



AQIS Requirements for Foreign Government Vessels Invoking Sovereign Immunity

This document sets out the procedures for the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) requirements for quarantine clearance of foreign Government vessels invoking sovereign immunity rights entering Australian ports. All vessels invoking sovereign immunity rights must comply with these requirements. Vessels invoking sovereign immunity rights, can not be boarded for the purpose of a government carrying out a full vessel inspection.

Requirement 1 - Quarantine Pre-Arrival Reporting

- All vessels must submit to AQIS a Quarantine Pre-Arrival Report for Vessels Pratique (QPAR) in accordance with the *Quarantine Act 1908* – section 27A. The Additional QPAR for Cruise Liners and Navy Vessels and AQIS Vessel Plant Log must also be submitted 12-96 hours prior to arrival.
- Commanding Officers of each vessel claiming sovereign immunity must certify to AQIS on arrival that:
 - the galley areas and dry stores are hygienic and free of infestations;
 - that waste is stored appropriately (i.e. in bags/bins and not exposed);
 - whether there are any dry stores on the vessel from the countries listed as being at risk from *Trogoderma species* (as per AQIS [ICON](#) case for celery seed or Attachment 1 current at August 2008); and
 - that crew are aware of AQIS's requirements to not remove any food products, plant or animal material from the vessel and that targeted gangway watches of the vessel may occur.

This declaration should be provided as a written statement on the vessel's letterhead.

AQIS will risk assess the vessel based on information provided on the QPARs and declaration and will advise the vessel's agent of any further conditions and/or measures placed on the vessel (e.g. whether or not the vessel has AQIS permission to discharge ballast water) on the Approval to Berth.

Requirement 2 - Quarantine Documents Required by AQIS upon Arrival

- All vessels must submit the AQIS Ballast Water Management Summary (Form 026) and other appropriate vessel papers (e.g. Certificate of Freedom from Gypsy Moth Certificates and Ship Sanitation Certificate) to a quarantine officer upon arrival at the port briefing.

The vessel will be issued a Certificate of Pratique and the Commanding Officer informed of AQIS's requirements regarding waste removal and quarantine intervention of crew and passengers that will occur wharf side during the vessel's stay in port.

Requirement 3 - Quarantine Waste Bins Used by Vessels at All Intended Ports of Call

- Sovereign immunity vessels, or their Australian agents, are required to provide adequate quarantine waste bins at all Australian ports where the vessel intends to visit.

Where a waste contractor's bin meets AQIS standards (providing effective waste handling, security and transport), the vessel may use these bins with all charging arrangements managed between the agent, vessel and/or contractor.

Requirement 4 - Treatment of the Quarantine Waste Coming Off the Vessel

- As the disease/pest status of the galley and provision areas are not known by AQIS, all waste being removed from the vessel must be treated as high risk quarantine waste, in accordance with AQIS requirements, taking into account specific port capabilities and infrastructure.
- Full AQIS supervision will apply to all vessel waste as it is removed from vessel to barge (if applicable), and to the wharf side collection point. In circumstances whereby a vessel is at anchor and a barge is used to transfer waste to shore and where front-loading lift bin type receptacles are used, receptacles must be lockable and be kept locked during transfer.
- If crew intend to remove waste, AQIS must supervise the removal of the waste.
- All waste must be double bagged prior to being removed from the vessel.

Where the integrity of the receptacles has been compromised or there is an identifiable risk such as:

- non-cosmopolitan insects or insects of an unknown species are sighted on or near waste;
- waste is not doubled bagged;
- bags containing waste are damaged; or
- the vessel has a history of insect related problems eg. *Trogoderma*,

The following treatment will apply:

- (a) Waste collected off sovereign immunity vessels will be sprayed with an insecticide aerosol spray. Spray will be applied to the top of the quarantine waste and all external and internal surfaces of the bin. For very large volumes of waste the vessel's master will be encouraged to use industrial style spraying devices in lieu of a pressure pack spray and / or engage a pest controller to undertake required treatment.
- (b) If a quarantinable pest is identified the further removal of waste from the vessel will cease pending treatment of landed waste in an approved quarantine manner such as fumigation.

All costs associated with the treatment and/or destruction of any quarantine waste being removed from the vessel will be at the expense of the vessel or their Australian agent.

Requirement 5 - Increased Gangway Watch of Disembarking Crew

- While the vessel is in port, any baggage carried off the vessel by officers, crew and/or visitors to the vessel will be subject to quarantine intervention as they disembark the vessel.

Any non-compliance with quarantine requirements will result in increased mandatory gangway watches and monitoring by AQIS for the duration of the vessel's stay in port. Any additional activity will result in appropriate AQIS fees being applied.

All costs associated with the intervention of disembarking officers, crew and/or visitors be borne by the vessel or their Australian agent.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information relating to Australia's quarantine regulations and requirements for aircraft, vessels and military can be obtained by visiting the AQIS website at <http://www.daffa.gov.au/aqis/avm> .

Attachment 1

COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN OF DRY STORES
Countries with stored product pest (*Trogoderma sp.*) on 18 August 2008

Foreign Government vessels are to notify AQIS prior to arrival if they are carrying dry stores from one of the following countries:

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <u>South America</u> | <u>Sub Continent</u> | Guinea Bissau, Republic of |
| Uruguay | Afghanistan | Ivory Coast (Cote d'Ivoire) |
| Venezuela | Bangladesh | Kenya |
| <u>Middle East</u> | India | Lesotho |
| Bahrain | Pakistan | Liberia |
| Cyprus | Sri Lanka | Libya |
| Iran | Uzbekistan | Madagascar |
| Iraq | <u>Africa</u> | Malawi |
| Israel | Algeria | Mali |
| Jordan | Angola | Mauritania |
| Kuwait | Benin | Morocco |
| Lebanon | Burkina | Mozambique |
| Oman | Burundi | Namibia |
| Qatar | Cameroon | Niger |
| Saudi Arabia | Central African Republic | Nigeria |
| Syria | Chad | Rwanda |
| Turkey | Comoros | Senegal |
| United Arab Emirates | Congo | Sierra Leone |
| Yemen | Congo (Democratic Republic) | Somali Republic |
| <u>South and East Asia</u> | Djibouti | Sudan |
| Cambodia (Kampuchea) | Egypt | Swaziland |
| Indonesia | Equatorial Guinea | Tanzania |
| Korea, Republic of | Eritrea | Togo |
| Laos | Ethiopia | Tunisia |
| Myanmar (Burma) | Gabon | Uganda |
| Taiwan | Gambia | Zambia |
| Vietnam | Ghana | Zimbabwe |
| | Guinea | |