EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Health & Consumer Protection
Directorate-General

General guidance on EU import and transit rules for live animals and animal products from third countries

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Health & Consumer Protection
Directorate-General

General guidance on EU import and transit rules for live animals and animal products from third countries

Directorate D - Animal health and welfare

30 April 2006

Online information about the European Union in 20 languages is available at: *http://ec.europa.eu*

Further information on the Health and Consumer Protection Directorate-General is available on the Internet at : *http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health_consumer/index_en.htm*

Printed by OIB

Online information about the European Union in 20 languages is available at: *http://ec.europa.eu*

Further information on the Health and Consumer Protection Directorate-General is available on the Internet at : *http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health_consumer/index_en.htm*

Printed by OIB

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

Detailed EU legislation in the veterinary field lays down the conditions that apply to the imports of live animals and products of animal origin from third countries. The responsibility for this area lay within the domain of the Health & Consumer Protection Directorate-General (DG SANCO). The legislation of the European Union in this field is fully harmonised (apart from certain import certificates which have not yet been established) and the main relevant legislation is listed in the Annex.

This legislation imposes a series of health and supervisory requirements, designed to ensure that imported animals and products meet standards at least equivalent to those required for production in, and trade between Member States. In the few areas, where no harmonised certification yet exists, as indicated in the Annex to these guidance notes, third countries should take contact with Member State authorities to obtain information on national import conditions.

This document provides guidance primarily to the national authorities in third countries who are interested in exporting live mammals and birds and/or their products to the European Union. Interested parties should always take contact with the European Commission (for contact details see Section 12) to check whether there have been any changes to the procedures described in this document, and for more detailed guidance in respect of particular production sectors. It is also foreseen that other interested stakeholders can benefit from the information provided in this guidance. In such a case they are advised to contact their national authorities if they wish further assistance, information and/or initiate approval procedures concerning imports into the European Commission.

It should also be noted that, in view of the very wide range of products covered by these guidelines, some elements will not apply to all imports. Some of the key issues related to imports, especially from the public health point of view are highlighted in another guidance which is available on the Internet[1].

1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

A detailed description of the sequence of individual steps and actions to be followed where a third country seeks approval is given in Section 9. In most cases, an on-the-spot inspection by Directorate F of DG SANCO (Food and Veterinary Office (FVO)) is required before approval can be considered. This is designed to evaluate whether the animal and public health situation, the official services, the legal provisions, the control systems and production standards etc., meet EU requirements.

When the lists of authorised third countries or parts of third countries for animal health purposes are drawn up or amended, particular account is taken of:

(1) 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;

(2) the legislation of the third country on live animals and products of animal origin;

[1] http://ec.europa.eu/food/international/trade/interpretation_imports.pdf

(3) 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;

(4) 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;

(5) 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;

(6) the guarantees given by the third country directly to inform the Commission and the Member States:

  (a) within 24 hours of the confirmation of the occurrence of major serious diseases of concern and of any change in the vaccination policy concerning such diseases;

  (b) within an appropriate period, of any proposed changes in the national health rules concerning relevant type of live animals, in particular regarding importation;

  (c) at regular intervals, of the animal health status of its territory;

(7) any experience of previous imports from the third country and the results of any import controls carried out;

(8) 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;

(9) 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.

When the lists of authorised third countries or parts of third countries for public health purposes are drawn up or amended, in addition to most of the above provisions, amended as applicable to the public health field, particular account is taken of:

(1) the training of staff in the performance of official controls;

(2) the resources including diagnostic facilities available to competent authorities;

(3) the existence and operation of documented control procedures and control systems based on priorities;

(4) the extent and operation of official controls on imports of animals and their products;

(5) the assurances which the third country can give regarding compliance with, or equivalence to, Community requirements

(6) the hygiene conditions of production, manufacture, handling, storage and dispatch actually applied to products of animal origin destined for the Community;

(7) any experience of marketing of the product from the third country and the results of any import controls carried out;

(8) the results of Community controls carried out in the third country, in particular the results of the assessment of the competent authorities, and the action that

competent authorities have taken in the light of any recommendations addressed to them following a Community control;

(9) the existence, implementation and communication of an approved zoonoses control programme;

(10) the use of veterinary medicinal products, including rules on their prohibition or authorisation, their distribution, their placing on the market and the rules covering administration and inspection;

(11) the preparation and use of feedingstuffs, including the procedures for using additives and the preparation and use of medicated feedingstuffs, as well as the hygiene quality of the raw materials used for preparing feedingstuffs and of the final product;

(12) the existence, implementation and communication of an approved residue control programme.

