No:.....

EXPORT OF PORCINE SEMEN TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA 7560EHC
NOTES FOR GUIDANCE FOR OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

IMPORTANT NOTE

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters and should have been issued to you together with export certificate 7560EHC. These Notes for Guidance (NFG) are not intended to operate as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 7560EHC.
Exporters are strongly advised to verify the requirements of the importing country by contacting the veterinary authorities, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

CONTENTS

1. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE

Export health certificate 7560EHC may be used for the export of fresh or frozen porcine semen from the United Kingdom to China. 7560EHC cannot be used for the export of porcine embryos from the UK to China.

2. COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE PROTOCOL AGREED BETWEEN CHINA AND THE UK

2.1. Awareness of the protocol and its requirements:

7560EHC is based on a protocol agreed on 2 December 2013 between the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) of the People's Republic of China and the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) of the United Kingdom. The protocol details the quarantine and health requirements for porcine genetic material to be exported from the United Kingdom to the People's Republic of China.

The protocol is complex and has been subject to extensive negotiation between Defra for the UK and the Chinese Authorities.

7560EHC for the exportation of porcine semen from the UK to China has been agreed with Chinese Officials to reflect the requirements of the protocol. The Official Veterinarian must therefore have sight of a copy of the protocol and be aware of its requirements which are laid down in 7560EHC.

2.2. Compliance by the centre operator with the conditions of the protocol.

Paragraph IV(g)(ii) refers: This paragraph can be certified on the basis that the centre operator has a copy of the protocol and that s/he reviews compliance with the protocol at least every six months. A signed record of this review must be kept, preferably in a single file so that this can be checked by the Official Veterinarian and also if necessary by a Chinese official if the circumstances demand it.

See also paragraph 12 of these NFG regarding surveillance.

The exporter and the Official Veterinarian can obtain a copy of the protocol from the AHVLA Central Operations for Exports in Carlisle or DARD – contact details at paragraph 25.

3. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN

This certificate may be signed by a Veterinary Officer of the Department or an Official Veterinarian (OV) appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the Scottish Government, the Welsh Government or by an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed by the Department

of Agriculture and Rural Development, Northern Ireland (DARD), who is an OV on the appropriate export panel for export purposes.

Exporters / OVs should contact AHVLA Carlisle or DARD for information on the software that is needed to enable typing of details of the export health certificate. The contact details for AHVLA Carlisle and DARD are at paragraph 25.

The protocol specifies that handwritten or altered versions of the EHC are invalid. This means that unauthorised deletions or amendments are not permitted and that the ONLY permitted handwritten entry is the signature of the Official Veterinarian. Any authorised deletions that cannot be entered electronically must be deleted with horizontal lines made using a ruler and a fine black pen. Diagonal deletions must NOT be used. Each line to be deleted must be ruled out providing an effect similar to that of typewritten deletions.

The final date of certification can be typed or this can be entered using an inked rubber stamp in any ink colour OTHER THAN BLACK. Red is the preferred colour.

Foreign text: The Official Inspector should note that the foreign text in 7208EHC is an official translation of the English text and the Official Inspector is accordingly authorised to complete the 7208EHC, even if they are unable to read and understand the meaning of the foreign text.

Where wording has to be added in English but there is insufficient space to enter the same words in the Chinese worded text, enter "As above" in the Chinese worded text.

OVs must sign and stamp the health certificate with their OV stamp in any ink colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**. Red is the preferred colour. It is important that the stamp is clearly legible.

The Official Veterinarian and the Exporter should note that they have the final responsibility to ensure that the details on the completed certificate are correct. Due to the complexity of the certificate, it is recommended that such checks should be carried out sufficiently well in advance of the date of export to ensure that the information is correct.

The Official Veterinarian and the exporter should note that the Chinese authorities will expect that the details of the owner / company / farm name and address are **correct and consistent on ALL documents** including for example bills of sale and bank transfers.

