

Ref. : ( ) in AF LSK 20/1 (2011 revised)

**Public Health (Animals) (Boarding Establishment)**  
**Regulations Cap. 139**

**Code of Standards for Licensed Boarding Establishment**

All licensees licensed under these regulations will observe, under the conditions of their licence, the following standards.

**Standards of Premises**

- (1) Any "primary enclosure" which means a room, pen, cage, compartment, hutch or structure used to restrict animals to a limited amount of space, shall be : -
- I. structurally sound and maintained in good repair;
  - II. designed so as to contain the animals accommodated therein and to protect them from injury and predators;
  - III. constructed and maintained so as to enable the animals accommodated therein to -
    - (i) remain dry and clean;
    - (ii) have convenient access to food and water; and
    - (iii) move about freely and to stand, sit or lie comfortably; and
  - IV. located so as to avoid excessive illumination.

(2) The recommended internal requirements for individual primary enclosures are :-

<u>Animal Category</u>	<u>Sleeping Area</u>	<u>Adjoining Exercise Area</u>
(i) CATS	Not less than 2.0sq.m; or length or width not less than 0.9m	Sleeping area & exercise area combined
(ii) SMALL DOGS (Less than 12kg)	Not less than 1.1sq.m; or length or width not less than 0.9m	Not less than 3.7sq.m; width not less than 0.9m
(iii) MEDIUM SIZE DOGS (12kg to 30kg)	Not less than 1.4sq.m; or length or width not less than 1.2m	Not less than 5.5sq.m; width not less than 1.5m
(iv) LARGE DOGS (Over 30kg)	Not less than 1.4sq.m; or length or width not less than 1.2m	Not less than 7.4sq.m; width not less than 1.5m
(v)	Animals must have sufficient room to move around freely and must be provided with appropriate area for feeding and toileting ;	
(vi)	Or any other requirements as the Director may think fit to impose.	

(3) Any housing facility which means a room, building, premises or other place used to contain a primary enclosure, shall -

- I. be structurally sound and maintained in good repair;
- II. be designed so as to contain the animals accommodated therein and to restrict the entrance of other animals;
- III. contain adequate supplies of potable water and suitable drainage for the escape of excess water;
- IV. provide sufficient space for the storage of fresh food and bedding;
- V. contain means for the removal and disposal of animal and food waste, used bedding, dead animals and debris to minimize infestation, contamination, odours and disease hazards;
- VI. be provided with sufficient fresh air ventilation by means of windows, doors, vents or air-conditioning to promote the health and comfort of the animals accommodated therein and to minimize draughts, odours and

moisture condensation;

VII. have ample lighting by natural or artificial means or both of good quality and so distributed as to provide sufficient light intensity to permit routine inspection and cleaning; and

VIII. contain interior surfaces, which are substantially impervious to moisture and may be sanitarily cleaned at all times. "Sanitary" means physically clean, and free from agents which are injurious to health and from any other obnoxious or offensive material.

(4) Any "out-door area" which means an out-door area or space, whether containing a primary enclosure or not, used for the keeping, exercise or containment of animals, shall provide -

I. sufficient shade to enable the animals to protect themselves from the direct rays or the sun;

II. adequate shelter to allow the animals protection in inclement weather; and

III. suitable drainage for the escape of excess water.

(5) Licensees may not without the prior consent of the Director

I. make or cause or permit to be made any material change to the primary enclosures, housing facilities or outdoor areas in which the animals are to be accommodated; all of which must bear a distinctive No.; or

II. provide or cause or permit to be provided for the purpose of his business, food and accommodation for animals at a place other than the place specified in his licence.

### **Standards of Husbandry and Hygiene**

(6) I. The animals shall be fed at least once daily with wholesome, palatable and nutritious food which shall be of sufficient quantity to meet the normal daily requirement of the animals having regard to their species, size and conditions;

II. all food and water receptacles for the animals shall be

(i) readily accessible to the animals;

(ii) so located as to minimize contamination by excreta or otherwise;

- (iii) cleaned at regular intervals so as to be kept in a sanitary condition at all times; and
  - (iv) kept in good condition at all times.
- III. the animals shall be supplied with adequate and potable water and, if no constant supply of potable water is available, they shall be supplied with potable liquid at least twice daily for a period of not less than one hour each time;
- IV. all excreta and other waste matter shall be removed not less than once daily from the place at which the animals are accommodated;
- V. the primary enclosures, housing facilities and outdoor areas shall be maintained in a sanitary condition and shall contain adequate and dry bedding;
- VI. a programme for the control and destruction of insects, ectoparasites, avian and mammalian pests at the place at which the animals are accommodated shall be established and maintained to the satisfaction of the Director (The program may be customized to the need of individual cases );
- VII. animals shall not be housed in the same primary enclosure unless they are of the same or a compatible genus;
- VIII. notwithstanding that the animals are of the same or compatible genus ó
  - (i) female animals in season (oestrus) shall not be housed in the same primary enclosure with male animals, except for breeding purposes; and
  - (ii) animals of vicious disposition shall be housed individually in separate primary enclosures;
- IX. young animals shall not be housed in the same primary enclosure with adult animals, except ó
  - (i) when permanently maintained in breeding colonies;
  - (ii) where the adult animals are their dams or equivalent;

- V. dogs and cats shall not be housed in the same primary enclosures;
  - VI. dogs or cats shall not be housed with any other species of animals; and
  - VII. animals under treatment for a communicable disease shall be kept separate from other animals.
- (7) When necessary adequate qualified Veterinary care should be provided, as may be suitable.
- (8) Licensees will maintain an up-to-date register of all boarded animals giving the following information : -
- I. The name of owner;
  - II. The address of the owner;
  - III. The species of animal;
  - IV. Date admitted;
  - V. Date discharged;
  - VI. Cage number;
  - VII. Veterinary treatment (if any)

This register should be available to any authorized officer at all reasonable times.

- (9) The licensees should in accordance with good husbandry ensure that such boarded animals are not kept in overcrowded conditions.
- (10) Licensed boarding premises must be separate from, and not used for any other purpose except for that of boarding.
- (11) The licence cannot, in any way, be construed as a waiver by the Government of any of its rights against the Government lease or Government permittee of the lot on which the premises stand or an acknowledgement of any right on your part to any tenure or renewal of tenure of the premises.

- (12) If the licence applies to a building erected on Government land otherwise than with the consent of the Government, the granting of a licence cannot be construed as giving you any right of tenure in the land nor as a waiver by the Government of any of its rights in respect of an illegal occupation of the land.
- (13) This Code of Standards supersedes any "Code of Standards for Licensed Boarding Establishment" which was issued prior to 2006.
- (14) The Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation hereby reserves the right to revise the Conditions from time to time and the revised Conditions shall take immediate effect unless otherwise stated.