



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture

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Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Water and the Environment

DETERMINATION OF A RECOGNISED FOREIGN GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATE

Imported Food Control Act 1992, subsection 18(1)

I, Ms Vikki Fischer, Assistant Secretary, Pathway Policy – Travellers, Mail and Imported Food, acting pursuant to subsection 18(1) of the *Imported Food Control Act 1992* determine that a certificate issued by the Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation (Ministry of Agriculture and Food) of France stating that food of the kind specified below meets applicable standards and does not pose a risk to human health, is a recognised foreign government certificate.

This determination applies to certificates relating to the following kinds of food:

- Roquefort cheese

This certificate is valid until 10 January 2022, unless earlier revoked.

Dated 7 July 2021

s 47F(1)

Ms Vikki Fischer

Delegate for the purposes of section 18 of the *Imported Food Control Act 1992*

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND THE ENVIRONMENT

To: Ms Vikki Fischer (For Decision)

FOREIGN CERTIFICATION ARRANGEMENT FOR FRENCH RAW MILK CHEESE

Timing: 3 August 2021

Recommendation/s:

1. That you sign the administrative arrangement for the 'recognition of food inspection and certification systems covering Roquefort **s 22(1)(a)(ii)** raw milk cheeses exported from France to Australia', in two copies, English version (Attachment A) and French version (Attachment B).

Signed / Not Signed

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Noted

3. That you sign the letter (Attachment D) to **s 47F(1)** Director General of Food at the French Ministry of Agriculture and Food, requesting he signs the administrative arrangement for the 'recognition of food inspection and certification systems covering Roquefort **s 22(1)(a)(ii)** raw milk cheeses exported from France to Australia', in two copies, the English version (Attachment A) and French version (Attachment B).

Signed / Not Signed

Ms Vikki Fischer: **s 47F(1)**

Date: 3/8/2021

Comments:

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Key Points:

1. The Imported Food section has completed equivalence assessments for Roquefort ^{s 22(1)(a)(ii)} raw milk cheeses and determined that France's regulatory systems for the production and processing of raw milk cheese provides an equivalent food safety outcome to the regulatory systems in Australia.
2. Equivalence assessments were undertaken based on information provided by the French Ministry of Agriculture and Food for each criterion specified in the application documents.
3. A new health certificate covering the export of Roquefort **s 22(1)(a)(ii)** raw milk cheeses has been negotiated with the French Ministry of Agriculture and Food, in consultation with Animal Biosecurity branch. The health certificate covers animal health and food safety requirements.
4. The current administrative arrangement which covers exports of Roquefort has been revised and updated **s 22(1)(a)(ii)** and is supported by the French Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

Next steps

5. The updated administrative arrangement between the department and the French Ministry of Agriculture and Food, which includes the new health certificate at Annex A (Attachment C), is drafted in English and in French (Attachment A and B) to be signed in Canberra and in Paris (on 3 August 2021). A letter from yourself to **s 47F(1)** Director General of Food at the French Ministry of Agriculture and Food to formalise the arrangement is attached (Attachment D) for your signing.

Farmer/Stakeholder Implications:

6. Nil

s 47F(1)

Clearing Officer: Vikki Fischer
 Assistant Secretary
 Biosecurity Operations Division
 Ph: 02 6272 5310

Mob: **s 47F(1)**

3 /08/2021

Contact Officer: **s 22(1)(a)(ii)**
 Imported Food
 Ph: **s 22(1)(a)(ii)**

ATTACHMENTS

- A: Administrative arrangement - English version
- B: Administrative arrangement - French version
- C: Annex A – Health certificate for the export of raw milk cheeses (Roquefort **s 22(1)(a)(ii)**) from France to Australia
- D: Letter to **s 47F(1)** Directeur Général de l'Alimentation

PP Cargo & Conveyances – PP Travellers, Mail & Imported Foods - Clearance Sheet

Document Login#

AS 0059

FAS.....

To: (please circle)

Vikki

Colin

Title	Raw milk cheese certification – Roquefort s 22(1)(a)(ii)		
Contact Officer	s 22(1)(a)(ii)	Extension	X25410
Through (Director)	s 22(1)(a)(ii)	Signature	s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Action (for):	<input type="checkbox"/> Information <input type="checkbox"/> Note Approve <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____		
Priority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urgent (same day) <input type="checkbox"/> High (3 days) <input type="checkbox"/> Medium (5 days) <input type="checkbox"/> Low		
Date In AS			
Date In FAS	Final due date:		

Clearance

Title	Name	Signature	Date
Director	s 22(1)(a)(ii)	s 22(1)(a)(ii)	2 / 8 / 2021
Assistant Secretary	Vikki Fischer	s 47F(1)	2 / 8 / 2021
First Assistant Secretary	Colin Hunter		/ / 2021

Comments

Attachments A and B – sign and date on last page

Attachment D – letter to sign and date

Once signed, I will send the package to Brussels Post who are organising signing of the arrangement in Paris on Tuesday 3 August (local time).

Thank you

Feedback

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Australian Government
**Department of Agriculture,
Water and the Environment**

**DETERMINATION OF A RECOGNISED FOREIGN GOVERNMENT
CERTIFICATE**

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This determination applies to certificates relating to the following kinds of food:

s 22(1)(a)(ii)
- Roquefort cheese

This certificate is valid until 3 August 2026, unless earlier revoked.

Dated 10 December 2021

s 47F(1)

Ms Vikki Fischer
Acting delegate for the purposes of section 18 of the *Imported Food Control Act 1992*