

Vanuatu implements the ASYCUDA Sanitary and Phytosanitary Module

The Government of Vanuatu (GoV) has made improving trade facilitation a key objective in order to surmount its challenging conditions, such as small size and geographical distance from the main world markets. Vanuatu has consistently ranked among the top Pacific countries in the World Bank Group's "Ease of Doing Business," and GoV looks to move higher up in the ranking by improving its "Trading Across Borders" indicators with the establishment of Vanuatu's ASYCUDA-based Electronic Single Window System (ESWS).

Vanuatu is an agriculture-based economy with the sector contributing 15% of overall GDP and 80% of the population depending on subsistence farming. The remoteness of Vanuatu, like other Pacific island countries and territories, has led to formation of unique natural landscapes and ecosystems and development of endemic species that allowed the country to offer niche products derived from cocoa, copra, sandalwood, beef and kava, among others. Any disturbance, such as introduction of invasive alien species and habitat loss due to climate change, poses a threat to the sustainability of Vanuatu's ecosystem and economy.

Biosecurity Vanuatu is a department under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, Fisheries and Biosecurity (MALFFB) and plays the key role in managing risks to protect Vanuatu's health, environment, economy and industries from exotic pests and pathogens entering, establishing and spreading in the country. Working closely with the Department of Customs and Inland Revenue (DCIR) and other border agencies, Biosecurity has been critical in trade facilitation and export promotion. In 2018, Biosecurity processed sanitary or phytosanitary certification for up to 89% of total crops and animal products exports. For imports, Biosecurity controls commodities that require permits after Pest Risk Analysis (PRA) and Disease Risk Analysis (DRA) to protect the country.

Biosecurity benefits from the ESWS project funded by the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) and Australia's Governance for Growth (GfG) programme to establish a robust Sanitary

and Phytosanitary Standards (SPS)/Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) architecture, noting that SPS and TBT play an important role in determining the speed of sea and air freight clearance.

The 24th of March 2020 marked an important milestone as Vanuatu officially launched and rolled out the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (ASYSPS) module developed by UNCTAD, the ESWS Project Team and Biosecurity that would streamline and automate the application, processing, payment and issuance of SPS import permits and export certificates.

Prior to exporting live animals or animal products, the Exporter (or their Agent) should apply for a Live Animal Health Certificate (for live animals – Picture 21) or Veterinary Health Certificate (for animal products) through the ESWS and attach all relevant supporting documents, usually an Import Permit from the country of destination. Prior to importing live animals or animal products, the Importer (or their Agent) should apply for a Live Animal Import Permit (for live animals) or Sanitary Import Permit (for animal products – Picture 22) and attach the required documents.

After the application is submitted electronically, the relevant Biosecurity officer would receive an email alert to verify the application. The officer can either i) return the application if there is a query or request for additional information; ii) modify the application; iii) reject the application or iv) accept the application.

After accepting the application, it is then elevated to the relevant higher authority (Plant Expert, Plant Inspectors, Senior Veterinary Officer, or Veterinary Officers). Where inspections are required and conducted, the results are recorded in the system against the application.

Once the application is approved and finalized, the payment is also collected and recorded in the ESWS. Like the ASYCUDAWorld payment modalities, the system accepts payments per application, prepayment or deferred payment. Paid applications can be printed or downloaded. The printouts of Export Certificates conform to the format required by Vanuatu's major trading

partners, such as Australia, New Zealand and New Caledonia.

In a month, 400 applications were processed and over 22'000 USD were collected.

BIOSECURITY VANUATU
Live Animal Health Certificate

1. Office: BVHQ BIOSECURITY OFF 1. Registration Reference: 2020 35 2. Registration Date: 09/03/2020

3. EXPORTER: TIN: [blank] Name: ROGER PHILLIPS Address: PORT VILA
 EXPORTING TO: Name: ROGER PHILLIPS Address: BRISBANE AUSTRALIA Destination Country: AU

Category type: EX03 LIVE ANIMALS Application type: Commercial Personal
 Credit/Prepayment account: [blank] Means of Conveyance: 4 Air Transport
 Import Permit N°: [blank] Point of Entry: AUBNE BRISBANE
 Point of Exit: VUVLI PORT VILA

#	Tariff Code	Goods Description	Breed	Name	Age	Sex	Qty	Desc.	Microchip	Country of...
1	EA0301	Cat - Live Animals	ISLAND	TOM	1 YEAR	MALE	1	BLACK AND WHITE	2513	Vanuatu

16. Prepared by: Vicky Tolish Submitted on: 09/03/2020
 17. REMARKS: [blank]

Picture 21. Live Animal Health Certificate

BIOSECURITY VANUATU
Sanitary Import Permit

1. Office: BVHQ BIOSECURITY OFF 1. Registration Reference: 2020 16 2. Registration Date: 02/03/2020

3. IMPORTER: TIN: [blank] Name: MARIA BOE Address: GRAY INVESTMENT PORT VILA VANUATU
 EXPORTER: Name: TEGEL FOODS Address: AUCKLAND NEW ZELAND Exporting Country: NZ

