



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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2003/0224 (CNS)

Proposal for a

COUNCIL DIRECTIVE

laying down animal health rules for the importation into the Community of certain live ungulate animals, and amending Directives 90/426/EEC and 92/65/EEC

(presented by the Commission)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The outbreaks of disease within the European Union in particular of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) and also classical swine fever (CSF) in recent years have prompted a thorough review of Community measures to prevent and combat these animal diseases. As part of the response to the threat of possible future outbreaks, the Commission is proposing to rationalise, strengthen and update the legislation governing the importation into the Community of wild and domestic animals of species susceptible to either or both FMD and CSF.

Council Directive 72/462/EEC of 12 December 1972 on health and veterinary inspection problems upon importation of bovine, ovine and caprine animals and swine, fresh meat or meat products from third countries ensures a high level of animal health protection by laying down the general sanitary requirements for certain imports from third countries.

Council Directive 92/65/EEC of 13 July 1992, laying down animal health requirements governing trade in and imports into the Community of animals, semen, ova and embryos not subject to animal health requirements laid down in specific Community rules referred to in Annex A(I) to Directive 90/425/EEC, lays down the conditions for the importation into the Community of ungulate animals other than domestic bovine, ovine, caprine, porcine and equine animals, and provides for a list to be laid down of third countries from which Member States are allowed to import such animals and the health requirements to be met.

Under Directive 90/426/EEC of 24 June 1990 on animal health conditions governing the movement of and import from third countries of equidae, imports into the Community of equidae are allowed only from third countries appearing on a list drawn up in accordance with Directive 72/462/EEC. The provisions for establishing lists of third countries for equidae should be included in Directive 90/426/EEC and therefore this Directive should be amended accordingly.

The general requirements of Council Directive 91/628/EEC of 19 November 1991 on the protection of animals during transport and amending Directives 90/425/EEC and 91/496/EEC in particular as regards watering and feeding should be taken into account.

In addition Council Directive 2002/99/EC laying down the animal health rules governing the production, processing, distribution and introduction of products of animal origin for human consumption replaces the requirements for meat and meat products in Directive 72/462/EEC; therefore it is opportune to lay down similar and updated animal health measures for live ungulate animals in a new Directive.

The measures necessary for the implementation of this Directive should be adopted in accordance with Council Decision 1999/468/EC of 28 June 1999 laying down the procedures for the exercise of implementing powers on the Commission.

Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food establishes new comitology procedures and terminology which needs to be taken into account.

The proposals will bring together the import conditions and requirements for FMD susceptible species currently contained in two separate Directives – one covering domestic species (Council Directive 72/462/EEC) and the other covering wild species (Council Directive 92/65/EEC). Directive 90/426/EEC and Directive 92/65/EEC should therefore be amended accordingly. The proposal should also be adapted to take into account Decision 1999/468/EC.

The new legal base will bring EU basic legislation more into line with the new recommendations of the Office International des Epizooties (OIE).

In brief, the attached proposals will:

- consolidate, in a single legal act the animal health import requirements relating to all cloven-hoofed animal species and;
- clarify the conditions for granting authorisation to a third country for the exportation of equidae (e.g. horses) to the EU and;
- amend Directives 90/426/EEC and 92/65/EEC accordingly.

Proposal for a

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laying down animal health rules for the importation into the Community of certain live ungulate animals, and amending Directives 90/426/EEC and 92/65/EEC

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 37 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission¹,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament²,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee³,

Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions⁴,

Whereas:

- (1) Council Directive 72/462/EEC of 12 December 1972 on health and veterinary inspection problems upon importation of bovine, ovine and caprine animals and swine, fresh meat or meat products from third countries⁵ ensures a high level of animal health protection by laying down the general sanitary requirements for certain imports from third countries.
- (2) It is necessary to rationalise and update the animal health provisions concerning international trade in animals provided for in Directive 72/462/EEC due to the evolution and adoption of new international standards by the Office International des Epizooties (OIE), and their implications in the framework of the World Trade Organisation and its Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.

