

From: s. 47F(1)

Sent: Friday, 24 August 2012 8:21 PM

To: s. 22(1)(a)(ii), s. 33(a)(iii), s. 47F(1)

Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Ocean Drover Consignment - letter from Australian Chief Veterinary Officer [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Importance: High

Dear [Redacted] s. 33(1)(a)(iii) & s. 47F(1)

Further to my message to you on Wednesday, and my meeting with [Redacted] s. 33(1)(a)(iii) & s. 47F(1) yesterday, please find attached a letter regarding the Ocean Drover consignment from Dr Mark Schipp, Australia's Chief Veterinary Officer. I hope you are able to give this matter your prompt attention.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted] s. 47F(1)

Australian Consulate General, Dubai
[Redacted] s. 47F(1)

[Redacted] s. 47F(1) @daff.gov.au

te UAE working week is Sunday to Thursday



Australian Government
**Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry**



CHIEF VETERINARY OFFICER

s. 33(1)(a)(iii) & s. 47F(1)

BAHRAIN

s. 33(1)(a)(iii) & s. 47F(1)

I have recently been advised that a shipment from Australia of around 22 000 sheep, owned by the **s. 47G(1)(a)** arrived at the port of Manama on board the MV Ocean Drover and has not yet received permission to unload from Bahrain veterinary authorities. I understand that concerns have been raised regarding the presence of contagious ecthyma (otherwise known as orf or scabby mouth) in a small percentage of the sheep. As you are aware contagious ecthyma is not a requirement of the agreed animal health requirements by Bahrain for sheep from Australia, as contained in the Annex to the *Memorandum of Understanding on the Trade in Live Animals between the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Government of Australia*. This MoU was signed between relevant Ministers of Bahrain and Australia in November 2009 and represents the agreed certification arrangements for livestock trade between our countries.

I would like to assure you that the slaughter sheep that were exported on the MV Ocean Drover were prepared in accordance with the health conditions contained in the annex to the Memorandum of Understanding, and none of the diseases listed in the annex have been detected in the sheep on the MV Ocean Drover, either before departure or subsequently.

I would ask you to facilitate the unloading of the sheep on the MV Ocean Drover as soon as possible in accordance with the procedures of the MoU. The trade in livestock from Australia to Bahrain is well established and provides mutual benefit to both our countries. The close relationship is underpinned by a long history of imports and last year Bahrain successfully imported nearly 350,000 sheep and to date in 2012 approximately 220,000 sheep from Australia.

I note that contagious ecthyma is not an OIE listed disease, and is considered to have worldwide distribution occurring in all countries where sheep and goats are found. Should you have concerns with the small number of sheep that have symptoms consistent with contagious ecthyma, these animals can be handled separately to those animals without symptoms, including placing them in quarantine for further inspection, testing and destruction if necessary.

In order to protect the future of this important trade and the integrity of the MoU it is important that the sheep currently on board the MV Ocean Drover are unloaded promptly. I would request your assistance to ensure that this permission for the sheep be issued without delay. This reflects our shared commitment to ensuring the health, welfare and safety of livestock imported into Bahrain from Australia.

Please contact me should you have any concerns or queries about this shipment or other matters.

Yours sincerely

s. 47F(1)

Dr Mark Schipp
Chief Veterinary Officer

24 August 2012

s. 33(1)(a)(iii) & s. 47F(1)

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s. 47F(1)

Sent: Wednesday, 29 August 2012 12:43 PM

To: s. 22(1)(a)(ii), s. 33(a)(iii), s. 47F(1)

Cc:

Subject: RE: Ocean Drover Consignment - letter from OIE Director General [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

s. 33(1)(a)(iii) & s. 47F(1)

Ministry of Municipalities and Agriculture Affairs

s. 33(1)(a)(iii) & s. 47F(1)

I hope this finds you well.

Further to the letter provided to you by the message below, please find attached for your information a letter to Australia's Chief Veterinary Officer from the OIE Director General confirming that scabby mouth is a disease not listed by OIE.

Please contact me for any further information.

