authority shall be entitled to apply in addition to the measures applied to animals imported from infected areas one of the following measures:

a- Order the importer to return the animals to their country of origin.

b- Kill and destroy the animals.

c- Sterilize the products and extractions in the quarantine, if possible, if not destroy them.

## **Article 9**

Animals intended for slaughtering coming with a certificate complying with the provisions of Article 5 of the present Law, which are not suspected of being infected with a contagious disease, shall be taken directly to the place allocated for slaughtering or to the market to sell them.

As for the suspected animals, they shall be kept in the quarantine for not less than the period of time required for incubating the disease, before letting them mingle with other animals and such, if the supervising vet does not request their slaughtering inside the quarantine, within 48 hours.

#### **Article 10**

Animals deceased of a contagious disease shall be either burned or buried in conformity with the observed health procedures, the owners of such animals shall not have in this case the right to ask for any compensation.

#### **Article 11**

Vaccines used for the vaccination of animals against diseases shall not be imported unless by virtue of an authorization granted in advance by the Ministry, provided that they shall come with a ratified certificate proving that they are authorized in their countries of origin.

Should it be noticeable that the said vaccines after their arrival to the State are subject to a change that may cause damage to the animal, the competent authority shall confiscate, destroy or return them to their country of origin at the expense of the importer.

#### **Article 12**

The competent authority shall have the right to ban any ship, plane, car or other means of transport from entering the State should it find according to the report of the Veterinary Center, or the competent authority that it's carrying or was carrying any animal, products, or animal's leftovers infected with a contagious disease and that the means of transport has not been disinfected in a way that guarantees that it shall not infect man or the animal with that disease.

#### **Article 13**

Should a shipment of animals, animal products, or leftovers come to the State in one of the means of transport mentioned in the Article here above, and should it appear after examination of its cargo, and in accordance with the report of the competent authority that its cargo may cause damage to the human being or to the animal, it shall be disinfected before leaving the country.

The competent authority shall order the importer either to disinfect the shipment in conformity with the way it finds appropriate or it shall sterilize it on his account, or it shall order to put the infected cargo in the quarantine, in accordance to what it deems suitable to the public interest.

#### **Article 14**

The owner of the animals shall provide enough water and fodder to the animals during their quarantining period in accordance with the instructions of the supervising vet;

should this be impossible, the competent authority shall be entitled to act according to the public interest and animal welfare.

In the case of lack of quarantine, the animals shall be secluded in a separate place preventing their mingling with other animals; such place shall replace the quarantine.

### **Article 15**

All animal shipments, animal products and leftovers passing through the State in transit, shall be subject to inspection by the competent authority, and to the provisions of the present Law.

### **Article 16**

Without prejudice to any penalty stipulated in the Penal Code or any other code, whoever, breaches the provisions of the present Law shall be subject to imprisonment for a period not exceeding three months and to a fine not exceeding ten thousand Dirhams or to either penalties, in addition to the judgment for confiscating the animals, their parts, products, or leftovers subject of the infringement.

### **Article 17**

Employees in the quarantine – appointed by the Minister to control the implementation of the provisions of the present Law and the executive decisions – shall have the capacity of the law officer, therefore they shall be entitled to enter the customs to examine any means of transport suspected to be carrying animals, animal products, meat or infected specimens.

Customs, ports, airports authorities and others shall facilitate the accomplishment of their duties<sup>1</sup>.

### **Article 18**

The Minister shall issue all necessary decisions to implement the provisions of the present Law in particular the following matters:

1- Set the working procedures in the veterinary quarantines, the fixed fees for animals subject to quarantine and the cases of exemptions.

2- Set the fees for animals imported for slaughtering placed in the quarantines for a period of time exceeding that stated in Article 6 of the present Law, provided that these fees include the sheltering fees.

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<sup>1</sup> This word has been wrongly spelled in the original Arabic text published in the Official Gazette. Therefore a mention is in order.

3- Set the rules and measures for examining what shall be exported, such as animals, their products and leftovers, provide a certificate stating that they are free from diseases and set the fees relating thereto.

4- Dealing to with the animal leftovers in the quarantines, as well as the preventive measures and procedures to be taken regarding them.

5- Set a special rule to grant reward to the person who shall seize or make it easier to seize animals, their products or leftovers coming to the State through infringement of the provisions of the present Law.

### **Article 19**

This Law shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall come into force three months as of the date of its promulgation.

Promulgated by Us at the Presidential

Palace in Abu Dhabi

On 20/4/1399 H.

Corresponding to 19/3/1979

**Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan**

**President of the United Arab Emirates State**

This Federal Law has been published in the Official Gazette issue no. 67, p. 39.

### **SCHEDULE OF EPIDEMIC AND CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.**

Cattle plague

Foot and Mouth diseases

Contagious Pleuropneumonia

Rabies(Cattle and Goat )

Tuberculosis

Bluetongue

Glanders

Strangles

Equine infectious anemia

Dourine

Equine encephalomyelitis

Equine influenza

Anthrax

Equine plague ( African Horse sickness)

Pox diseases

Clostridia Diseases

Hemorrhagic septicemia

Salmonellas diseases

Jones diseases

Brucellosis

Ulcerating lymphangitis

New castle diseases

Fowl plague

Infections fowl cholera

Chronic respiratory diseases

Chronic air sack diseases

Psittacosis and Ornithosis

Fowl Typhoid

Ricketisial diseases

Distemper diseases