Category type: IM02 ANIMAL PRODUCTS Application type: Commercial Personal
 Credit/Prepayment account: [blank] Vessel/Aircraft name: AIR VANUATU NF051
 Estimated Date of Arrival: 17/03/2020 Means of Conveyance: 4 Air Transport
 Point of Exit: NZAKL AUCKLAND Point of Entry: VUVLI PORT VILA

#	Tariff Code	Goods Description	Pck. Nbr	Pck. Type	Wgt	Qty	Country of Origin
1	IA0027	Cheese and Churd - Dairy Products	5	21	105.0	50.0	New Zealand

Total Packages: 5 Total Weight: 105.0 Kg

16. Prepared by: Marie Noella Seru Submitted on: 02/03/2020
 17. REMARKS: [blank]

Picture 22. Sanitary Import Permit

GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU
BIOSECURITY VANUATU
 BIOSECURITE DE VANUATU
 PMB 9006 Port Vila, TEL: (678) 33580
 PO Box 27, Santo - Tel: (678) 33818
IMPORT PERMIT
 208V/HQSIPO016

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PERSONAL IMPORT PERMIT FOR ANIMAL PRODUCTS

Importer Name MARIA ROE	Suppliers Detail TIGEL FOODS	Due Date 2020-04-02
Address GRAY INVESTMENT PORT VILA VANUATU	Address AUCKLAND NEW ZEALAND	Port of Arrival PORT VILA
		Means of Transport Air Transport Vessel/Aircraft name:

DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS/DESCRIPTION DES ARTICLES

Description	Quantity	Weight	Country of origin
Cheese and Chard - Dairy Products	5 Cartons	105.0 Kgs	New Zealand

This import permit is issued subject to the attached conditions.
 Upon arrival the material will be inspected and any consignment found to be non-compliant with the specified conditions may be seized, treated, destroyed or reexported at the importer's expense.
 Biosecurity Vanuatu reserves the right to revoke this permit or change the import conditions at any time without prior notice.

Name of Authorizing Officer / Nom de l'agent Autorise: Juma Station
 Designation: AUTHORIZING OFFICER
 Date: 02/02/2020
 Signature: _____
 Stain / Cachet: 

THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT GUARANTEE FREE ENTRY AND OTHER PRIVILEGES WITHOUT INSPECTION AT PORT OF ENTRY.
 CE CERTIFICAT NE GARANTIT PAS D'UNE INSPECTION DES ARTICLES AU PORT D'ENTREE.

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BIOSECURITY VANUATU
 BIOSECURITE DE VANUATU
 PMB 9006 Port Vila, TEL: (678) 33519 / (678) 33580
 P O Box 27, Santo - Tel: (678) 33818 / (678) 36223
 Email: biosecurity@vanuatu.gov.tu

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IMPORT CONDITIONS FOR ANIMAL PRODUCTS - PERSONAL CONSIGNMENTS

Below are the products allowed for importation under this permit and the countries from where they originate.

Product	Permitted countries of origin
Pork, raw	Australia, New Caledonia, New Zealand
Pork, cooked, smoked, cured	Australia, New Caledonia, New Zealand, France
Beef, raw	Australia, New Zealand, New Caledonia
Beef, cooked	Australia, New Caledonia, New Zealand, France
Poultry, raw and cooked	Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, New Caledonia
Sheep meat (cooked and uncooked)	Australia, Fiji, New Zealand
Fish and seafood (cooked and uncooked)	All countries
Dairy products (pasteurised)	Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, New Caledonia, EU
Dairy products (un-pasteurised)	Australia, New Caledonia
Vegetarian (cooked and uncooked)	Australia, New Caledonia, New Zealand
Rabbit (cooked and uncooked)	Australia, New Caledonia, New Zealand, EU

The importation of the items specified above is subject to the following conditions:

- 1) All products must be commercially purchased, packaged and sealed, and shall be labelled by the manufacturer clearly stating the contents and country from which the product originates.
- 2) The country of origin as detailed on the packaging must be declared when applying for this permit.
- 3) The total quantity of IMPORTED PRODUCT(S) allowed per person shall NOT exceed FIVE (5) kilograms. Excess amounts of product will be seized and DESTROYED.
- 4) A copy of this permit must accompany the imports when they are presented for inspection upon arrival by a Biosecurity officer.
- 5) The product must be for personal consumption ONLY and not intended for sale.
- 6) This permit is valid for one (1) month from date of issue.
- 7) Biosecurity Vanuatu reserves the right to detain, sample, treat or destroy any goods that they consider to constitute a quarantine risk.

Biosecurity Vanuatu reserves the right to change the conditions of this approval or revoke it without prior notice.

Picture 23. Sanitary Import Permit Printout (Pages 1 & 2)