One original version and two copies of the certificate are to be provided to accompany each shipment of semen. The copies must be marked as 'Copy 1' and 'Copy 2' and must be printed on 'Crown Gold' paper as provided by AHVLA / DARD. Photocopies are not acceptable.

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to AHVLA Carlisle within seven days of signing, or in the case of Northern Ireland to DARD. See also paragraph 6 regarding schedules and returning unused or spoiled copies of schedules.

The OV should keep a photocopy of the completed export health certificate for his/her own records.

4. OBTAINING AN IMPORT PERMIT

Paragraph III(d) refers: Exporters and their respective importers in China are advised to contact the Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) of the People's Republic of China (PRC) for advice regarding import permit(s) that may be required for the export of porcine semen from the UK to China.

Exporters should be aware that each import permit can only be used for the export of one consignment of semen to China.

5. IDENTIFICATION OF SAMPLES OF SEMEN

Paragraph I(a) refers: Official Veterinarians must be satisfied that the samples of semen are individually identified in accordance with the details provided on schedule A. This may be done by reading the identification marks personally, or by having the sample numbers read by someone in the employment of the veterinary practice and under the direction of the certifying veterinarian. The terms "direction" and "supervision" are defined in the RCVS Code for Professional Conduct [1].

If the export includes large numbers of samples of semen, and to avoid compromising the temperature of the samples, the Official Veterinarian may decide to check a representative number of samples. It is for the OV to decide how many samples s/he must check considering their awareness and understanding of the operation of the AI centre.

6. SCHEDULES:

See also link on OV instructions below [2]

http://www.rcvs.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/code-of-professional-conduct-for-veterinary-surgeons/

http://ahvla.defra.gov.uk/External OV Instructions/Export Instructions/Certification Procedures/index.htm

See also the link on OV instructions below
Paragraph I(a) refers:

Schedule A is used to record boar identification numbers, dates of semen collection, numbers of doses of semen and the identification code/marking on the semen straws, bottles or packs

Schedule B is used to record laboratory testing, the use of vaccines and antibiotic treatments of donor boars

The health certificate reference number must be recorded on each page of the schedules. If there is more than one page, each page of schedule A and B must bear a page number which should be typed on the top right hand corner. Each schedule page must be signed, dated and stamped by the OV.

The schedules must be stapled inside the health certificate and the OV should "fan" and stamp over the pages of the schedules and certificate. The top stapled corner of the schedules and certificate should be folded over and stamped also. Any blank spaces in the schedules must be deleted with deleted with horizontal lines using a ruler and a fine black pen (see paragraph 2 above).

AHVLA / DARD will provide spare copies of the schedules on request. Unused or spoiled copies should be returned.

7. APPROVAL OF THE AI CENTRE BY CHINA / SUPERVISION OF THE EXPORT BY CHINESE OFFICIALS.

Article 3 of the protocol refers: Porcine AI centres that have been specifically approved by the Chinese authorities (AQSIQ) before exports are carried out, can be used for the export of porcine semen from the UK to China. Alternatively, if the AI centre has not been approved by China beforehand, China will send animal quarantine officer(s) to the semen collection centre and the relevant laboratories to cooperate with the UK Official Veterinarian in conducting the health certification procedures. If this latter option is taken, the company must inform DEFRA / DARD as soon as this is planned in case any correspondence with China is necessary to arrange this.

If the latter option is taken, the company must be aware that they will bear any costs involved for the Chinese officials, including all travel, accommodation and catering. The exporter and the Official Veterinarian should note that it is important that meetings with the supervising Chinese

veterinarian are properly organised and must be carried out using suitable meeting rooms.

The supervising Chinese veterinarian may ask to meet with DEFRA/AHVLA/DARD officials and they may also wish to visit the laboratories involved with testing. Arrangements for these meetings and visits should be made at an early stage with the offices and laboratories involved. Refusal to arrange such meetings may compromise the export.

The exporter and the Official Veterinarian must note that the supervising Chinese veterinarian will check to ensure compliance with both the import protocol AND the export health certificate.

