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Technical Directive on the conditions for the re-export of consignments of animal products as whole or in part which were imported as product samples for technical purposes, for special studies or analysis from countries outside the EU and Norway.

According to Art. 14 of the Ordinance on the import and transit of animal products from third countries by air (EDTpV, SR no. 916.443.13), the Federal Veterinary Office (FVO) can approve the import of consignments of animal products that do not satisfy the standard import conditions.

According to paragraph 3 of this article, the FVO can establish the conditions in the event of re-exports of such consignments in consultation with the relevant cantons.

This technical directive establishes the conditions according to Art. 14, paragraph 3 of EDTpV and forms an integral constituent part of all import approvals for consignments of animal products as product samples or for special studies or analyses, for which (partial) re-export is requested.

The FVO approves the re-export of such consignments of animal products exclusively for further test purposes or studies and analyses. A finishing process of any kind is excluded. The quantity of the re-exported product is limited according to point 2 of this technical directive.

Conditions:

- 1) The intended re-export must already be stated in the import application. The intended purpose and benefit of the re-export must be clearly described in the import application.

In exceptional cases, a re-export application may also be approved for animal products for which no re-export approval was initially applied for or issued. In this case the applicant must submit a supplementary request form 09/20 to the FVO with the necessary details (including the approval of the cantonal authorities according to point 3) before the expiry of the period stated under point 9. A copy of the originally issued import licence must be enclosed with this application.

- 2) The re-export is limited to the quantity stated in the import application, subject to a maximum of 20 kg net of imported animal products. If additional constituents from an approved production operation are enclosed with the original product, the maximum re-export quantity must not exceed 50 kg. In this case also, the proportion of the component imported with the relevant import licence is restricted to a maximum of 20 kg net. In this case, the relevant proportions in the mixture must be stated in the feedback information specified in point 9.
- 3) The relevant cantonal agencies (for food products the cantonal food inspectorate and the cantonal veterinary office with jurisdiction over the applicant, in all other cases the cantonal veterinary office) must approve the re-export during the import application procedure.
- 4) The animal products may be exported only to the third country from which they were imported.

- 5) The animal products may not pass through the EU during the re-export.
- 6) A written approval for the re-import must have been issued by the relevant authority/authorities in the third country. This approval may be of a general nature and thus used for several applications. This approval (or a copy) must be enclosed with each application.
- 7) The re-exported products must be labelled in such a way as to make it clear that they do not originate from a serial production process. Their labelling must not include any reference to production in Switzerland or the licence number of a production factory in Switzerland. The batch for re-export must bear the following, clearly visible labelling in both the language of the importing country and in English:

“This product or ingredients thereof was imported into Switzerland under non-standard conditions. It does not fulfill any certifiable criteria in regard to animal health and/or food hygiene”.
- 8) No application for these products may be submitted to the relevant authorities in Switzerland for export certificates either in relation to animal health or food hygiene. Nor may "non-manipulation certificates" be issued for such products by the cantons or the federal government.
- 9) Within six months of the issuing of the import-re-export permit, a copy of this permit must be forwarded to the FVO with the following additional information:
 - Confirmation of the completed re-exportation: It must be possible to establish from the documents the means of transport, the transport route, the recipient, the quantity and the export customs office. In the event of any mixing with approved animal products, both these and the proportions in the mixture must be stated.
 - Confirmation by the applicant that the remainder of the imported animal products were destroyed in Switzerland in accordance with the conditions stated on the permit.
- 10) Following a justified application (which must be submitted before the expiry of the period specified in point 9) the FVO can extend the period specified in point 9 on a one-off basis by a further six months.
- 11) The cantonal authorities can check the compliance with the conditions at any time. To this end, the applicant must provide access to all its sites and the documentation required for this purpose.

Measures in the event of non-compliance with the conditions

In the event of non-compliance with the above conditions, the FVO may suspend, or declare as completely invalid, import-re-export permits that have already been issued. Until feedback has been received from the relevant cantons to the effect that the necessary measures have been implemented in the factories for ensuring that the conditions will be implemented in future, no further permits for the import of animal products as product samples or for special studies and analyses will be issued for the factory concerned.