

Attachment 7-6: Quarantine Requirements for the Importation of Meerkats (*Suricata suricatta*)

1. Testing referred to in these requirements must be conducted by laboratories owned, designated or approved by the government of the exporting country using methods listed in these requirements; or prescribed, recommended or considered suitable by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals (hereinafter the OIE Manual) for confirmation of population or individual animals being free from infection with pathogens of corresponding diseases. For diseases with no such testing methods prescribed, recommended or considered suitable in the OIE Manual, methods that have been published in international scientific journals may also be used.
2. Meerkats are allowed to be imported only from countries or zones recognized as being free from highly pathogenic avian influenza by the central competent authority of the importing country.
3. For meerkats requiring an import permit as stipulated in the Wildlife Conservation Act, the permit must be obtained from the central competent authorities before applying for the quarantine premises or other designated places for post-entry quarantine to the import/export animal quarantine authority of the importing country.
4. To import meerkats, the following requirements shall be complied with:
 - 4.1 Meerkats shall be raised for at least 1 year prior to export or since birth in the establishments supervised by the veterinarians accredited by the competent authority of the exporting country. In the establishments, no cases of tuberculosis (*Mycobacterium bovis*, *M. caprae* and *M. tuberculosis*) have been confirmed in the previous 2 years; and no cases of rabies, brucellosis, Aleutian disease, transmissible spongiform encephalopathy, paratuberculosis, pseudorabies (Aujeszky's disease), tularemia, babesiosis, trichinellosis, toxoplasmosis and trypanosomosis have been confirmed in the previous year.
 - 4.2 The vaccination program against rabies shall be in compliance with the following requirements:
 - 4.2.1 Primary vaccination: The first rabies inactivated vaccine is administered at the age of 3 months or older. The second one is administered at the age of 4 to 6 months, and the date of vaccination has to be between 180 days to 1 year prior to shipment.
 - 4.2.2. Booster vaccination: The rabies inactivated vaccine is administered in 1 year prior to shipment.
 - 4.3 Before exportation, meerkats shall be detained in establishments supervised by the veterinarians accredited by the competent authority of the exporting country for at least 30 days prior to export. During the quarantine period, meerkats shall be

examined and must be in a healthy condition without any clinical signs and subject to the following requirements:

- 4.3.1 The following tests are conducted and must have negative results:
 - 4.3.1.1 For tuberculosis (*Mycobacterium bovis*): Intradermal tuberculin test;
 - 4.3.1.2 For paratuberculosis (Johne's disease): Complement fixation test;
 - 4.3.1.3 For brucellosis: Serum tube agglutination test (SAT) with a result of 50 IU/ml or below;
 - 4.3.1.4 For hematozoic parasites: Blood smear examination;
 - 4.3.1.5 For internal parasites: Fecal examinations of direct wet smear and concentration method within 7 days prior to export; and
 - 4.3.1.6 Other tests that are provisionally designated by the import/export animal quarantine authority of the importing country in response to international epidemic.
- 4.3.2 The broad-spectrum antibiotics shall be applied with a therapeutic dosage for 5 consecutive days.
- 4.3.3 The broad-spectrum anthelmintics are applied twice at least 14 days apart for internal parasites;
- 4.3.4 The broad-spectrum anthelmintics are applied once within 72 hours prior to export for external parasites;
- 4.3.5 Bedding is clean with no evidence of contamination by ticks.
5. Each consignment shall be accompanied by an original veterinary certificate issued by the veterinarians of the animal quarantine authority of the exporting country.
The certificate shall state the following information in English or Chinese:
 - 5.1 Type and origin of the animal:
 - 5.1.1 Scientific name or common name;
 - 5.1.2 Total quantity;
 - 5.1.3 Sex, age or date of birth, and microchip numbers;
 - 5.1.4 The exporting country;
 - 5.1.5 Name and address of the establishment of origin; and
 - 5.1.6 Name and address of the exporter.
 - 5.2 Destination
 - 5.2.1 Country of destination; and
 - 5.2.2 Name and address of the importer.
 - 5.3 Statement attesting that the meerkats fulfill the requirements stipulated in Article 4, and the dates of vaccination against rabies (primary or booster shall be noted), the start and end dates of pre-export quarantine, name of medicine, dosage and date of treatments for internal and external parasites shall be stated. The name of the journals, the publication date, and title of the associated articles are required when

using methods published in international scientific journals.

5.4 Date of issuance, name and official stamp of the issuing authority, and name and signature of the issuing officer.

6. The animals shall be transported in cargo holds with clean containers which have been treated with disinfectant approved by the competent authority of the exporting country. They are not allowed to transit through seaports or airports in countries or zones not recognized as being free from HPAI. No additional feed, straw and forage, bedding or other susceptible animals are allowed to be loaded en route to the destination. The means of transport and transit shall comply with the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code and the Live Animal Regulations of the International Air Transport Association (IATA).