8. COMPLIANCE WITH OIE RECOMMENDATIONS AND EU RULES (COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 90/429/EEC (AS AMENDED)) AND SUPERVISION OF THE AI CENTRE BY THE UK SUPERVISING VETERINARIAN

8.1. OIE recommendations and EU rules

Paragraph IV(e) refers. The semen must be produced in accordance with the following Chapters of the OIE terrestrial animal health code:

Chapter 4.5. General hygiene in semen collection and processing centres[1]

Chapter 4.6. Collection and processing of bovine, small ruminant and porcine semen[2]

The AI centre must also be approved by DEFRA or DARD in accordance with EU Council Directive 90/429/EEC (as amended)[3] which lays down the animal health requirements applicable to intra-Community trade in and imports of semen of domestic animals of the porcine species.

Compliance with the OIE code chapters can be certified on the basis that the requirements of EU Council Directive 90/429/EEC (as amended) are equivalent to the OIE code chapter. The Official Veterinarian must therefore check that the AI centre is approved by AHVLA or DARD under the EU Directive. This can be done on the basis of documentation provided by the centre operator or by checking the EU website[4].

[1] http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=chapitre_1.4.5.htm

[2] http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=chapitre_1.4.6.htm

[3] http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CONSLEG:1990L0429:20120601:EN:PDF

[4] http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/semen_ova/porcine/index_en.htm

8.2 Supervision by the Centre Veterinarian

Paragraph IV(e) refers: This can be certified on the basis that the centre is approved by AHVLA or DARD in accordance with Directive 90/429 as amended and that such approval requires these controls to be implemented by an approved Centre Veterinarian.

9. RESIDENCY AND LACK OF USE FOR NATURAL SERVICE

Paragraph IV(c)refers: UK residency requirements can be certified for UK origin boars on the basis of the presence of a UK ear tag. For imported boars the requirement for 10 month's residency can be certified by reference to movement records at the AI centre and where necessary on the basis of a declaration from the owner of the boar before entry to the AI centre (see Annex A).

Lack of use for natural service can be certified on the basis of a declaration from the owner of the boar / a breeding company declaration (see Annex A).

Residency in the AI centre for at least 3 months preceding semen collection for export of semen to China can be certified on the basis of checks on the movement records at the AI centre.

10. ABSENCE OF GENETIC DEFECTS AND THE FERTILITY AND LIBIDO OF THE DONOR BOARS

Paragraph IV(d) refers: Absence of genetic defects in the donor boar and his close relatives are can be certified on the basis of a declaration from the company that they have no records of such defects from their own use or from communications from customers (see Annex A).

Fertility can be based on a declaration from the centre operator that semen from the donor boar exhibited normal motility and sperm morphology and that they have no records of poor conception rate for the boar (see Annex A).

Satisfactory libido can be based on a declaration from the centre operator that the boar has shown normal libido for collection of semen (see Annex A).

The OV should check that the centre operator or the company has and maintains records to support these declarations.

11. CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS ON BIO-SAFETY AND RODENT CONTROL

Paragraph IV(g) refers: Construction requirements on bio-safety can be verified on the basis that the AI centre is approved under EU Council Directive 90/429 as amended. The presence of a rodent control program can be certified by the Official Veterinarian on the basis of their inspection

and by checking records of visits/baiting by a rodent control operator. Alternatively this can be certified if the centre is operated according to the BPEX standard[5] which includes this as a requirement (see [add link]).

12. DISEASE SURVEILLANCE.

Paragraph IV(g)(ii) refers: Certification of this paragraph can be based on the absence of clinical signs of the diseases listed and the AI centre operator should positively record this every six months when the protocol is reviewed (see paragraph 2 above). Certification of paragraph IV(g)(ii) does not require active surveillance for each of these diseases.

