Prevention of Illegal Entry of Pets at SSR International Airport

1 Introduction

1.1 The Division of Veterinary Services of the Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security has recently witnessed a number of attempts to illegally introduce pets at Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam International Airport. Such illegal attempts have caused embarrassment and substantial delays in the processing of passengers.

2 Purpose

2.1 The purpose of this AIC is to inform all parties of proper procedures for the introduction of pets in Mauritius and to ensure that appropriate measures are taken by all concerned parties to ensure compliance with appropriate legislation.

3 Applicable Legislation

3.1 According to the Animal Diseases Act of 1925, no passenger or crew should import any live animal without having previously obtained an import permit delivered by the Division of Veterinary Services of the Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security. Import permits are obtainable from the following contact address:

Principal Veterinary Officer
Division of Veterinary Services
Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security
Reduit

Telephone: (230) 454 1016/7
Fax: (230) 4642210
Email: moa-dvs@mail.gov.mu
3.2 The Animal Diseases Act, Part III Section 17, regulation No 3 (3) also states that:

“No owner, operator or agent of an aircraft or ship shall unload or allow the unloading of any live animal in Mauritius unless he pays the veterinary clearance fee specified in Part 1 of Schedule A.”

4 Notice to Airlines / Aircraft Operators

In line with the foregoing, airlines and other aircraft operators flying to Mauritius are requested to ensure that:

- All passengers, embarking to Mauritius with a pet, have in their possession an import permit delivered by the Division of Veterinary Services of the Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security.
- The veterinary clearance fee is duly paid prior to unloading the said pet in Mauritius.

5 Non-compliance

5.1 In case of non-compliance to the above, the pet/animal will not be allowed disembarkation and the airlines concerned will have to carry back the pet/animal to airport of origin.

6 Effective

6.1 This AIC is effective immediately.

This AIC is issued for guidance and necessary action by operators conducting private flight operations in Mauritius.

R. SERVANSINGH
for Director of Civil Aviation