



Reference: SADC dogs and cats

Taking pet dogs and cats to SADC countries – Zimbabwe, Malawi, Botswana, Swaziland and Lesotho

If your situation differs in any way from the proposed process, or if you have information from the veterinary authority of the importing country that differs from the process described below please contact your local state veterinarian to discuss the matter.

Exporters are advised to verify the requirements of the importing country by contacting the veterinary authorities, or their representatives in South Africa, in advance of each consignment

Requirements

- A valid rabies vaccination (see table below or discuss with your private veterinarian)

For a vaccination to be valid a veterinarian registered with the South African veterinary council has to take responsibility for the vaccination. Proof in the form of a vaccination certificate that complies with the rules published under the Veterinary and Para Veterinary Act 19 of 1982 and its amendments.			
Primary Vaccination		Revaccination	
Time of vaccination	Validity of immunity	Time of revaccination	Validity of immunity
3 months or younger	Vaccination of the mother against rabies at least 30 days but not longer than 12 months prior to giving birth	Not applicable	Only up to 3 months of age
3 months and older	<u>Dog & cat</u> : One year beginning 30 days after date of vaccination.	Before validity of immunity expires	<u>Dog</u> : 3 years after date of revaccination. <u>Cat</u> : one year after date of revaccination.

- A health check within 7 days of crossing the border
- A microchip is not mandatory but is highly recommended
- Proof of any of the requirements contained on the export certificate may be requested. For example a proof of address of origin and destination, an affidavit from the owner of the dam stating that the dam gave birth to the puppies in question, certified copies of the dam's vaccination books etc.

Procedure

- Your pet should be taken to your local private veterinarian for a health check.
- Your veterinarian should complete an Inter-territorial Movement permit which functions as a combined import /export certificate and health certificate. Blank forms may be obtained on the department website www.elsenburg.com.

- The signed Inter-territorial Movement permit as well as your pet's vaccination booklet and microchipping certificate (if applicable) should be brought to the SV office for certification. You should also have your driver's licence or ID book available.
- There is no charge for this certificate issued for SADC countries.
- Any other queries can be directed to the State Veterinarian on duty via the contact details on the department website.