These lists drawn up for animal health and public health purposes may be but not necessarily combined with each other. In relation to the establishments of origin of animal products the national authorities must also guarantee that:

(1) the conditions applied to the establishments from which feed and food may be imported in the Community comply with or are equivalent to the requirements in Community feed and food law;

(2) a list of such establishments is drawn up and kept up to date;

(3) the list of establishments and its updated versions are communicated to the Commission without delay;

(4) the establishments are the subject of regular and effective controls by the competent authority of the third country.

For most commodities, where a request for approval is received by the Commission, a preliminary questionnaire, relating to the animals/products in question, will be sent to the national authorities. This is designed to assess whether Community requirements can be satisfied and to gather information prior to a possible on-the-spot inspection by the FVO.

Where the information provided by the national authorities is considered satisfactory, and the FVO's inspection leads to a favourable recommendation, the Commission will adopt the necessary legislation to grant approval for imports after receiving a favourable opinion of the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health (comprising representatives of the Chief Veterinary Officers of the Member States). Approvals may cover all or part of a third country, reflecting the animal and public health situation and the nature of the animals/products for which approval is sought.

2. ANIMAL HEALTH SITUATION

The third country must be a member of the OIE and have systems in place for the rapid detection, reporting and confirmation of listed OIE diseases. It will also have to give a formal undertaking to notify the European Commission of outbreaks of major serious diseases within 24 hours of confirmation or any change in the vaccination policy concerning such diseases.

The third country must either have its own laboratory facilities that will allow this detection and confirmation to take place, or have formal agreements in place with suitable

laboratories in other countries. Laboratories involved in official controls need to be accredited as of 1 January 2006. The competent authority may designate a non-accredited laboratory to perform official controls provided quality control schemes are in place and accreditation will be completed by 1 January 2010. From that date on laboratories must be accredited according to international standards.

The extent, to which the animal disease situation will affect whether approval can be considered, or what conditions are linked to the approval, varies according to the type of animal or product concerned. For example, imports of live domestic biungulate animals have not been authorised from countries which vaccinate against foot and mouth disease (FMD), or where the disease is present. On the other hand, for fully treated meat products and milk based products, this would not cause a problem, because the causative pathogen is destroyed by appropriate heat or other specified treatments or by other risk mitigating factors. Further details are given in the Annex dealing with specific imports.

Animal disease control systems, whose operation and outcome must be recorded and demonstrable, must be in place. These would, for example, have to include the registration of holdings, animal identification and movement controls (traceability) so that compliance with EU health certification requirements can be confirmed. These certification requirements may provide, for example, that before slaughter an animal has spent a certain time period on a farm and in a region which is free of certain diseases.

Contingency plans for the control and/or eradication of outbreaks of OIE listed diseases should be in place and operational (the nature and extent of these plans will depend upon the nature of the animals or products for which approval is sought).

For live animal imports, a range of supplementary disease control/eradication programmes, as well as testing to demonstrate freedom from certain diseases, and reflecting the type of animals concerned, will have to be in place. Further details may be seen in the relevant chapter of the Annex to this document.

It should also be noted that for some animal products, additional animal health controls or risk management measures may be required or risk management measures can be applied. For example, meat from countries where FMD vaccination is practised may undergo additional maturation procedures (including de-boning) to ensure virus destruction. In other cases, e.g. for the management of avian influenza or classical swine fever minimum treatment requirements are established for meat products to reflect the animal disease situation in the country concerned.

Without compromising the overall objective of ensuring the safety of the import, flexibility is shown whereever possible. For example, regarding outbreaks of highly infectious animal diseases like FMD, while imports under unsafe conditions can not be accepted but where it is feasible, the principle of regionalisation is applied. This means that imports of live animals and products can be allowed from those defined regions of countries which satisfy the requirements, while banning imports from certain other regions in those countries which do not. With other words in case of the outbreak of an animal disease, restrictions are applied in the regions affected, with free movement of animals and products outside the affected regions. Only animals or products from non-affected zones can be considered fit for export under certain conditions. The European Communities are convinced that regionalisation is the best approach to maintain adequate disease control with minimum restrictions to trade.