In case of any of these diseases occur, the centre operator must promptly report it to DEFRA or DARD. Semen from the centre must not be exported to China for at least 12 months. If the export of semen is supervised or if the centre is otherwise inspected by an AQSIQ Chinese quarantine official, they will examine records of surveillance for the presence of these diseases.

Official Veterinarians should take into account their personal knowledge of the disease status of the AI centre, if necessary with the support of an owner's declaration confirming freedom from clinical signs of the diseases mentioned in paragraph IV(g)(ii) of the EHC (see Annex A). Certifying Official Veterinarians should also carry out appropriate checks of the AI centre records including medicines records and slaughterhouse records to verify freedom from the named diseases. If necessary, this may be supported by discussion with a Veterinary Officer at AHVLA Carlisle or the local DARD Animal Health Office.

12.1 Aujeszky's disease (AD) (Pseudorabies): AD is a notifiable disease in the UK and any suspicion of clinical signs of AD must be reported to the competent authority.

12.2 Tuberculosis: This refers to the presence of infection with *Mycobacterium bovis* infection. Confirmed clinical evidence of tuberculosis is based on cultural confirmation of the presence of infection with *Mycobacterium bovis*. Detection of other strains of tuberculosis such as 'avian' TB is not relevant to this declaration. Lack of occurrence of tuberculosis (*M. bovis* infection) in the boars at the AI centre can be based on the lack of *M. bovis* infection in boars slaughtered at the abattoir. TB in pigs is notifiable therefore if this occurred, the farmer would be informed by AHVLA/DARD and an investigation would be carried out.

5 smartstore.bpex.org.uk%2Farticles%2Fdodownload.asp%3Fa%3Dsmartstore.bpex.org.uk.5.4.2012.10.26.1.pdf%26i%3D302030&ei=lzP7UpGJLrKw7AbbhYG4Bg&usg=AFQjCNHxI_sOby4rg_FMmviHeuGo--Vsjg

12.3 Brucellosis: Brucellosis in pigs is reportable in Great Britain and is notifiable in Northern Ireland. The clinical signs of brucellosis in boars include orchitis, epididymitis and suppurative arthritis. These conditions are often chronic and unresponsive to treatment with antibiotics.

7560EHC requires certification of the lack of clinical evidence of *B. suis* infection. Confirmation of *B. suis infection* is based on cultural confirmation of the presence of B. *suis*. If this occurred the centre operator would be informed by AHVLA/DARD and an investigation would be carried out. If the infection was confirmed on the centre it would no longer be eligible to be approved for EU trade.

Official Veterinarians should note that Brucellosis in pigs can be caused by infection with *B. suis* and other strains of *Brucella* such as *B. abortus*. Currently the UK is free of *B. suis* (and *B. melitensis, B. ovis* and *B. canis*). GB is free of *B. abortus*.

12.4 Avian Chlamydiosis: Official Veterinarians should note that in this context this requirement refers to disease associated with *Chlamydia abortus* infection (*Chlamydia abortus* was previously called ruminant *Chlamydia psittaci* serotype 1). While *C. abortus* infection can cause abortion and the birth of weak piglets, in boars *Chlamydia abortus* infection is normally subclinical. Only *C. suis* is recognised as an infection which normally occurs in swine and this is associated with conjunctivitis, enteritis and pneumonia but not with reproductive disease.

12.5 Leptospirosis: Infection of pigs with *L. bratislava and L. australis*, and *L. icterohaemorrhagiae occurs in the UK*. Both *L. hardjo and L. canicola* are now rare in pigs in the UK. Evidence of infection with *L. pomona pomona, L. tarassovi* and *L. grippotyphosa*, which cause severe disease in pigs, has not been detected in pigs in the UK. For this certificate the declaration in respect of leptospirosis is for absence of clinical disease associated with confirmed evidence of leptospiral infection. The clinical signs that may occur in adult boars include failure to thrive, inappetance, lethargy, pyrexia, jaundice and death.

