



## MINISTRY OF HEALTH

### REQUIREMENTS FOR HEALTH CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE FOR FOOD PRODUCTS

1. These **requirements are for the issuance of a Health Clearance Certificate** by the Ministry of Health- HQ
2. The Ministry is the **first point of contact** before any other permit is issued by other Ministries/Agencies on the Import, Transit, and Exports of food products

#### Scope of foods requiring health clearance Certificate

- Cereal/grain and their products
- Fruits and vegetables(fresh/dried), including tubers
- Meat and meat products
- Milk and milk products
- Fish and fish products
- Sea foods
- Water
- Packaged drinking water
- Non Alcoholic beverages
- Alcoholic beverages
- Sugar and sweeteners
- All Candy/sweets
- Food ingredients
- Additives
- Cooking oils, sauces, spices, dressings
- Food packaging material and
- All other foods meant for human consumption

#### A. REQUIREMENTS FOR IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

**\*Transit requirements are based on Requirements of Importing Country**

1. Application letter addressed to the Permanent Secretary- Technical Services with the following **mandatory** details;
  - a. Date of application
  - b. Postal Address of the applicant and physical business place
  - c. Reason for application(import, export or transit)
  - d. State product description( generic name, brand/trade name- clear label to be in English as first language and any other language to be in smaller font)

- e. Indicate packaging unit
- f. State quantities to be imported in 6 months
- g. State country of origin (where product was manufactured/processed)
- h. Name of the applicant and signature
- i. Contact numbers in case of inquiries (include mobile numbers)

## **2. Attachments: Mandatory**

- a. A certificate of analysis from an accredited food safety laboratory in the country of origin
- b. Certificate should indicate Microbiological and Chemical Analysis results

### **For meat, fish and their products, the following tests shall be conducted:**

- Microbiology
- Veterinary drug residues tests
- Formaldehyde
- Heavy metals
- Aflatoxins

### **Cereal /grains and their products**

- Microbiology
- Aflatoxins
- Heavy metals
- Pesticides residues

### **Fruits and vegetables**

- pesticide residues
- Microbiology
- Patulin for apples
- Heavy metals

### **Non-Alcoholic beverages**

- Microbiology
- Pesticide residues
- Heavy metals

### **Alcoholic beverages**

- Microbiology
- Pesticide residues
- Heavy metals

### **Water**

Chemical and Microbiology in accordance with WHO/Zambian Standard on drinking water

## **Salt**

Iodine content and other requirements as stipulated in Regulations

## **Sugar**

- Vitamin A Fortification for domestic consumption
- pesticide residues
- Heavy metals

## **Spices, sauces**

- pesticide residues
- Heavy metals
- Microbiology

**All other food products to have laboratory analysis report from manufacturers**

Health Certificate or Conformity assessment Certificate from the exporting country

## **B. REQUIREMENTS FOR HEALTH CLEARANCE OF LOCALLY MANUFACTURED FOOD PRODUCTS**

1. Application letter addressed to the Permanent Secretary- Technical Services with the following **mandatory** details;

- a. Date of application
- b. Postal Address of the applicant and physical business place
- c. Reason for application(, manufacturing, placing on the market, packaging, advertising)
- d. State product description( generic name, brand/trade name)
- e. Clear label to be in English as first language and any other language to be in smaller font)
- f. Indicate packaging unit
- g. Submit physical samples and label for clearance
- h. State country of origin (where product was manufactured/processed)
- i. Name of the applicant and signature
- j. Contact numbers in case of inquiries (include mobile numbers)
- k. Health inspection Report from the Local Authority or Ministry of Health Inspector
- l. Health permit from the local Authority

### **2. Attachments: Mandatory**

A certificate of analysis from an accredited food safety laboratory

- c. Certificate should indicate Microbiological and Chemical Analysis results

**For meat, fish and their products, the following tests shall be conducted:**

- Microbiology
- Veterinary drug residues tests
- Formaldehyde

- Heavy metals
- Aflatoxins

### **Cereal /grains and their products**

- Microbiology
- Aflatoxins
- Heavy metals
- Pesticides residues

### **Fruits and vegetables**

- pesticide residues
- Microbiology
- Patulin for apples
- Heavy metals

### **Non-Alcoholic beverages**

- Microbiology
- Pesticide residues
- Heavy metals

### **Alcoholic beverages**

- Microbiology
- Pesticide residues
- Heavy metals

### **Water**

Chemical and Microbiology in accordance with WHO/Zambian Standard on drinking water

### **Salt**

Iodine content and other requirements as stipulated in Regulations

### **Sugar**

- Vitamin A Fortification for domestic consumption
- pesticide residues
- Heavy metals

### **Spices, sauces**

- pesticide residues
- Heavy metals
- Microbiology

**All other food products to have laboratory analysis report from manufacturers**



**REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

**HEALTH CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE APPLICATION FORM FOR TRANSIT,  
IMPORTS AND EXPORTS**

**Application details**

1. Date of application.....
2. Period of application .....
3. Name of the applicant (person/ company).....
4. Address of the applicant.....
5. Phone / Email Address of the applicant.....
6. Purpose of the goods being imported/exported/transited: Personal consumption/  
ingredients/ placing on market for sale
7. Country of origin.....
8. Country of manufacture.....
9. Name of the Distributor.....
10. Amount intended to be imported/exported/transited per six  
month.....
11. Amount intended to be imported/ exported per consignment (**fill in the table at end of the  
application. Print and attach to application**)

**12. Requirements (mark)**

- 12.1 Manufacturers certificate of analysis:
- 12.2 Health clearance certificate from the country of origin:
- 12.3 Indicate the form of transport:
- 12.4 Conditions of transport / storage:

13. Name of Port of entry into/out of Zambia.....
14. Proposed date of the arrival of the consignment.....
15. Signature of authorized applicant.....

**For Official Use Only**

**Application Received by:**

Name.....

Title.....

Signature.....

**Application Checked by:**

Name.....

Title.....

Signature.....

**Application Recommended by:**

Name.....

Title.....

Signature.....

**Application approved by:**

Name.....

Title.....

Signature.....

**Identification of food products as described above**

No.	Name/trade name of the product	Quantity to be imported per consignment	Country of Origin	Temperatures for preservation (products requiring Cold Chain)	Expiry/Best before date
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### **C. APPLICABLE LAWS TO BE COMPLIED WITH FOR ISSUANCE OF HEALTH CERTIFICATES/PERMITS**

1. The Food Safety Act No.7 of 2019 enforced by the Ministry of Health;
2. Animal Health Act No. 27 of 2010 enforced by the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock;
1. Plant Pests and Diseases Control Act Cap 233 enforced by the Ministry of
2. Agriculture (Plant Quarantine and Phytosanitary);
3. Biosafety Act No. 10 of enforced by National Biosafety Authority
4. Control of Goods Act Cap 421, Volume 23 enforced by the Ministry
5. of Agriculture (Department of Agri-Business);

***Note: Acts can be downloaded from the National Assembly website- go to the laws of Zambia***