

Changes to exemptions from the Veterinary Medicines Regulations (VMR) for small pet animals

The VMD has made some changes to how you apply, to include:

- a new active substance in a medicine for a small pet animal that is exempt from the VMR under Schedule 6 (that is a medicine that does not have to be authorised)
- a new route of administration or target species for an active substance that is already approved

and how we assess the application.

Certain changes will be effective immediately and will apply to all applications for new active substances.

Applications

The following must now be provided when you apply to include a new active substance, or a new route of administration or target species for an active substance that is already approved in a Schedule 6 product.

You must list the Chemical Abstracts Number (CAS) number, where one is available, on your application form. This is the unique numeric identifier designating only one substance. This can be found on the safety data sheet for the chemical/active substance.

You must send your application form to the following email address:
pet.exemptions@vmd.gov.uk.

The guidance on [Exemption from authorisation for medicines for small pet animals](#) includes the application form and the list of approved active ingredients.

Assessment of active substance

The VMD considers the potential risk to the user and the environment when we assess applications. This risk assessment will now be applied to applications under the exemption scheme. As a result, warnings or restrictions may be included on the product package in addition to the current label requirements.

You do not need to provide any additional information when you apply unless we have specifically asked you to.

These changes should not cause any delays in dealing with applications.

Consolidated list of active substances

We now publish a consolidated list of approved active substances, including CAS number to ensure accurate and transparent identification of the substances. Duplicate substances under different names are now listed together with one CAS number.

These changes should not have an impact on existing products marketed under Schedule 6. However, if you think they do, you should contact the VMD as soon as possible at pet.exemptions@vmd.gov.uk.

Consultation on possible future changes to the exemptions to the VMR for medicines for small pet animals

The VMD will be proposing further changes which will affect all products covered by the Schedule 6 exemption. These will include introducing a requirement for the VMD to be notified about all Schedule 6 products marketed in the UK.

The proposal will be open to public consultation in Autumn 2020. If, following consultation, we introduce a requirement for the VMD to be notified about all Schedule 6 products marketed in the UK, there will be a transition period before notification becomes mandatory, during which companies can notify us of products on a voluntary basis.

For further information and to be included on our mailing list for updates about the scheme, email pet.exemptions@vmd.gov.uk.

Tackling impunity through the ICC

Thank you, Mr President.

Mr President, it is a pleasure to see the Prosecutor, Madame Bensouda, with us today, albeit in a slightly different format from what we are used to. I would like to thank the Prosecutor for briefing us today on her nineteenth report to the Security Council on the situation in Libya.

The United Kingdom strongly supports the work of the International Criminal Court to tackle impunity and hold accountable those responsible for the most serious crimes in Libya. The Court's work is of vital importance, especially given the continued, flagrant breaches of international humanitarian law, including the ongoing targeting of civilian infrastructure, and violations and abuses of international human rights law. It is particularly appalling, at a time when countries are facing an unprecedented shared-threat from

COVID-19, that healthcare facilities are among the civilian infrastructure, apparently, being deliberately targeted. Civilians, including migrants and refugees, are paying an unacceptable price with their lives during this conflict. The United Kingdom is clear in its view that civilians should be protected in armed conflict, and when they are targeted – including through sexual and gender-based violence – those responsible for violations of the law, should be held accountable. The United Kingdom will continue to support the ICC in the crucial role it has to play in making this happen. We welcome the progress the Prosecutor is making in her investigations, including her work on new warrants.

Mr President, The United Kingdom is grateful for the Prosecutor's updates on the cases against Mr Qadhafi, Mr Al Werfalli and Mr Al-Tuhamy. We note the rejection of Mr Qadhafi's appeal by the ICC's Appeal Chamber, when it upheld the decision of the Pre-Trial Chamber and dismissed Mr Qadhafi's admissibility challenge. We note with particular concern reports of Mr Al-Werfalli's continued involvement in serious crime three years after the first arrest warrant was issued for him.

We continue to support the Prosecutor's call for all relevant states, including states parties to the Rome Statute and non-states parties, to cooperate with the ICC in the arrest and surrender of warranted individuals.

Mr President, we note the reports of escalating violence in and around Tripoli leading to the death, injury and displacement of significant numbers of civilians. Reports of shelling and airstrikes that may constitute a violation of international humanitarian law are especially worrying. It is not acceptable that civilians, including migrants and refugees, remain at risk; this is why it is imperative that all parties cease fighting.

The United Kingdom notes the references in the Prosecutor's report once again to indiscriminate abductions, arbitrary detentions and extra-judicial killings; these are unacceptable. We are particularly concerned that MP Siham Sergewa remains missing and we are pleased that the ICC's investigations continue.

Mr President, it is clear that the ongoing conflict is having an unacceptable impact on the humanitarian and human rights situation in Libya. We continue to urge the Libyan parties to cease fighting and engage in constructive dialogue. An inclusive political solution – as set out by the Berlin Conference – offers the best hope for the stability and future prosperity that the Libyan people need and deserve. We continue to call on all parties to the conflict to comply with their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law.

Support for international criminal justice remains central to the United Kingdom's foreign policy. We continue strongly to support the mission of the ICC, including getting justice for victims, and are committed to continuing to provide our full support to the Prosecutor and her team in their ongoing investigations in Libya.