Lack of clinical occurrence of leptospirosis can be certified on the basis that the clinical syndromes described above have not occurred in the last 12 months in boars in the AI centre, or if these syndromes have occurred, an alternative aetiology has been identified.

Lack of clinical occurrence of leptospirosis cannot be certified for pigs in which serological monitoring/testing or other testing has confirmed the

presence of infection with *L. pomona pomona*, *L. tarassovi* or *L. grippotyphosa* even if clinical signs of leptospirosis are not present.

12.6 Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS):

Lack of clinical occurrence of PRRS cannot be certified for a centre which contains boars which have been vaccinated against PRRS, nor can this be certified for AI centres in which serological monitoring or other testing has confirmed the presence of PRRS.

PRRS normally spreads quickly through a full herd of pigs over 7–10 days. Spread of infection in a boar stud comprising one or two air spaces will be quicker.

Because of the many and often subtle clinical manifestations of PRRS it is not straightforward to certify the absence of occurrence of this disease. Infection with a mild strain of PRRS may not lead to the development of any clinical signs. The clinical signs that may occur include reduced appetite and failure to thrive, lethargy, pyrexia, blotchy reddening of the skin, rough hair coat and respiratory disease. Some pigs may show neurological signs such as loss of balance, circling and falling and in some outbreaks death may occur in up to 10% or more of the pigs. Reproductive disease can be expected in gilts and sows which are not immune to PRRS which have been inseminated with semen from infected boars.

If clinical signs consistent with PRRS have occurred and an alternative aetiology has not been established, then it should be suspected that PRRS is present (note that concurrent infections with other pathogens are also common in outbreaks of PRRS).

Routine testing for PRRS means that blood samples have been taken from the herd and that serological testing for PRRS has been carried out with negative results during the year including sampling of boars prior to entry to the centre, sampling of boars at the AI centre and sampling boars for other purposes (e.g. for before export of semen). This can also include testing of samples of blood and semen by PCR.

Under no circumstances should semen be certified for export to China from a centre where an outbreak of PRRS has previously occurred without first discussing with a Veterinary Officer of Animal Health or DARD the circumstances under which cleansing, disinfection and restocking were carried out.

12.7 Porcine circovirus (PCV) infection

This only relates to PCV2 and not to PCV1. Lack of clinical occurrence of porcine circovirus infection can be based on the absence of clinical signs consistent with porcine multisystemic wasting syndrome (PMWS), porcine

dermatitis and nephropathy syndrome (PDNS) or other disease associated with PCV2 infection. Laboratory confirmation of the absence of these diseases is not required.

12.8 Porcine parvovirus infection:

While various disease syndromes of pigs have been associated with PPV infection, in pigs this is normally associated with reproductive disease in breeding female pigs. PPV infection in boars is normally subclinical.

12.9 Swine influenza:

Swine influenza A/H1N1/09: Absence of clinical occurrence of pandemic influenza A/H1N1/09 can be based on the lack of clinical signs of influenza. It is not necessary to actively test for the absence of influenza virus infection. While influenza virus infection in pigs may cause a transient episode of rapidly spreading respiratory disease associated with pyrexia and reduced feed consumption in pigs of all ages, unless the presence of infection with pandemic influenza A/H1N1/09 has been confirmed, this cannot be assumed to be infection with pandemic influenza A/H1N1/09.

Lack of clinical occurrence of pandemic influenza A/H1N1/09 cannot be certified for a pig herd which has been vaccinated for pandemic influenza A/H1N1/09 in the last 12 months nor can this be certified for herds in which serological monitoring/testing or other testing has confirmed the presence of active pandemic influenza A/H1N1/09 virus infection even if clinical signs of influenza are not present.

12.10 Transmissible gastroenteritis (TGE) of swine:

Lack of clinical occurrence of TGE can be based on the absence of an episode of epidemic diarrhoea which was confirmed to be associated with TGE virus infection.

Semen from boars that do not give a negative result must not be exported. If the presence of TGE virus infection is confirmed, none of the boars will be eligible to donate semen for export.