Furthermore there is also a possibility to import certain live animals from the non-authorised countries, as it is allowed to move them from their country of birth to a third

country appearing on the lists with a view of subsequent movement to the EU. In this case the minimum residency period in the authorised third country is six months. It is also worthy to note that St. Pierre and Miquelon is a listed third country in which the situation is ideal for this kind of import. Further to that it even has a quarantine station where certain types of animals can remain under the satisfactory control of the official veterinary services within the facilities and can be subsequently imported into the EU after as little as 2 months.

The exporting country's import policy, including controls, and the animal health situation in neighbouring countries, will be taken into account.

To illustrate the application of these provisions in practice, the reader is referred to detailed animal health import requirements for animals/products of currently approved countries, which can be found in the model certificates attached to the relevant EU legislation in the Annex to this document.

3. RESIDUES, CONTAMINANTS AND ADDITIVES CONTROLS

The EU has detailed legislation in place to control the use of, and monitoring for, a wide range of veterinary drugs and other substances in all classes of animals and products intended for human consumption. Legal controls over prohibited substances in respect of the animals and products intended for export must be in place in the third country.

It is a fundamental requirement for all third countries wishing to export to the EU that they have in place a monitoring programme for these substances that meets the requirements of this legislation in respect of the animals and/or animal products concerned. This programme must be submitted to the European Commission where it is evaluated and if the evaluation is favourable, approved.

Subsequently the results of each year's programme, together with an updated programme for the coming year, must be submitted to the European Commission on an annual basis.

The relevant laboratory facilities must fulfil the same requirements as detailed in the second paragraph of Section 3.

It may be acceptable for the monitoring programme and controls over prohibited substances, to be limited to specific sectors and individual farms. However, such a separate export-oriented system would require effective registration, control, tracing and identification procedures, with a reliable, transparent, monitoring system in place, to be established. These procedures and system would be the subject of special evaluation as part of the approval process.

4. FOOD SAFETY STANDARDS IN PROCESSING ESTABLISHMENTS

Standards in individual establishments proposed for approval must be at least equivalent to the requirements of the relevant EU legislation. These are the same as those laid down for establishments in Member States. The main legislation for each production sector is given in the relevant chapter of the Annex to this document.

The national authority should be confident that the above standards are met before an establishment is put forward to the Commission for approval. If this is found not to be the

case at any subsequent on-the-spot inspection, this will reflect unfavourably on the evaluation of the authority's ability to deliver EU standards. The Commission has a variety of proformas which should be completed by the Competent Authorities to request approval of processing establishments and confirm that they meet the relevant Community requirements.

Particular attention must be paid to the installation and operation of the permanent procedures of the establishment based on the HACCP principles, microbiological controls and an effective official control system, including documented records of control actions and their outcome. As from 1 January 2006, the implementation of HACCP based control systems are mandatory in all food production, processing and distribution establishments (except for establishments involved in primary production).

To avoid any conflict of interest and possible fraud, officials in processing establishments must be able to act independently of operators. There must be supervisory systems over these officials at regional and central levels.

As a general principle, establishments must meet EU standards during EU production runs, and may meet other standards at other times for their own national markets but such product must be kept strictly separate from product destined for the EU. In all cases, this issue should be clarified during inspection visits by the Food and Veterinary Office.

5. BSE-RELATED IMPORT CONTROLS

The current import measures regarding all forms of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalites (TSE) are transitional until 30 June 2007 at the latest awaiting the final categorisation of countries according to their BSE status. These transitional measures are based on the Geographical BSE Risk (GBR) assessment procedure.

No TSE related import requirements apply for GBR I countries listed in point 15 of Annex XI to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 laying down rules for the prevention, control and eradication of certain transmissible spongiform encephalopathies, as last amended. Those countries have to certify that the products of bovine, ovine and caprine origin are derived from animals born, continuously reared and slaughtered in the listed countries.

Non GBR I countries have to comply with the following TSE-related import conditions:

1. For the import of products from bovine, ovine and caprine origin

   The countries will have to certify the absence of specified risk material (SRM), and that the animals are not stunned by pithing or gas injection, and the products do not contain mechanically recovered meat from ruminant bones.