¹ OJ C [...], [...], p. [...].

² OJ C [...], [...], p. [...].

³ OJ C [...], [...], p. [...].

⁴ OJ C [...], [...], p. [...].

⁵ OJ L 302, 31.12.1972, p. 28. Directive as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 807/2003 (OJ L 122, 16.5.2003, p. 36.).

- (3) In addition, Council Directive 2002/99/EC of 16 December 2002 laying down the animal health rules governing the production, processing, distribution and introduction of products of animal origin for human consumption⁶ replaces the requirements for meat and meat products provided for in Directive 72/462/EEC. Therefore it is necessary and opportune to lay down similar and updated animal health provisions for imports of live ungulate animals into the Community in this Directive.
- (4) In order to protect animal health, these new provisions should be extended to cover other ungulate animals that may present a similar risk of disease transmission. However, their application to such animals should be without prejudice to Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 of 9 December 1996 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein⁷.
- (5) Under Council Directive 90/426/EEC of 26 June 1990 on animal health conditions governing the movement and import from third countries of equidae⁸, imports into the Community of equidae are allowed only from third countries appearing on a list drawn up in accordance with Directive 72/462/EEC. The provisions for establishing lists of third countries for imports of equidae into the Community should be included in Directive 90/426/EEC.
- (6) Scientific knowledge concerning the susceptibility and testing of certain animals to diseases changes regularly. A procedure should therefore be established so that the scope of the list of animal species and the diseases to which they are susceptible can be rapidly updated in response to such developments.
- (7) In the interests of animal welfare and consistency of Community legislation, the general requirements of Council Directive 91/628/EEC of 19 November 1991 on the protection of animals during transport and amending Directives 90/425/EEC and 91/496/EEC⁹, in particular as regards watering and feeding should be taken into account in this Directive.
- (8) In the interests of the protection of animal health and consistency of Community legislation, Council Directive 91/496/EEC of 15 July 1991 laying down the principles governing the organisation of veterinary checks on animals entering the Community from third countries and amending Directives 89/662/EEC, 90/425/EEC and 90/675/EEC¹⁰ should also be taken into account.
- (9) The measures necessary for the implementation of this Directive should be adopted in accordance with Council Decision 1999/468/EC of 28 June 1999 laying down the procedures for the exercise of implementing powers on the Commission.¹¹

⁶ OJ L 18, 23.1.2003, p. 11.

⁷ OJ L 61, 3.3.1997, p. 1. Regulation as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2476/2001 (OJ L 334, 18.12.2001, p. 3).

⁸ OJ L 224, 18.8.1990, p. 42. Directive as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 806/2003 (OJ L 122, 16.5.2003, p. 1.).

⁹ OJ L 340, 11.12.1991, p. 17. Directive as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 806/2003 (OJ L 122, 16.5.2003, p. 1.).

¹⁰ OJ L 268, 24.9.1991, p. 56. Directive as last amended by amended by Directive 96/43/EC (OJ L 162, 1.7.1996, p. 1).

¹¹ OJ L 184, 17.7.1999, p. 23.

- (10) In accordance with the principle of proportionality, it is necessary and appropriate for the achievement of the basic objective of protecting animal health to lay down rules on the conditions for the importation of live ungulate animals. This Directive does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve the objectives pursued in accordance with the third paragraph of Article 5 of the Treaty.
- (11) Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety¹², establishes new comitology procedures and terminology. In the interests of consistency of Community legislation, those procedures and terminology should be taken into account in this Directive.
- (12) Council Directive 92/65/EEC of 13 July 1992 laying down animal health requirements governing trade in and imports into the Community of animals, semen, ova and embryos not subject to animal health requirements laid down in specific Community rules referred to in Annex A(I) to Directive 90/425/EEC¹³, lays down the conditions for the importation into the Community of ungulate animals other than domestic bovine, ovine, caprine, porcine and equine animals, and provides for a list to be laid down of third countries from which Member States may import such animals as well as the health requirements to be met. This Directive should be amended in order to exclude from its scope the animal species covered by the present act.
- (13) It is also appropriate to provide that the testing requirements upon importation of live animals covered by Directive 92/65/EEC should be updated or established by comitology procedure.
- (14) Directives 90/426/EEC and 92/65/EEC should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

Chapter I

Subject matter and scope and definitions

Article 1

Subject matter and scope

This Directive lays down the animal health requirements for the importation into the Community of live ungulate animals of the species listed in Annex I.