12.11. Infectious pleuropneumonia of swine:

This refers to *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae* (APP) infection: APP infection may cause the development of pleuropneumonia which may be detected by clinical inspection / examination of boars and by the examination of lungs at slaughter. Active surveillance for the absence of APP infection is not required. It is important to note that APP infection is not the only cause of pleuropneumonia and accordingly confirmation of APP infection depends on the detection of the presence of APP by culture or PCR. Lack of clinical occurrence of APP

cannot be certified for a pig herd which contains pigs which have been vaccinated against APP in the last 12 months.

12.12. Atrophic rhinitis of swine:

This refers to progressive atrophic rhinitis (PAR). PAR is a herd disease which develops in growing pigs. Lack of clinical occurrence of PAR can be based on a lack of detected atrophic rhinitis in the boars based on periodic clinical inspection / examination of all pigs in the herd. Unless the presence of disease is suspected it is not necessary to carry out examination of snouts at slaughter and/or to test for the lack of evidence of toxigenic *Pasteurella multocida*.

12.13. Mycoplasmal hyopneumonia:

This refers to *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* infection which is associated with sometimes severe acute and more commonly chronic pneumonia with chronic coughing in the herd.

12.14. Toxoplasmosis.

This refers to *Toxoplasma gondii* infection. While clinical signs of toxoplasmosis include mid-term abortion in sows and mummified, still-born and weak new-born piglets and some severely affected pigs may exhibit fever, anorexia and inco-ordination, in adult boars *T. gondii* infection is not expected to be associated with any clinical signs.

13. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE (FORM 618NDC)

Paragraphs IV(a) and IV(b) refer. OVs may certify this paragraph on behalf of the Department provided written authority to do so has been obtained on form 618NDC from the AHVLA Carlisle or the issuing office of DARD in Northern Ireland.

14. CLINICAL INSPECTIONS AND EXAMINATION

Paragraph IV(n) refers: During the period from the date of the start of the procedures for the collection of semen to completion of the export health certificate, all animals in the semen collection centre must have been inspected, and where necessary examined by a veterinary surgeon to confirm that they have remained healthy and free from clinical evidence of infectious or contagious diseases. If the inspection/examination is not carried out by the certifying Official Veterinarian, certification of this paragraph can be based on a declaration by another veterinarian such as the supervising veterinarian for the centre.

15. TESTING FOR TUBERCULOSIS

Paragraph IV(h) refers: This refers to *Mycobacterium bovis* infection. Testing should be carried out using the single intradermal bovine PPD tuberculin test.

The donor boars must be tested before entry to the AI centre or within twelve (12) months prior to the first collection regarding the consignment for export. If a donor boar has not been tested within 12 months of collection for export, then the boar must be tested again. Only semen from the negative animals can be exported to China. The centre operator must keep records of testing for inspection by the Official Veterinarian.

16. LABORATORY TESTS AND SUBMISSION OF TESTS TO GOVERNMENT LABORATORIES

Paragraphs IV(j), IV(k) and IV(l) refer: ******IMPORTANT****** The Official Veterinarian must ensure that the laboratories involved are aware that the testing is being carried out to support the export of pig semen to China and that the laboratory reports must:

a) State 'negative' for each negative test result.
b) Provide the dates i) sampled, ii) received, iii) tested and iv) the date of the final report.
c) The final report must state 'final' and no supplementary reports must be issued after that.

The OV must check that any laboratory carrying out pre-export testing is officially approved for this purpose by Defra or DARD. If in doubt the OV should seek guidance from AHVLA or DARD.

In Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland), the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the AHVLA Laboratory, New Haw, Weybridge, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 3NB, (Tel: 01932 341111). Some tests are carried out at VLA Lasswade, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik, Midlothian, EH26 0PZ, (Tel: 0131 445 6169). Certain specialist tests are carried out at regional AHVLA laboratories.