Yours sincerely

s. 47F(1)

Australian Consulate General, Dubai

s. 47F(1)

Note UAE working week is Sunday to Thursday



Australian Government
**Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry**

s. 22(1)(a)(ii), s. 47F(1), s. 33(a)(iii)



Organisation
Mondiale
de la Santé
Animale

World
Organisation
for Animal
Health

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal

The Director General

Paris, 28th August 2012

Our Ref.: GM/CC 60.7077

Dr Mark Schipp
Member of the OIE Council
Chief Veterinary Officer
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
GPO BOX 858
Canberra ACT 2601
AUSTRALIA

Dear Dr Schipp

Thank you for your email dated 28th August 2012, regarding health certification requirements for Orf (scabby mouth, contagious pustular dermatitis).

The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) is pleased to provide OIE's position regarding this disease.

The OIE is the international standard setting body for animal health, including zoonoses, recognised under the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the (SPS Agreement). The SPS Agreement stipulates that WTO members should provide a scientific justification for their import health measures. It is highly preferable that these be based on OIE recommendations. However, where there are no OIE recommendations or in cases where a government chooses to apply more restrictive conditions than those recommended by the OIE, the importing country should base its animal health measures on a scientific import risk analysis as described in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*.

Regarding Orf, this disease is not listed by the OIE as a notifiable animal disease (i.e. diseases that should be notified to the OIE), because it does not meet the criteria for disease listing as defined in Chapter 1.2. of the *Terrestrial Code* (http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=chapitre_1.1.2.htm)

Therefore, should an importing country require import health measures for this disease, such measures should be based on a scientific import risk analysis, as well as demonstrating that the import measures are not inconsistent with measures applied at a national level.

Kind regards,

s. 47F(1)

OFFICE INTERNATIONAL
DES EPIZOOTIES

12, rue de Prony

75017 Paris France

tél. 33 (0)1 44 15 18 88

fax 33 (0)1 42 67 09 87

www.oie.int oie@oie.int

s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1), s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: [REDACTED] s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Wednesday, 29 August 2012 4:48 PM
To: [REDACTED] s. 33(a)(iii), s. 47F(1)
Cc: [REDACTED] s. 47F(1) ; Murnane, Simon
Subject: Re: Ocean Drover Consignment - letter from OIE Director General [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Many thanks [REDACTED] s.
 Regards
 [REDACTED] s.
 [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] s. 33(a)(iii), s. 47F(1)
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2012 04:42 PM
To: [REDACTED] s. 22(1)(a)
Cc: [REDACTED] s. 47F(1)
Subject: RE: Ocean Drover Consignment - letter from OIE Director General [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Your Excellency,

Thank you for your email and the attached letter.

It is concerning that ship has still not been allowed to dock. I will pass on the message to [REDACTED] s. 33(a)(iii), s. 47F(1) asap and [REDACTED] s. 33(a) should be back in the office today, so I will update him on the issue as well.

Best,
 [REDACTED] s.
 [REDACTED]



[REDACTED] s. 33(a)(iii), s. 47F(1)
 Directorate of Bilateral Relations

[REDACTED] s. 33(a)(iii), s.
 47F(1)
 P.O. Box 547, Kingdom of Bahrain
 [REDACTED] s. 33(a)(iii), s.
www.mofa.gov.bh

Please don't print this e-mail unless you really need to 

From: [REDACTED] s. 22(1)(a)(ii), s. 47F(1)
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2012 9:30 AM
To: [REDACTED] s. 33(a)(iii), s. 47F(1)
Cc: [REDACTED] s. 47F(1)
Subject: Fw: Ocean Drover Consignment - letter from OIE Director General [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Dear [REDACTED] S.

I will be faxing a copy of this to you but attached is a letter from the Director General of the International Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) which states that Orf or Scabby Mouth is NOT a disease listed by the OIE.

Australia's Agriculture Minister Ludwig spoke to [REDACTED] s. 47F(1), yesterday at midday. [REDACTED] s. 33(a) said the ship would be requested to return and re-checked yesterday afternoon.

