

Federal Law No. 8

Promulgated on 21/10/2013

Corresponding to 16 Dhi Al-Hijjah 1434 H.

ON THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF CONTAGIOUS AND EPIDEMIC ANIMAL DISEASES

Amended by virtue of

Ministerial Decision No. 275/2017 dated 29/06/2017

We, Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates,

After perusal of the Constitution;

Federal Law No. 1 of 1972 on the competencies of the Ministries and the Powers of Ministers
and

its amending laws;

Federal Law No. 6 of 1979 on veterinary quarantine and its amending laws;

Decree of Federal Law No. 9 of 1983 on regulating the hunting of birds and animals;

Penal code promulgated by Federal Law no.3 of 1987 and its amending laws;

Penal Procedures Law promulgated by Federal Law no.35 of 1992 and its amending law;

Federal Law No. 10 of 2002 on the practice of the Veterinary Medicine Profession;

Federal Law No. 11 of 2002 on the regulation and control of the international trade in
endangered

animals and plants;

Federal Law No. 16 of 2007 on animal welfare;

Based on the suggestion of the Minister of Environment and Water, the approval of the
Cabinet

and the Federal National Council and the ratification of the Federal Supreme Council,

Have issued the following Law:

Chapter 1

Article 1

In the application of the provisions of this Law, the following terms and expressions
shall have the meanings stated beside them, unless the context requires otherwise:

State: The United Arab Emirates State.

Ministry: The Ministry Environment and Water

Minister: The Minister of Environment and Water

Competent Authority: The local authority concerned about animal health in the Emirate

Health Authority: Ministry of Health and the local Health Authorities in the country.

Establishments: Any place within which animals are kept, held, bred, raised, slaughtered, treated or moved. Such establishments shall include scientific research institutions, vessels, planes, trucks and other means of transport.

Governmental Veterinarian: The Veterinarian working for the Ministry and the Competent Authority.

Veterinarian: The person holding a Bachelor degree, certified in veterinary medicine, or its equivalent from any recognized university, and the person licensed by the Ministry to practice said profession.

Animal: All kinds of animals including mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish and bees.

Disease: Clinical, pathological or both symptoms of a disease, including the deviation or variation of the natural and biological functions of the animal's body.

Pathological samples: All samples taken from an animal, the tissues, cells, faeces, urine or else for purposes of laboratory testing.

Contagious Disease: The disease resulting from the aetiology thereof and that is transmissible from a person to another in a direct or indirect way.

Epidemic Disease: Contagious diseases that develop and rapidly spread.

Common Disease: A disease or the spread of aetiology naturally transmissible from animals to humans.

Disease-Free Zone: A geographic zone that is confirmed to be free of a defined animal disease and its aetiology.

Infected Zone: A geographic zone that is confirmed to be infected by a defined animal disease and its aetiology

Epidemiological Surveillance: The constant collection of samples and information, their comparison and their testing in order to diagnose the animal's health condition.

Isolation: Restrict the transportation of animals that are sick or suspected to be infected by any of the contagious, epidemic or common diseases in certain zone. Prohibit, as well, their mingling with other healthy animals.

Animal's Owner: The animal's owner, holder, guardian or the one in charge of raising and tutoring it.

Animal Products: All the eatable part of animals such as: red and white meat, fresh, cured, chilled, frozen, smoked and processed fish meat, meat powder, fish powder, fresh, dried and concentrated dairy and dairy products, spermatozoa animals, embryos, animal gelatin and eggs whether for consumption, incubation or scientific purposes.

Animal Wastes: All the uneatable parts of animals such as: blood, horns, hooves, hair, fleece, skins, fur, feather, animal manure, faeces, bones, intestines, stomach, rumens, aborted embryos, animal remains used in manure, fins, fish bones, bones powder and shells.

Article 2

The present Law shall aim at maintaining the animal's health during the implementation of the program on the prevention and control of animal diseases.

Chapter 2

Animal Diseases Reporting

Article 3

The animal's owner shall, whenever noticing, suspecting or being notified of the animal's disease, report said incident to the Ministry, the Competent Authority or the Police Station, and said animal shall also be examined by a veterinarian. Both the owner and the veterinarian shall immediately report any of the diseases mentioned in the table annexed to this Law to any of the abovementioned authorities.

Article 4

The Competent Authority and the Police Station that received the notification, abovementioned in article 3 herein, shall also notify the Ministry of the disease with 24 hours, mentioning therein the owner's Location and address.

The Ministry shall immediately verify the validity of said notification.

Article 5

The Minister shall issue a decision on declaring any infected zone. Said zone shall not be considered as a Disease-Free one until the Minister issue a decision on this matter.

Article 6

The health conditions of animals is prohibited to be unveiled by the Media without having the Minister's approval on said matter.

Article 7

The Ministry or the Competent Authority shall, upon their notification, notify the Health Authority in order to take the necessary procedures and measures if any of the common diseases emerges.

Chapter 3

Prevention Procedures for Animal Diseases

Article 8

The Ministry shall perform the following tasks in cooperation with the Competent Authority:

- 1- To proceed with the Epidemiological Surveillance Program, to do the necessary tests to diagnose the diseases and to apply the required health procedures.
- 2- To raise awareness of animal diseases, their prevention and their control.
- 3- To set a program including the list of diseases requiring immunization, as well as the required prevention and health procedures.
- 4- To set up a data on livestock and number it.
- 5- To immunize animals against diseases and allow others to do so provided that they are medically supervised.

Chapter 4

Control of Animal Diseases

Article 9

The Ministry, The Competent Authority or the Police Station- depending on the circumstances- shall take the necessary procedures stipulated in the implementing regulation of this Law, upon detecting an infected zone.

