

## Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

### Trader Notice No MH 04/2023

#### **To: All Food Business Operators at Approved Meat Establishments** **Subject: Resumption of Trade and Revisions to the Export of Poultrymeat to South Africa**

#### **Background**

Agreement was reached with the South African authorities on a revised Veterinary Health Certificate (VHC) for the export of poultrymeat from Ireland to South Africa in February 2019. In connection with the resumption of trade, the South African authorities have made further revision to the eligibility of poultry products for export.

#### **Eligibility**

Ireland must be currently free from HPAI to export eligible poultry product to South Africa and poultry products will only be accepted where the production date is on or after 21 December 2022.

All meat exports to South Africa must originate from poultry that were hatched and reared in the Republic of Ireland and slaughtered in the Republic of Ireland. The revised agreed VHC **excludes** poultrymeat hatched reared or slaughtered in Northern Ireland. The meat must be handled/cut/packed at an abattoir and cutting plant which has been advised by DAFF to the National Executive Officer of South Africa who approves and lists the plants.

#### **Veterinary Health Certificate**

Copies of the revised VHC will be made available to Veterinary Inspectors at the eligible plants through the usual channels, on request.

**A specimen copy of the bilateral VHC, which is effective immediately, is published concurrently with this notice.**

#### **Role of Plant Management**

If plant management wish to supply the South African market, they must advise the Veterinary Inspector in advance and draw up / amend a Standard Operating Procedure, in consultation with the Veterinary Inspector. The SOP must contain the criteria necessary for certification of the product for South Africa. A note for exporters of the main requirements for this market is available from Meat Market Access ([meatmarketaccess@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:meatmarketaccess@agriculture.gov.ie)).

This Trader Notice updates MH8/2019. Trader notice number MH 08/2020 is also updated in so far as the South African ban on fresh poultrymeat refers.

Meat Market Access  
09 May 2023