Unfortunately, the latest information I have is that the ship still has not received permission to dock in Bahrain. This is very concerning. Any further delay beyond today in unloading the healthy sheep (that have now been waiting since 20 August) risks affecting their welfare and may lead to the Australian public calling for the suspension of all live trade to Bahrain. This clearly is not in our interests. I am trying to pass this same message to [REDACTED] s. 33(a)(iii), office and [REDACTED] s. 33(a)(iii), s. 47F(1)

I'd be grateful if you could pass this (and my best wishes) on to [REDACTED] s. 33(1)(a)(iii) & s. 47F(1)

Regards

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)(a)(ii), s. 47F(1)

From: [REDACTED] s. 47F(1)
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2012 12:42 PM

[REDACTED] s. 33(1)(a)(iii) & s. 47F(1)

Subject: RE: Ocean Drover Consignment - letter from OIE Director General [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

[REDACTED] s. 33(1)(a)(iii) & s. 47F(1)

Ministry of Municipalities and Agriculture Affairs

[REDACTED] s. 33(1)(a)(iii) & s. 47F(1)

I hope this finds you well.

Further to the letter provided to you by the message below, please find attached for your information a letter to Australia's Chief Veterinary Officer from the OIE Director General confirming that scabby mouth is a disease not listed by OIE.

Please contact me for any further information.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED] s. 47F(1)

Australian Consulate General, Dubai
[REDACTED] s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

[\[REDACTED\]@daff.gov.au](mailto: [REDACTED]@daff.gov.au)

Note UAE working week is Sunday to Thursday



Australian Government
**Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry**

From: s. 47F(1)

Sent: Friday, 24 August 2012 8:21 PM

To: [REDACTED] s. 33(1)(a)(iii) & s. 47F(1)

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Ocean Drover Consignment - letter from Australian Chief Veterinary Officer [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Importance: High

Dear [REDACTED] s. 33(1)(a)(iii) & s. 47F(1)

Further to my message to you on Wednesday, and my meeting with [REDACTED] s. 33(1)(a)(iii) & s. 47F(1) yesterday, please find attached a letter regarding the Ocean Drover consignment from Dr Mark Schipp, Australia's Chief Veterinary Officer. I hope you are able to give this matter your prompt attention

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED] s. 47F(1)

Australian Consulate General, Dubai

[REDACTED] s. 47F(1)

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s. 47F(1), s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

s. 47F(1), s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s. 47F(1)
Sent: Wednesday, 22 August 2012 11:22 PM
To: s. 33(1)(a)(iii) & s. 47F(1) '
Subject: FW: Ocean Drover Consignment [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

s. 33(1)(a)(iii) & s. 47F(1)

Thank you for your time on the phone. As discussed attached is a copy of the agreement between Australia and the Kingdom of Bahrain regarding trade in live animals.
We look forward to a quick decision to allow unloading of this consignment. Below is my email to s. 47F(1),
My contact details are below if you need any further information.

Yours sincerely

s. 47F(1)
Australian Consulate General, Dubai
s. 47F(1)
s. 47F(1) [@daaff.gov.au](mailto:s.47F(1)@daaff.gov.au)

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Australian Government
**Department of Agriculture,
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From: s. 47F(1)
Sent: Wednesday, 22 August 2012 10:54 PM
To: s. 33(1)(a)(iii) & s. 47F(1)
Cc: s. 47F(1)
Subject: RE: Ocean Drover Consignment [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Importance: High

s. 33(1)(a)(iii) & s. 47F(1)

It was good to speak to you today.

Find attached a copy of the memorandum of understanding which was agreed between our countries Minister's responsible for Agriculture in 2009. It aims to protect the health, welfare and safety of live animals. In particular delays in unloading of animals should be avoided to protect animal welfare and maintain confidence in ongoing trade.

I understand some concerns have been raised with scabby mouth lesions (orf virus) of some animals on the Ocean Drover. This is a non dangerous disease and unloading must be permitted under clause 32 of the MOU to allow any necessary segregation and treatment in the quarantine facility. Note animals from this vessel have already been discharged without incident or concerns in Oman and Qatar.

Please contact me if you need any further information to assist the decision to allow immediate unloading of this vessel.

Yours sincerely

s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

[@daff.gov.au](mailto:s.47F(1)@daff.gov.au)



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**Department of Agriculture,
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