¹² OJ L 31, 1.2.2002, p. 1.

¹³ OJ L 268, 14.9.1992, p. 54. Directive as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 998/2003 (OJ L 146, 13.6.2003, p. 1.).

Article 2

Definitions

For the purposes of this Directive, the following definitions shall apply:

- (a) “third countries”: means countries other than Member States, and those territories of Member States in which Council Directives 89/662/EEC¹⁴ and 90/425/EEC¹⁵ do not apply;
- (b) “authorised third country”: means a third country, or a part of a third country, from which the importation into the Community of live ungulate animals listed in Annex I is authorised as provided for in Article 3(1);
- (c) “official veterinarian”: means a veterinarian authorised by the veterinary administration of a third country to perform health inspections of live animals, and to perform official certification.

Chapter II

Animal health requirements applicable to imports into the community of certain live ungulate animals

Article 3

Authorised third countries

1. The importation of live ungulate animals into the Community shall only be authorised from third countries that appear on a list or lists to be drawn up or amended in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 14(2).

Taking into account the health situation and the guarantees provided by the third country for the animals listed in Annex I, it may be decided in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 14(2), that the authorisation provided for in the first subparagraph shall apply to the whole territory of an authorised third country or to only part of its territory.

¹⁴ OJ L 395, 30.12.1989, p. 13.

¹⁵ OJ L 224, 18.8.1990, p. 29.

For that purpose and on the basis of the relevant international standards, account shall be taken of how the authorised third country applies and implements those standards, in particular the principle of regionalisation within its own territory and in relation to its sanitary requirements for importation from other third countries and from the Community.

2. The authorisation for importation of live ungulate animals into the Community as provided for in paragraph 1 and the specific animal health conditions provided for in Article 6.3 may be suspended or withdrawn in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 14(2) where the animal health situation in the authorised third country justifies such suspension or withdrawal.

Article 4

Preparation of the lists of authorised third countries

When drawing up or amending the lists of authorised third countries as provided for in Article 3(1), particular account shall be taken of:

- (a) the health status of livestock, other domestic animals and wildlife in the third country, with particular regard to exotic animal diseases and any aspects of the general health and the environmental situation in the third country which may pose a risk to the health and the environmental status of the Community;
- (b) the legislation of the third country in relation to animal health and welfare;
- (c) the organisation of the competent veterinary authority and its inspection services, the powers of those services, the supervision to which they are subject, and the means at their disposal, including staff and laboratory capacity, to apply national legislation effectively;
- (d) the assurances which the competent veterinary authority of the third country can give regarding compliance or equivalence with the relevant animal health conditions applicable in the Community;
- (e) whether the third country is a member of the OIE and the regularity and rapidity of the information supplied by the third country relating to the existence of infectious or contagious animal diseases in its territory, in particular those diseases listed by the OIE;
- (f) the guarantees given by the third country to directly inform the Commission and the Member States:
 - (i) within 24 hours of the confirmation of the occurrence of any of the diseases listed in Annex II, and of any change in the vaccination policy concerning such diseases;
 - (ii) within an appropriate period, of any proposed changes in the national health rules concerning live ungulate animals, in particular regarding importation;
 - (iii) at regular intervals, of the animal health status of its territory;

- (g) any experience of previous imports of live animals from the third country and the results of any import controls carried out;
- (h) the results of Community inspections and/or audits carried out in the third country, in particular the results of the assessment of the competent authorities or, where the Commission so requests, the report submitted by the competent authorities on the inspections which they have carried out;
- (i) the rules on the prevention and control of infectious or contagious animal diseases in force in the third country and their implementation, including rules on the importation from other third countries.