In Northern Ireland, the majority of pre-export testing is carried out at the Veterinary Sciences Division (VSD) Laboratory, Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3SD (tel: 028 9052 0011).

For operational reasons however, the laboratories involved may change periodically. Accordingly, the OV is advised to check with the AHVLA or DARD Veterinary Sciences Division to determine to which laboratories the samples should be sent for testing. Samples should always be sent to the laboratory concerned sufficiently in advance of the export date to enable the tests to be carried out and reported. If in doubt as to the procedures for collection, the requirement for transport medium if any, dispatch of samples and the length of time a test is likely to take, the OV should seek advice from the relevant laboratory.

The dates of sampling and testing, the names and addresses of laboratories

involved in the testing procedures, the method and the results of tests done for each disease must be recorded on Schedule B. the OV should note that copies of laboratory reports should NOT be sent with the completed EHC.

While results of routine testing can be used to support certification for export, this can only be done if the timing of such testing fits with the requirements of the EHC and if government approved laboratories have been used.

The OV should note that for some tests in particular the sample quality and the conditions of testing can be important contributory factors in the production of non-negative test results. The OV should contact the laboratory concerned if they have any questions about this.

16.1 TESTING FOR CHLAMYDIOSIS *(CHLAMYDIA ABORTUS INFECTION)*

Paragraph IV(j)(i)refers: Testing must be carried out within 60 days prior to the first collection for export.

16.2 TESTING OR VACCINATION FOR PORCINE PARVOVIRUS (PPV)

Paragraph IV(j)(ii)refers: Testing is not required if the boar has previously been vaccinated for PPV. If the boar was vaccinated, this should be checked by reference to the medicines records. If the vaccination was carried out before entry to the centre, this should be checked by reference to a signed declaration from a veterinarian for the herd of origin.

16.3 TESTING OR VACCINATION FOR PORCINE CIRCOVIRUS TYPE 2 (PCV2)

Paragraph IV(j) (iii)refers: Testing is not required if the boar has previously been vaccinated for PCV2. If the boar was vaccinated, this should be checked by reference to the medicines records. If the vaccination was carried out before entry to the centre, this should be checked by reference to a signed declaration from a veterinarian for the herd of origin. The name of the vaccine, date of expiry and date vaccinated must be recorded.

16.4 TESTING FOR PRRS

Paragraph IV(k)(i)refers: Serological testing can be carried out by IFAT, IPMA (negative at 1:10 dilution) or ELISA.

16.5 TESTING FOR TGE

Paragraph IV(k)(ii)refers : Serological testing can be carried by SNT (negative at 1:8 dilution) or by blocking-ELISA.

16.6 TESTING FOR INFECTIOUS PLEUROPNEUMONIA / ACTIONBACILLUS PLEUPNEUMONIAE (APP) TYPE 8 INFECTION

Paragraph IV(k)(iii)refers: Serological testing can be carried out by CFT (negative at 1:10 dilution) or ELISA.

16.7 CLINICAL EXAMINATION OR TESTING FOR PANDEMIC SWINE INFLUENZA A (H1N1)

Paragraph IV(l) refers: The options are clinical examination OR testing. The donor boars should be clinically examined (not just inspected) by a veterinarian for evidence of clinical signs of influenza. If such clinical signs are not present then the boars do not need to be tested. If clinical signs of influenza are present, then the donor boars should be tested with a negative result for virus by PCR on a nasal swab or serologically by ELISA on a sample of blood.

17. TREATMENT FOR LEPTOSPIRAL INFECTION

Paragraph IV(m)refers Antibiotic treatment against leptospiral infection must be carried out within 30 days prior to the first collection regarding the export consignment. The treatment must be carried out under the supervision of the Official Veterinarian. The options for treatment are combined streptomycin/dihydrostreptomycin by injection or long acting oxy/chlor/tetracycline by injection or in feed. The OV must ensure that the dose administered is correct according to the weight of the boar. The name of the antibiotics (trade name and active ingredient), the dose administered, and date(s) of treatment should be recorded.