[The role of the Board of Auditors in progressing UN accountability](#)

The United Kingdom would like to thank the Board of Auditors (BOA), the UN Secretariat and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for their reports, and express its recognition of the indispensable role the BOA plays in progressing accountability across the UN system.

The BOA's independence and technical oversight role are crucial to supporting a culture of continuous improvement in the Organisation, including on transparency, efficiency, compliance and operational effectiveness. The UK is a strong supporter of UN reform and sees the BOA's recommendations and observations as playing an important role in the overall realisation of reforms across the UN system.

The UK welcomes the Board's review on UN peacekeeping and its focus on peacekeeping performance, contingent-owned equipment and the implementation of previous recommendations. We see benefit in it considering matters such as management efficiency, the implementation of the Comprehensive Performance Assessment System, and performance failings which could have a critical impact on safety and security, or on mandate delivery.

The UK considers that the Board's independence is of the utmost importance, and ensures the credibility and impartiality of their findings. And while the Secretariat and Member States retain the prerogative to disagree with these recommendations, the BOA's independence must be respected.

The UK delegation looks forward to engaging on these issues in the coming weeks and trusts that the Committee will this year support a consensual outcome.

[Supporting UN Peacekeeping](#)

The United Kingdom would like to express its deep recognition to the Fifth Committee Chair and Bureau for their hard work in continuing to service the work of the Fifth Committee in such extraordinary circumstances as we face at the current time, and also to colleagues from the Fifth Committee Secretariat, the ACABQ, and UN Secretariat for their support to our ongoing work.

The UK is committed to successful UN Peacekeeping in support of international peace and security. This requires full delivery of mandates, effective

performance, and adequate, cost-effective financing. The UK delegation looks forward to working collaboratively within the Committee in support of our responsibility to assess and take account of the evidence presented to us with regards to the budgetary and operational elements of Peacekeeping operations. In so doing, the UK will seek to ensure that the proposed resourcing supports full delivery of Peacekeeping mandates in a manner consistent with effective, efficient management of resources.

The Committee will operate against a backdrop of extraordinary circumstances, in which it will continue to negotiate remotely for all or part of the session, and in which many delegates are experiencing concern for the health or livelihoods of friends and loved ones around the world as a result of COVID-19. In this, the UK expects that the Committee will demonstrate the community spirit and strong relationships for which it is well-known.

The UK is conscious that some Peacekeeping operations and their host countries are experiencing impacts from the pandemic, and would like to pay tribute to the dedication of the uniformed and civilian personnel in responding to these difficult situations, as well to the sacrifices made by Peacekeepers in the course of their important duties.

The UK has been a strong advocate for the SG's reforms, and will continue to back effective implementation in pursuit of a high-performing, efficient, accountable, well-managed UN organisation, including through discussions in this session in which we should aim to ensure that our decisions are in the best interests of the Organisation.

The UK will continue to seek progress on priorities which support the full delivery of mandates and effective performance, including gender parity, action to address sexual exploitation & abuse and sexual harassment, gender mainstreaming, human rights, responsible management of the environment, effective use of technology, and protection of civilians. We recognise the important role that the recommendations of bodies such as the OIOS and the BOA play in supporting a culture of continuous improvement within the Organisation.

The UK previously expressed concern that in January we saw the principle of consensus-based decision-making undermined on ACABQ enlargement, on which issue no sincere attempt was made to engage in discussion within the Fifth Committee in pursuit of consensus. We look forward to the discussion this session on improving working methods in the context of enlargement. We trust that we will continue to see a renewed commitment within this Committee to the principle of consensus-based decisions going forward.

The UK expects to make rapid progress this session under the leadership and guidance of the Committee Chair, and looks forward to excellent cooperation with all member states in support of timely agreement of the necessary resources for UN Peacekeeping operations.

Preventing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

The UK would like to express its gratitude to the Secretariat for the important progress it has made on preventing sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), which rightly remains one of the top priorities of the Secretary General, and of the UN as a whole.

SEA violates the principles and values of the UN. This is why we must have zero tolerance for this behaviour from UN personnel, its peacekeepers, and from its implementing partners. We must send a collective message that those who are sent to protect people, but instead abuse their power and cause harm, will not be tolerated.

The UK delegation notably welcomes progress made towards a zero-tolerance, victim-centred, system-wide, and accountable approach to SEA, which the work of the Special Coordinator in particular helps to deliver.

The Victims' Rights Advocate and the four Field Victims' Rights Advocates are all doing vital work to support victims from the start of the case to after it is closed, and advocate on their behalf. The UK welcomes the development of the Victim Assistance Protocol and a Statement of Victims' Rights.

The UK welcomes the progress made by the Secretariat on mandatory SEA training, and improving investigations. In particular, we would like to thank OIOS for the work they are doing to reduce the length of time taken to conclude SEA investigations, and deliver training courses for investigations officers. We encourage greater participation in SEA tools and initiatives that lead to greater transparency, such as the Clear Check Tool, and appeal to other Member States to join in the Voluntary Compact and the Circle of Leadership.

While COVID-19 will place a strain on much UN activity, we must ensure that SEA prevention and response continues to be prioritised as the system responds to this pandemic.

SEA will only be prevented if all of us work together to stop it, including by ensuring that victims are supported and perpetrators held accountable. The UK delegation hopes that we can achieve consensus on an SEA resolution this year and looks forward to working cooperatively with all delegations to that end.