Article 5

Publication of lists of authorised third countries by the Commission

The Commission shall arrange for up-to-date versions of all lists drawn up or amended as provided for in Article 3(1) to be made available to the public.

Those lists may be combined with other lists drawn up for animal and public health purposes and may also include models of health certificates.

Article 6

Specific animal health conditions for imports of live ungulate animals into the Community

1. Specific animal health conditions for the importation of live ungulate animals into the Community shall be laid down in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 14(2).

They may take account of the following:

- (a) the animal species concerned;
 - (b) the age of the animals;
 - (c) the intended destination or purpose of the animals;
 - (d) the necessary measures to be applied after importation of the animals into the Community;
 - (e) any special provisions applicable in the framework of intra-Community trade.
2. The specific animal health conditions provided for in paragraph 1 shall be based on the rules laid down in Community legislation for the diseases to which the animals are susceptible.
 3. However, where the equivalence of the official health guarantees provided for by the third country concerned can be formally recognised by the Community, the specific animal health conditions may be based on those guarantees.

Article 7

Guarantees from the authorised third country regarding imports of live ungulate animals into the Community

Imports of live ungulate animals into the Community shall only be allowed if the authorised third country provides the following guarantees:

- (a) the animals must come from a disease-free territory, in accordance with the conditions listed in Annex II into which the entry of animals vaccinated against the diseases listed in that Annex must be prohibited;
- (b) the animals must comply with the specific animal health conditions provided for in Article 6;
- (c) before the day of loading for shipment to the Community, the animals must have remained in the territory of the authorised third country for a period of time to be set out in the specific animal health conditions referred to in Article 6;
- (d) prior to shipment to the Community, the animals must have undergone a check by an official veterinarian to ensure that the transport conditions provided for in Directive 91/628/EEC have been complied with, in particular as regards watering and feeding;
- (e) the animals must be accompanied by a veterinary certificate which complies with Article 11 and with a specimen veterinary certificate established in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 14(2). Provision may be made for the use of electronic documents under the same procedure.
- (f) upon arrival in the Community, the animals must be checked at an agreed border inspection post in accordance with Article 11 of Directive 91/496/EEC.

Article 8

Derogation from guarantees to be provided by authorised third countries

By way of derogation from Articles 6 and 7, specific provisions including model veterinary certificates, may be laid down in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 14(2) for the importation of live ungulate animals from authorised third countries as provided for in Article 3(1) if those animals:

- (a) are intended exclusively for grazing or draught purposes, on a temporary basis, in the vicinity of the Community frontiers;
- (b) are related to sporting events, circuses, shows and exhibitions but not related to commercial transactions of the animals themselves;
- (c) are intended for a zoo, an amusement park, an experimental laboratory, or as defined in Article 2(c) of Directive 92/65/EEC, approved body, approved institute or approved centre;

- (d) exclusively transit the territory of the Community under customs approval and supervision, with no stop in the Community other than those necessary for animal welfare purposes;
- (e) accompany their owners as pet animals or;
- (f) are presented at the Community frontier
 - within a period of 30 days from the date they left the Community for one of the purposes referred to in points (a), (b) and (e),
 - or for transiting a third country.

Article 9

Derogation from Article 7(a) as regards imports from authorised third countries where diseases listed in Annex II are present and/or vaccinations are carried out

By way of derogation from Article 7(a), and in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 14(2), conditions may be established for the importation of live ungulate animals into the Community from an authorised third country where certain diseases listed in Annex II are present and/or vaccinations against those diseases are carried out;

Article 10

Derogation from Article 7(a) as regards imports from authorised third countries where imports have been suspended or prohibited

By way of derogation from Article 7(a), and in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 14(2), a specific period may be determined after which the importation of live ungulate animals from an authorised third country may be resumed after the suspension or prohibition of importation due to any change in the health situation, together with any additional conditions to be fulfilled after such resumption.