2. For the import of live bovine animals from those countries:

   Those countries will have to certify the implementation of a feed ban (mammalian to ruminants) and a system for permanent identification of the animals exported to EU.

A new simplified procedure for categorisation of countries has been adopted by the OIE. The simplified categorisation system has three categories and will be based on a risk assessment and an active surveillance programme, including for countries with a

negligible BSE risk. Countries should be categorised according those new criteria before the transitional measures expire on 1 July 2007.

6. NATIONAL AUTHORITY STANDARDS

It is essential that the national authority (often referred to as the "competent authority") is able to deliver the level of veterinary controls required. Any shortfall would mean that approval could not be considered, or that an existing approval might have to be revoked.
As part of the approval process, a detailed questionnaire, relating to the sector for which approval is sought, is sent to the national authority. Amongst the various issues raised, the following are of particular importance in evaluating the authority's performance:

(1) *Management structure*. This must ensure that there are adequate communication links between central, regional and local official services. The central authorities, who are answerable for standards, must be able to exercise control over regional and local services.

(2) *Independence*. The official services must be independent of outside pressures, and be able to carry out their duties without undue restrictions. Individual officials must enjoy a status that ensures their independence from commercial concerns, and must not be dependent upon them for their livelihood, i.e. no conflict of interest and high ethical standards.

(3) *Resources*. All levels of the official services, including border controls and laboratories, must have sufficient personnel, financial and equipment resources to allow them to carry out their control functions.

(4) *Personnel*. All staff must enjoy an independent status within the official services. Where external staff are used, arrangements must be in place to ensure that they have the same degree of independence and accountability as full-time officials.

(5) *Recruitment and training*. The competent authority must be able to show that vacancies are promptly filled, and that the operation of the official services is not damaged by shortages of suitably qualified personnel. Training programmes, so that staff can carry out their duties properly, should be in place, and properly recorded.

(6) *Legal/enforcement powers.* These must be available to, and used by, the official services. The powers must be enshrined in national legislation and allow these services to carry out their control functions in an effective manner.

(7) *Prioritisation and documentation of controls.* Official services should have in place written systems to prioritise their control activities, reflecting the risks posed by the different stages of the production chain. The planning, performance and outcome of these controls at central, regional and local levels should be recorded so that compliance with EU standards can be demonstrated. Ideally, internal audit systems should be in place to monitor the operation of these controls.

(8) *Laboratory services.* There should be a properly resourced laboratory network, including a central reference laboratory, enjoying a status independent from producers/processors, and covering the whole country. It might, however, be acceptable to use laboratory facilities in other countries where these can be shown

to offer the same level of service. Specific EU rules governing the operation and capabilities of these laboratories for particular production sectors must be respected. The duties of the laboratory network should be clearly established, as should reporting procedures when non-compliant results are detected. Links with international or EU reference laboratories should be established. The central competent authority must be able to direct the activities of the laboratory service which are relevant to the production sector concerned, even where it is not part of the same management structure. The relevant laboratory facilities must also fulfil the same requirements as detailed in the second paragraph of Section 3.

(9) *Import controls.* There must be effective import controls in place at the points of entry to the third country to safeguard the health status of the country. These must be properly staffed and resourced, and provided with the necessary legal powers to take control and enforcement action. In particular, the reception, handling, storage and onward transmission of animals and products intended for despatch to the EU, or for use in the production of EU-status products, must meet EU requirements and avoid risk of cross-contamination by non-eligible animals and products. The import policy of the country will also be assessed to ensure that the health status of the country is not jeopardised.

(10) *Animal health controls.* There must be an effective system for the detection and notification of animal diseases relevant to the animals/products for export. This should include surveillance measures, farm registration, animal identification and movement controls, so that the eligibility of animals used in the manufacture of EU status products can be demonstrated (traceability). It may also require disease monitoring and control or eradication programmes to be in place. The prompt notification of confirmation of diseases must also be demonstrated.

(11) *Food safety controls.* Details of the zoonoses covered by national legislation, and the control action taken, should be provided. Co-ordination procedures between animal and public health authorities should be in place. Systems should be in place to record the actions taken, and their outcome, when zoonotic pathogens are identified. Traceability must be assured throughout the whole process of food of animal origin production.

