



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

APHA Briefing Note 08/21

EU clarification on fishery products exported from GB to the EU

Date issued: 15 December 2021

Purpose

1. To update Food Competent Certifying Officers (FCCO) on the definition of further processing for fishery products being exported from Great Britain (GB) to the EU.

Background

2. From 15 January 2022 traders will need to use the Animal Health Regulation (AHR) Export Health Certificates (EHCs) for goods exported from GB to the EU or moved to Northern Ireland if an EHC is required.
3. The majority of AHR EHCs have been available for use on EHC Online since August 2021 and traders are already using them.

Update on further processing

4. Defra has recently received further clarification on EHC [8361](#) – this covers live fish, live crustaceans and products of animal origin from those animals intended for human consumption.
5. The EU has clarified the definition of further processing in the EU to include any anatomical change to the fish or shellfish prior to final sale to the consumer – this includes bleeding, gutting, filleting and scaling. The ‘Notes for Guidance’ for this EHC will be updated to reflect the clarification.
6. We have informed traders that if fish, shellfish or fishery products will undergo any further anatomical change that produces waste in the EU, then the ‘further processing’ box must be checked. If this box is checked, and a trader’s consignment contains fish or shellfish listed in [the legislation](#) (for example Atlantic

Salmon), is intended for further processing **and is also** from an aquaculture source or is hand gathered, then the EHC must be signed by an Official Veterinarian (OV).

7. However, if the fish is wild caught and landed onto a fishing vessel or is not a species listed in the legislation, and for human consumption, then it can also be certified by a FCCO.
8. **Only one of the four options in section I.20 of the EHC must be checked** – for example the ‘further processing’ box or the ‘products for human consumption’.

Timing

9. The pre-AHR EHCs will be withdrawn from EHC Online on 14 January. From 1pm on that date traders will no longer be able to raise new applications for these EHCs.
10. Any in-progress exports using the non-AHR EHCs will still be valid for entry into the EU so long as the EHC is signed before 11.59 pm on 14 January, and the consignment arrives at the point of entry in the EU by 15 March 2022.

Further Information

- [FAQs for certifiers on AHR](#)
- If you have any questions about the AHR and the new EHCs please contact: traders@defra.gov.uk