When deciding to resume the importation of such animals, account shall be taken of:

- international standards,
- whether an outbreak or a number of epizootiologically interrelated outbreaks of one of the diseases listed in Annex II occurs within a geographically limited area in an authorised third country or region,
- whether the outbreak or outbreaks are successfully eradicated within a limited period of time.

Article 11

Veterinary Certificates

1. A veterinary certificate complying with the requirements set out in Annex III shall be presented with each consignment of animals upon their entry into the Community.
2. The veterinary certificate shall certify that the requirements of this Directive and other Community legislation on animal health, or where applicable in accordance with Article 6.3, provisions that are equivalent to those requirements, have been complied with.
3. The veterinary certificate may include certification statements required under other Community legislation on public health, animal health and animal welfare.
4. The use of the veterinary certificate provided for in paragraph 1 may be suspended or withdrawn in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 14(2) where the animal health situation in the authorised third country justifies such suspension or withdrawal.

Article 12

Inspections and audits in third countries

1. Inspections and/or audits may be carried out in third countries by experts from the Commission in order to verify conformity with or equivalence to Community animal health rules.

The experts from the Commission may be accompanied by experts from the Member States authorised by the Commission to carry out such inspections and/or audits.
2. The inspections and/or audits provided for in paragraph 1 shall be carried out on behalf of the Community, and the Commission shall meet the costs incurred.
3. The procedure for carrying out the inspections and/or audits in authorised third countries as provided for in paragraph 1 may be established or amended in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 14 (2).
4. If a serious animal health risk is identified during an inspection and/or audit as provided for in paragraph 1, even if it is not directly related to the objectives of the inspection/audit, the Commission shall immediately, take the measures necessary to safeguard animal health, as laid down in Directive 91/496/EEC, including the suspension or withdrawal of the authorisation provided for in Article 3(1).

Article 13

Empowering provisions

1. The following may be established in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 14(2):
 - (a) detailed rules for the application of this Directive;
 - (b) rules regarding the origin of animals;
 - (c) the criteria for classifying authorised third countries or regions thereof with regard to animal diseases;
 - (d) provisions for the use of electronic documents relating to model veterinary certificates as provided for in Article 7 (e) ;
 - (e) models of veterinary certificates as provided for in Article 11(1);
 - (f) rules and certification requirements for the transit of live ungulate animals in the Community.
2. The annexes to this Directive may be amended in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 14(2) in order to take account, in particular of:
 - (a) scientific opinions and scientific knowledge particularly concerning new risk assessments;
 - (b) technical developments and/or amendments to international standards;
 - (c) the setting of safety targets for animal health.

Article 14

Committee procedure

1. The Commission shall be assisted by the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health instituted by Article 58 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002.
2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Articles 5 and 7 of Decision 1999/468/EC shall apply.

The period laid down in Article 5(6) of Decision 1999/468/EC shall be 15 days.

Article 15

Implementation

1. Member States shall bring into force the laws, regulations, and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive before [insert dd/mm/yyyy]. They shall forthwith inform the Commission thereof.

When Member States adopt these measures, they shall contain a reference to this Directive or shall be accompanied by such reference on the occasion of their official publication. The methods of making such reference shall be laid down by Member States.

2. Member States shall communicate to the Commission the text of the provisions of national law which they adopt in the field covered by this Directive, together with a table showing how the provisions of this Directive correspond to the national provisions adopted.

Chapter III

Final provision

Article 16

Transitional measures

Transitional measures may be laid down in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 14 (2).

Article 17

Amendment to Directive 90/426/EEC

Directive 90/426/EEC is amended as follows:

Article 12 is replaced by the following:

“Article 12

1. *The importation of equidae into the Community shall only be authorised from third countries that appear on a list or lists to be drawn up or amended in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 24(2).*

Taking into account the health situation and the guarantees provided by the third country for equidae, it may be decided in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 24(2) that the authorisation provided for in the first subparagraph shall apply to the whole territory of the third country or to only part of its territory.