7. COUNTRY APPROVAL PROCEDURE

The following sequence is generally followed (although it may vary according to the animal/product concerned):

(1) The national authority submits a formal request for approval to the Commission services. This should include at least the following information:

- (a) Type of animal/product for which approval is sought. Full details of all animal-origin products should be given,
- (b) Anticipated volume of trade and main importing EU countries,
- (c) Class of animals (eg. breeding, fattening, slaughter) involved,
- (d) Description of minimum treatment (heat, maturation, acidification etc) applied to the products,
- (e) Number and type of establishments considered to meet EU requirements,

It should also include confirmation that all proposed establishments satisfy EU requirements. References to the appropriate EU legislation must be given.

(2) Commission acknowledges request and sends the relevant pre-mission questionnaire.

(3) National authority submits completed questionnaire, with the proposed residues monitoring programme for approval, and with copies of the national legislation applicable to the animals/products concerned (if English or French translations are provided this will speed up the processing of the dossiers).

(4) Bilateral contacts between the national authorities and the Commission to resolve outstanding issues.

(5) If the Commission is satisfied with the information provided, an on-the-spot inspection is (in most cases) organised by the FVO.

(6) Following completion of the FVO inspection, a copy of its report is sent to the national authorities, the relevant Commission services, the European Parliament and the Member States.[2]

(7) If the outcome of the mission is satisfactory, and any other outstanding issues have been resolved, the Commission prepares draft legislation:

(a) to add the third country to the list of third countries from which imports of the animal/product are approved;

(b) to draw up if necessary animal health certification based on the country or part of the country's health situation to accompany imports, (a number of model health certificates are already laid down in Community legislation);

(c) to approve the residues monitoring programme;

(d) to set up an initial list of approved establishments.[3]

It must be noted however that the approval of residue programs, the adding a country on a list for animal health purposes, the requirements for public health purposes and the listing of the approved establishments are done by different Commission services and often under different legal acts. Appearance in one of them is not a precondition for the inclusion on another list. For example the inclusion on the residue list does not affect in any way the possible inclusion on the animal health list. In this regard the third country can choose its approach as to how and in what order to launch applications for approval, some of their elements can be done parallel. Generally it is advised to start with the animal health listing because usually this may be the most difficult to comply with, and it would not be

[2] Reports of the FVO are also published on the website of DG SANCO: http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/index_en.htm

[3] Lists of currently approved establishments sorted either by country or by product are available under: http://ec.europa.eu/food/international/trade/third_en.htm
Procedure on how to add them onto existing lists and contact details are available under: http://forum.europa.eu.int/irc/sanco/vets/info/data/listes/new_estab_lists.htm and later on the new URL http://circa.europa.eu/irc/sanco/vets/info/data/listes/new_estab_lists.htm

cost effective to build a slaughterhouse and then discover that export of meat cannot be authorised for animal health reasons.

(8) The proposed legislative texts are adopted by the Commission, and published in the Official Journal, after a favourable opinion of the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health has been received.

(9) If an implementation date is not specified in the legislative text then it will be the date of official notification of the text by the Commission to Member States.

8. ANIMAL WELFARE PROVISIONS

The EU animal welfare requirements are also applicable in relation to the import of live animals and products of animal origin. They have paramount importance in particular in two major areas that are the handling of animals during slaughter for human consumption and the welfare requirements concerning the transport of most of live animals.

In relation to the import of certain products the animal welfare requirements are incorporated into the import certificates in the form of an attestation and the veterinary authority of the country of origin has to certify them together with the animal and public health requirements. In relation to the transport of live animals from third countries the animal welfare requirements are both incorporated into the import certificates and also directly apply and are enforceable by the veterinary authorities of the Member States once the consignment reaches the BIP of entry. As these criteria are thoroughly checked at the BIPs, veterinary authorities at the country of origin should very much be aware of them. Consignments that do not meet them (e.g. unfit animals, overstocked trucks, insufficient head space, transporter not authorised by a MS, lack of route plan for leg of journey within EU etc.) will, at the very least, be delayed.