18. POST IMPORT TESTING

The exporter and the OV should be aware that post-import testing may be carried out in China.

19. ANTIBIOTICS ADDED TO THE SEMEN DILUENT

Paragraph IV(p)refers: The name and concentration of the antibiotics added to the semen diluent must be recorded.

20. FREEDOM FROM INFECTIOUS OR CONTAGIOUS DISEASE AND ANIMAL PROTEIN ADDED TO THE SEMEN DILUENT

Paragraph IV(o)refers: Freedom from infectious or contagious disease can be certified on the basis that the semen has been collected, processed and stored according the EU Directive 90/429 as amended.

The name of any animal protein added to the semen diluent must be recorded. Approved protein includes for example egg yolk from specific pathogen free chicken flocks or pasteurized milk. If in doubt the OV should seek guidance from AHVLA or DARD.

21. STORAGE AND SEPARATION

Paragraph IV(q)refers: Until shipment to China, the semen for export must

be stored separately at a location approved by DEFRA or DARD under EU Directive 90/429 as amended.
Separate storage containers must be used for consignments of semen for export to China. These must be stored separately so that the semen for export to China does not have contact with semen in other consignments.

22.SEALING OF THE TRANSPORT CONTAINER

Paragraph IV(r)refers: The semen must be secured within its packaging or cryogenic container by a tamperproof / tamper evident seal applied in such a way that the container cannot be opened without breaking the seal. For cryogenic containers for frozen semen, a metal seal should be used. For transporting fresh semen, the semen samples should be placed in boxes such as polystyrene boxes and these should be sealed using special sealing tape including tamper evident numbered seals.

If it is necessary to top up a container of liquid nitrogen, the additional liquid nitrogen must meet the requirements of the certificate (see paragraph IV(q).

23. TRANSPORT

Paragraph IV(s) refers: A signed declaration should be obtained from the exporter in order to certify this paragraph (see Annex A).

24. OMISSION OF PARAGRAPH IV 'i'

The omission of a paragraph IV.(i) is deliberate to avoid any confusion between the letter 'i' used alphabetically and 'i' used as a Roman numeral in sub-paragraphs.

25. DISCLAIMER AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR AHVLA CARLISLE AND DARD

This certificate is provided on the basis of information available at the time and may not necessarily comply fully with the requirements of the importing country. It is the exporter's responsibility to check the certificate against any relevant import permit or any advice provided by the competent authority in the importing country. If these do not match, the exporter should contact the AHVLA Specialist Service Centre – Exports - at Carlisle or DARD, via the links below:

http://www.defra.gov.uk/ahvla-en/imports-exports/international-trade/

http://www.dardni.gov.uk/index/contact-us.htm (direct your enquiry to the Veterinary Service - Trade Section)

Annex A

SUGGESTED TEXT FOR DECLARATIONS BY THE CENTRE OPERATOR, EXPORTER OR BREEDING COMPANY

Delete as applicable

I the undersigned hereby declare that in respect of the intended export on …… [date] of semen from the donor boars listed on the schedule attached and standing at the following AI centre……
……...…

1. The boar(s) numbers …… have been resident in the UK for at least the past 10 months.

2. The donor boars have not been used for natural service.

3. There are no records of genetic defects in the donor boar and his close relatives.

4. Semen collected from the donor boar has exhibited normal motility and sperm morphology.

5. There are no records of poor conception rate for the donor boar(s).

6. The donor boar(s) has / have shown normal libido for collection of semen.

7. In the last 12 months clinical signs have not been identified at the AI centre above of the diseases listed in article 6.6 of the protocol agreed between AQSIQ and Defra on the quarantine and health requirements for porcine genetic material to be exported from the UK to China

8. The semen to be exported to China will not have contact with semen of other consignments when exported. The semen will be transported to the Chinese port of entry by a designated route and within the time period specified on the import permit issued by AQSIQ.

Signed……

Name…..……

Address……

Date ……