For that purpose and on the basis of the relevant international standards, account shall be taken of how the third country applies and implements those standards, in particular the principle of regionalisation, within its own territory and in relation to its sanitary requirements for importation from other third countries and from the Community.

2. *When drawing up or amending the lists provided for in paragraph 1, particular account shall be taken of:*
 - (a) *the health status of the equidae, other domestic animals and wildlife in the third country, with particular regard to exotic animal diseases and any aspects of the general health and the environmental situation in the third country which may pose a risk to the health and environmental status of the Community;*
 - (b) *the legislation of the third country in relation to animal health and welfare;*
 - (c) *the organisation of the competent veterinary authority and its inspection services, the powers of those services, the supervision to which they are subject, and the means at their disposal, including staff and laboratory capacity, to apply national legislation effectively;*
 - (d) *the assurances which the competent veterinary authority of the third country can give regarding compliance or equivalence with the relevant animal health conditions applicable in the Community;*
 - (e) *whether the third country is a member of the “Office International des Epizooties” (OIE) and the regularity and rapidity of the information supplied by the third country relating to the existence of infectious or contagious diseases of equidae in its territory, in particular those diseases listed by the OIE and in Annex A of this Directive;*
 - (f) *the guarantees given by the third country to directly inform the Commission and the Member States:*
 - (i) *within 24 hours, of the confirmation of the occurrence of any infectious diseases of equidae and in particular those listed in Annex A and of any change in the vaccination policy concerning such diseases;*
 - (ii) *within an appropriate period, of any proposed changes in the national sanitary rules concerning equidae, in particular regarding the importation of equidae;*
 - (iii) *at regular intervals, of the animal health status of its territory concerning equida;*
 - (g) *any experience of previous imports of live equidae from the third country and the results of any import controls carried out;*

- (h) *the results of Community inspections and/or audits carried out in the third country, in particular the results of the assessment of the competent authorities or, where the Commission so requests, the report submitted by the competent authorities on the inspections which they have carried out;*
 - (i) *the rules on the prevention and control of infectious or contagious animal diseases in force in the third country and their implementation, including rules on importation of equidae from other third countries.*
3. *The Commission shall arrange for up-to-date versions of all lists drawn up or amended as provided for in paragraph 1 to be made available to the public.*
- Those lists may be combined with other lists drawn up for animal and public health purposes and may also include models of health certificates.*
4. *Special import conditions for each third country or group of third countries, having regard to the animal health situation concerning equidae in the third country or countries concerned shall be established in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 24(2).*
5. *Detailed rules for the application of this Article and criteria for including third countries or parts of third countries in the lists provided for in paragraph 1 may be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 24(2).*

Article 18

Amendment to Directive 92/65/EEC

Directive 92/65/EEC is amended as follows:

1. In Article 1, the first paragraph is replaced by the following:
- “This Directive lays down the animal health requirements governing trade in and imports into the Community of animals, semen, ova and embryos not subject to the animal health requirements laid down in the specific Community acts referred to in Annex F”.*
2. Article 6 is amended as follows:
- (a) In A(1), point (e) is deleted;
 - (b) in A(2), the second indent of point (b) is deleted;
 - (c) in A(3), points (e), (f) and (g) are deleted;
 - (d) the following point (A) (4) is added:
 - “4. The testing requirements referred to in this Article and their criteria may be established in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 26.”*

3. Article 17 is amended as follows:

(a) In Paragraph 3, points (a) and (b) are replaced by the following:

“(a) a list of third countries or parts of third countries able to provide Member States and the Commission with guarantees equivalent to those provided for in Chapter II in relation to animals and,

(b) without prejudice to Commission Decision 94/63/EC, a list of the collection centres for which they are able to give such guarantees.*

The Commission shall inform the Member States of any proposed amendments to the lists of centres and the Member States shall have ten working days, from the date of receipt of the proposed amendments, to send written comments to the Commission;

Where no written comments are received from the Member States within that period of ten working days, the proposed amendments shall be considered to have been accepted by the Member States and imports shall be authorised in accordance with the amended lists when the Commission notifies the competent authorities of the Member States and the third country concerned that the amendments are published on the web site of the Commission.