9. HEALTH CERTIFICATION

Imports of animals and animal products into the EU must, as a general rule, be accompanied by the health certification laid down in EU legislation. This sets out the conditions that must be satisfied, and the checks that must have been undertaken, if imports are to be allowed. The details of the certification required are set out in specific EU legislation, which includes models of the certificates to be used.

The certification must be signed by an official veterinarian or official inspector (as indicated in the relevant certificate), and must respect the provisions of Council Directive 96/93/EC on the certification of animals and animal products. Strict rules apply to the production, signing and issuing of certificates, as they confirm compliance with EU rules. The original version of the certificate must accompany consignments on entry into the Community. Certificates must normally be drawn up in the language of the country of dispatch and both of the Member State of destination and the of Member State in which the border inspection takes place although these Member States can agree if they so wish to accept any official EU language other than their own on the certificates.

Each category of animal and product has its own set of animal and/or public health requirements, which may include welfare requirements (e.g. at stunning and slaughter). Particular attention must be paid to ensure that the correct certification is used, and that all of its provisions have been met.

10. BORDER INSPECTION UPON ENTRY TO THE EU

For introduction into the Community of import consignments of animals or products of animal origin, they must enter via an approved Border Inspection Post (BIP) located in a Member State. BIPs are placed under the authority of official veterinarians, who are effectively responsible for health checks on incoming consignments.

According to Community legislation each consignment of live animals and products of animal origin must be subject to official veterinary checks in the border inspection. The official controls include at least a systematic documentary check, identity check and, as appropriate, a physical check. In some cases the frequency of physical checks can be reduced and they depend on the risk profile of the product and also on the results of previous checks.

Although the procedural aspects of the entry of consignments are mainly the responsibility of the importer or as it is often the case, shared between importer, exporter and transporter including perhaps other agents, it must be mentioned that live animal consignments need to be pre-notified to the BIP 24 hours before arrival and product consignments before arrival in the BIP with the first part of the so-called common veterinary entry documents (CVED) filled in as appropriate. Due to a recently developed veterinary computer application (TRAde Control and Expert System, TRACES) this could also be done by electronic transmission. There is extensive EU legislation concerning many other aspects of the entry procedure.

Consignments which are found not to be compliant with Community legislation will either be destroyed or, under certain conditions, re-dispatched within 60 days.

11. TRANSIT REQUIREMENTS

In general and in accordance of the animal health rules laid down in the different sectoral legislation, consignments of live animals and animal products transiting or in case of products being temporarily stored in the EU must comply with the EU animal health requirements. This compliance is checked during the entry procedure. The relevant detailed rules are contained in the list of legislation given in the Annex.

12. PERSONAL IMPORTS

Personal imports of meat and milk bought into the EU continue to present a real threat to animal health throughout the EU as it is known that dangerous pathogens that cause animal diseases such as foot and mouth disease and classical swine fever can reside in them. Hence pathogens could be introduced into the EU by such products originating in third countries where pathogens may be circulating, either in postal packages or in the baggage of travellers arriving from outside the EU.

The EU has measures in place to permanently prohibit all personal consignments of meat, meat products, milk and milk products from entering the EU, including packages sent to private persons, unless specifically authorised, certified as being eligible for EU entry and subject to declaration of the goods on arrival together with the necessary official veterinary documentation (i.e. the same as for commercial imports). The legislation also sets down specific provisions that allow the Member States the organisation of controls at

EU entry points to detect the presence of illegal consignments, the deployment of appropriate detection aids such as scanning equipment and sniffer dogs where necessary, the seizure and destruction of personal consignments that are found to be in breach of the rules and to impose penalties on those travellers that are found to be breaking the rules.

Travellers are, however, allowed to bring in limited quantities of infant or specialist food required for medical purposes from all third countries, providing that those comply certain provisions and also special personal consignments from a very limited number of countries fall outside the scope of the Regulation.

There is also a requirement for transport operators to inform passengers they carry into the Community of the rules governing personal imports of meat and milk. This includes provisions to make use of existing means of passenger communication, such as leaflets and in-flight magazines to publicise the rules.

13. NEW FRAMEWORK LEGISLATION

It should be noted that several new pieces of framework legislation have been adopted in recent years in the areas of animal and public health. Their aim is to merge, harmonise and simplify very detailed and complex requirements currently previously scattered over numerous EU Directives. The overall aim is to create a single, transparent policy applicable to all food and all food operators, together with effective instruments to manage food safety and potential future food crises, throughout the food chain (also known as "from stable to table" or "from farm to fork" approach. While these laws do not represent fundamental changes in the principles described above, they supersede the former legal frameworks by creating new ones for production, processing, distribution and introduction of live animals and products of animal origin and for their official control.