Article 10

- 1- The animals that are sick or suspected to be infected by any of the contagious, epidemic or common diseases in the zones defined by the Ministry or the Competent

Authority, shall be isolated. Their owner may not dispose of them unless having both approvals of the Ministry and the Authority.

The animal's owner shall bare all the food expenses during the isolation period.

2- If the animals mentioned in the previous clause are deemed as healthy after the end of the observation period defined by the Ministry or the Competent Authority, the owner shall get them back within two weeks from the date of notification of the Authorities, in writing. Otherwise, said animals may be sold and the necessary expenses may be deducted from the price.

Article 11

It shall be prohibited to send pathological samples outside the country or import them or do scientific tests on animals without having the prior approval of the Ministry.

Article 12

The Ministry or the Competent Authority shall order to safely dispose of the animal that was proved infected of a contagious, epidemic or common disease. The owner shall have no right to keep it unless its meat is valid for human consumption. Therefore, said it shall be delivered to him.

Article 13

It shall be prohibited to trade or dispose of animals that are sick or suspected to be infected, or their products and wastes. It shall also be prohibited to transfer them from a zone to another without both approvals of the Ministry and the Competent Authority.

Article 14

It shall be prohibited to dispose of dead or slaughtered animals, or any parts thereof on the roads, outdoors, in water sources or nearby, sewage, ponds, dams, valleys and regional water of the country. The implementing regulation of this Law shall define the disposal process of dead animals.

Article 15

If the animal dies because of his disease, the governmental veterinarian or the veterinarian shall immediately issue the necessary instructions to safely dispose of the

dead animal, its wastes or any tools and items related thereto, according to the provisions of the implementing regulation of this Law.

Article 16

The governmental veterinarian shall take the following procedures:

- 1- To reserve the animal that is sick or suspected to be infected, its wastes or any tools and items used for its service.
- 2- To prohibit the sale, transport or exchange of any products coming from sick animals or the ones suspected to be infected.
- 3- To examine any animal, immunize it and take samples to do the test he deems to be appropriate as he may enter any establishment for said purpose.
- 4- To apply the health procedures on the establishment where the sick animal or the one suspected to be infected is present.
- 5- To ensure that sterilization operations are being held well.
- 6- Any other procedures prescribed by the implementing regulation of this Law.

Chapter 5

Penalties

Article 17

Without prejudice to any more severe penalty provided for in any other law:

- 1- Whoever violates any provision of articles 6, 10, 11 and 13 herein shall be imprisoned or pay a fine of minimum (10. 000) ten thousand AED and maximum (300.000) three hundred thousand AED, or shall subject to one of said penalties.
- 2- Whoever violates any provision of articles 3 herein shall pay a fine of minimum (3000) three thousand AED and maximum (50.000) fifty thousand AED.
- 3- Whoever violates any provision of articles 14 herein shall pay a fine of minimum (1000) one thousand AED and maximum (5000) five thousand AED.

Chapter 6

General Provisions

Article 18

The governmental veterinarians or the staff of the Ministry or the Competent Authority appointed by a decision of the Minister of justice in accordance with the Minister and the Competent Authority, shall have the capacity of judicial officers, each within his competence, to detect all violations to the provisions of the law and its implementing regulations and decisions.

Article 19

The Minister shall amend the table annexed to this Law, and add or remove any of the present diseases.

Article 20

The Cabinet shall issue the regulation of administrative penalties prescribed for the violators of any provision herein.

Article 21

The Cabinet shall issue the Implementing Regulation of this Law¹ within six months from the date of publication of the Official Gazette.

Article 22

Every provision contradicting or contravening with the provisions hereof shall be abrogated.

Article 23

This Law shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall come into force after six months from the date of publication thereof.

Issued in the Presidential Palace in Abu Dhabi
On 16 Dhi Al-Hijjah 1434 H
Corresponding to 21 October 2013

Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan
President of the United Arab Emirates

The present Federal Law was published in the Official Gazette, issue no. 555 p. 17.

The Implementing Regulation of this Law was issued by virtue of Cabinet Decision No.25/2014 dated 17/7/2014 ¹ published in Official Gazette No. 567 P. 45. Mention is in order.

**Table of the Diseases that shall be reported and the Appendix attached to Federal
Law No. 8 of 2013 On the Prevention and Control of Contagious and Epidemic
Animal Diseases**

- 1- African Horse Sickness.
- 2- Dourine.
- 3- Glanders.
- 4- Equine Encephalomyelitis.
- 5- Equine Viral Arteritis.
- 6- Equine Infectious Anaemia.
- 7- Contagious Equine Metritis.
- 8- Equine Influenza.
- 9- Equine Rhinopneumonitis
- 10- Japanese Encephalitis
- 11- Surra (Trypanosoma Evansi)
- 12- West Nile Fever
- 13- Vesicular Stomatitis
- 14- Leptospirosis
- 15- Paratuberculosis
- 16- Rabies
- 17- Anthrax
- 18- Foot and Mouth Disease
- 19- Lumpy skin disease
- 20- Blue tongue
- 21- Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
- 22- Contagious Pleuropneumonia
- 23- Rinderpest
- 24- Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) or Ovine Rinderpest
- 25- Rift Valley Fever

- 26- Brucellosis
- 27- Sheep & Goat Pox
- 28- Tuberculosis
- 29- Scrapie
- 30- Screwworm
- 31- Newcastle Disease
- 32- Avian Influenza
- 33- Infectious Laryngotracheitis
- 34- Fowl cholera
- 35- Fowl Typhoid
- 36- Leishmaniasis in canine
- 37- Q fever
- 38- Camel pox

A new paragraph was added under No. 39 by virtue of Article 1 of the Ministerial Decision No. 275/2017 dated 29/06/2017, as follows:

- 39- Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever.