Where written comments are received from at least one Member State within the period of ten working days, the Commission shall inform the Member States and the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health at its next meeting for a decision to be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 26 second paragraph.

** OJ L 28, 2.2.1994, p. 47.”*

4. In Article 23, the words “*from Article 6 (A)(1)(e) and*” are deleted.

5. Article 26 is replaced by the following:

“Article 26

*The Commission shall be assisted by the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health instituted by Article 58 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and the Council.**

Where reference is made to this paragraph, Articles 5 and 7 of Decision 1999/468/EC shall apply.

The period laid down in Article 5(6) of Decision 1999/468/EC shall be 15 days.

** OJ L 31, 1.2.2002, p. 1.”*

6. The text in Annex IV to this Directive is added as Annex F.

Article 19

Entry into force and applicability

This Directive shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It shall apply from dd/mm/yyyy.

Article 20

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, [...]

*For the Council
The President*

ANNEX I

Animal species as referred to in Article 1

Taxon		
Perissodactyla	Tapiridae	Tapirus ssp.
	Rhinocerotidae	Ceratotherium ssp., Dicerorhinus ssp., Diceros ssp., Rhinoceros ssp.
Proboscidae	Elephantidae	Elephas ssp., Loxodonta ssp.
Artiodactyla	Suidae	Babyrousa ssp., Hylochoerus ssp., Phacochoerus ssp., Potamochoerus ssp., Sus ssp.,
	Tayassuidae	Catagonus ssp., Pecari-Tayassu ssp.
	Hippopotamidae	Hexaprotodon-Choeropsis ssp., Hippopotamus ssp.
	Camelidae	Camelus ssp., Lama ssp., Vicugna ssp.
	Tragulidae	Hyemoschus ssp., Tragulus-Moschiola ssp.
	Giraffidae	Giraffa ssp., Okapia ssp.
	Moschidae	Moschus ssp.
	Cervidae	Alces ssp., Axis-Hyelaphus ssp., Blastocerus ssp., Capreolus ssp., Cervus-Rucervus ssp., Dama ssp., Elaphurus ssp., Hippocamelus ssp., Hydropotes ssp., Mazama ssp., Megamuntiacus ssp., Muntiacus ssp., Odocoileus ssp., Ozotoceros ssp., Pudu ssp., Rangifer ssp.
	Antilocapridae	Antilocapra ssp.
	Bovidae	Addax ssp., Aepyceros ssp., Alcelaphus ssp., Ammodorcas ssp., Ammotragus ssp., Antidorcas ssp., Antilope ssp., Bison ssp., Bos ssp.(including Bibos, Novibos, Poephagus), Boselaphus ssp., Bubalus ssp. (including Anoa), Budorcas ssp., Capra ssp., Cephalophus ssp., Connochaetes ssp., Damaliscus ssp.(including Beatragus), Dorcatragus ssp., Gazella ssp., Hemitragus ssp., Hippotragus ssp., Kobus ssp., Litocranius ssp., Madogua ssp., Naemorhedus ssp. (including Nemorhaedus and Capricornis), Neotragus ssp., Oreamuos ssp., Oreotragus ssp., Oryx ssp., Ourebia ssp., Ovibos ssp., Ovis ssp., Patholops ssp., Pelea ssp., Procaphra ssp., Pseudois ssp., Pseudoryx ssp., Raphicerus ssp., Redunca ssp., Rupicapra ssp., Saiga ssp., Sigmoceros-Alecelaphus ssp., Sylvicapra ssp., Syncerus ssp., Taurotragus ssp., Tetracerus ssp., Tragelaphus ssp.(including Boocerus).

