



July 7, 2016

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

Veterinary Services

4700 River Rd
Riverdale, MD
20737

To pet owners and others involved in the international movement of pets:

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) is the competent government authority responsible for international export of live animals, including pets such as dogs and cats.

It is APHIS VS' role to provide endorsement (review, countersigning, and embossment) of international health certificates after issuance by a USDA Accredited Veterinarian when required by an importing foreign country. The APHIS Pet Travel Website has the most current pet travel requirements available and should be consulted to determine the importing country's requirements or obtain the appropriate international health certificate. This website can be viewed by visiting <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/pettravel>.

When pets travel by airplane, some airlines may require an additional health certificate such as an APHIS 7001 form to be issued by a licensed veterinarian that states that the pet is fit to travel. The airline should not require APHIS endorsement of any additional information or documentation not required by the importing country.

Please note that effective July 31, 2016, APHIS VS will no longer be providing endorsement of the APHIS 7001 when this form is not required by the importing country. This information was communicated to the airlines in June of 2016.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your local VS Office. Contact information can be found on the APHIS Pet Travel Website. Thank you in advance for your attention to and assistance with this matter.

Respectfully,

Joyce Bowling-Heyward, DVM
National Director Import Export Animals
USDA APHIS VS- National Import Export Services



Safeguarding American Agriculture

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