ANNEX II

The diseases referred to in Article 4(f)(i) and Article 6 and the conditions for a territory to be considered disease-free as referred to in Article 7(a)

Disease	Conditions	Animals concerned
Foot and mouth disease	no outbreak of disease, no evidence of virus infection (*) and no vaccination carried out during the last 12 months	all species
Rinderpest	no case of disease and no vaccination carried out during the last 3 years	all species
Bluetongue	no case of disease during the last 24 months and no vaccination carried out during the last 12 months with a control of the Culicoides population	all species other than those of taxon Suidae
Vesicular stomatitis	no case of disease during the last 24 months	all species
Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia	no case of disease and no vaccination carried out during the last 5 years	species of the genus Bos
Rift valley fever	no case of disease and no vaccination carried out during the last 4 years	all species other than those of taxon Suidae
Peste des petits ruminants	no case of disease and no vaccination carried out during the last 3 years	species of the genera Ovis and Capra
Sheep pox and goat pox	no case of disease and no vaccination carried out during the last 3 years	species of the genera Ovis and Capra
Lumpy skin disease	no case of disease and no vaccination carried out during the last 3 years	species of the genera Bos, Bison and Bubalus
African swine fever	no case of disease during the last 3 years	species of taxon Suidae
Classical swine fever	no case of disease and no vaccination carried out during the last 24 months	species of taxon Suidae
Swine vesicular disease	no case of disease and no vaccination carried out during the last 24 months	species of taxon Suidae

(*) in accordance with Chapter 2.1.1 of the OIE Manual

ANNEX III

Requirements for veterinary certificates as referred to in Article 11

1. The representative of the competent authority of dispatch issuing a veterinary certificate to accompany a consignment of animals must sign the certificate and ensure that it bears an official stamp. This requirement applies to each sheet of the certificate if it consists of more than one.
2. Veterinary certificates must be drawn up in the official language or languages of the Member State of destination and those of the Member State in which the border inspection takes place, or be accompanied by a certified translation into that language or those languages. However, a Member State may consent to the use of an official Community language other than its own.
3. The original version of the veterinary certificate must accompany consignments on entry into the Community.
4. Veterinary certificates must consist of:
 - (a) a single sheet of paper; or
 - (b) two or more pages that are part of a single and indivisible sheet of paper; or
 - (c) a sequence of pages numbered so as to indicate that it is a particular page in a finite sequence (for example, 'page 2 of 4 pages').
5. Veterinary certificates must bear a unique identifying number. Where the veterinary certificate consists of a sequence of pages, each page must indicate the unique identifying number.
6. The veterinary certificate must be issued before the consignment to which it relates leaves the control of the competent authority of the country of dispatch.

ANNEX IV

“ANNEX F

Council Directive 64/432/EEC of 26 June 1964, on animal health problems affecting intra-Community trade in bovine animals and swine.

Council Directive 88/407/EEC of 14 June 1988, laying down the animal health requirements applicable to intra-Community trade in and imports of deep-frozen semen of domestic animals of the bovine species.

Council Directive 89/556/EEC of 25 September 1989 on animal health conditions governing intra-Community trade in and importation from third countries of embryos of domestic animals of the bovine species.

Council Directive 90/426/EEC of 26 June 1990 on animal health conditions governing the movement and import from third countries of equidae.

Council Directive 90/429/EEC of 26 June 1990 laying down the animal health requirements applicable to intra-Community trade in and imports of semen of domestic animals of the porcine species.

Council Directive 90/539/EEC of 15 October 1990 on animal health conditions governing intra-Community trade in, and imports from third countries of, poultry and hatching eggs.

Council Directive 91/67/EEC of 28 January 1991 concerning the animal health conditions governing the placing on the market of aquaculture animals and products

Council Directive 91/68/EEC of 28 January 1991 on animal health conditions governing intra-Community trade in ovine and caprine animals

Council Directive --/2003/EC, of [...], laying down animal health rules for the importation into the Community of certain live ungulate animals and amending Directives 90/426/EEC and 92/65/EEC.”