General hygiene rules have been laid down for the production of all food, while specific rules have been laid down for meat and meat products, bivalve molluscs, fishery products, milk and dairy products, eggs and egg products, frogs' legs and snails, animal fats and greaves, gelatine and collagen. The new hygiene laws and their official control[4] are applicable as of 1 January 2006.

As regards to animal health rules, 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 has been applicable since 1 January 2005[5], while Council Directive 2004/68/EC laying down animal health rules for the importation into and transit through the Community of certain live ungulate animals has been applied since 20 November 2005.

[4] Furter information is available under:
http://ec.europa.eu/food/food/biosafety/hygienelegislation/index_en.htm

[5] Detailed information on all animal health rules concerning products are available on the Internet under
http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/animalproducts/index_en.htm

14. INITIAL CONTACT POINT

Inquiries from competent veterinary authorities of third countries concerning imports of animals and animal products into the European Union or their transit should be addressed, in the first instance, to:

Directorate D, Health and Consumer Protection Directorate-General, European Commission, Rue Froissart 101, B-1049 Brussels

Tel: +32 2 2953641

Fax: +32 2 296 4286

Internet: http://ec.europa.eu/food/index_en.htm

All other interested parties and private businesses should contact their competent veterinary authority. These guidelines can be found at the following website address:

http://ec.europa.eu/food/international/trade/importing_en.htm

15. ANNEX: EU LEGISLATION OF RELEVANCE

15.1. Official contact details

The following legal acts can be accessed:

— either through the free on-line EUR-Lex database: http://eurlex.europa.eu(a helpdesk is available for technical questions: helpdesk-online-opoce@ec.europa.eu) or

— by any of the official sales agents for persons interested in paper copies (list of the sales offices: http://publications.europa.eu/others/sales_agents_en.html

Further information about these publications may be obtained through the the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities which is the publishing house of the institutions of the European Union and is responsible for publishing, distributing, promoting and marketing the publications of all the EU institutions by means of its distribution network:

Office for Official Publications of the European Communities
2, rue Mercier 2985 Luxembourg
Tel: (352) 2929-1
E-mail: opoce-info-info@ec.europa.eu
Website: http://publications.europa.eu/index_en.html

15.2. Practical advice

Given the necessity to maintain full knowledge of the consolidated legislation and considering the fact that any amending legislation contains in its title at least the number of the amended legislation, as a purely practical assistance for those who wish to use the Internet to obtain legislation, the following approach is recommended:

1. Visit the following site (click on or copy and paste into browser): http://eur-lex.europa.eu/RECH_mot.do

2. By pressing the *search* button, it will be possible to perform a *search using search terms*. If the number of the basic legislation is typed into the *search for* field, after pressing the *search* button again, the result will provide both the basic legislation, and all its every amendments still in force ordered by date. The legislation available in .pdf format can be studied right away. Nevertheless some of the legislation can be displayed in .html format and therefore will not be convenient to work with. Moreover such texts do not contain any tables, lists and certificates. However, even the data for this legislation will contain the reference to the Official Journal where it was published, including the relevant pages.

3. In the latter case, having the correct reference to the publication in the Official Journal, one can either obtain the relevant copy from the addresses above or visit the http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm page and after pressing the Official Journal button in the top left corner, search for and download the official version.

The information provided below is not intended to be the an exhaustive list of legislation. It is provided for guidance purposes only and interested parties should always refer to the legislation as last amended. The authorities of the country seeking approval to export to the European Union are responsible for ensuring that all relevant EU legislative requirements are met. Some of this legislation can be frequently amended therefore care is needed in particular to ensure that any modifications to the legislation are taken into account. Copies of the legislation can be obtained from the contact points given above.

15.3. General legislation in force

Council Directive 79/923/EEC of 30 October 1979 on the **quality required of shellfish waters**. *OJ L 28, 10/11/1979 P. 47*
Council Directive 80/778/EEC of 15 July 1980 relating to the **quality of water** intended for human consumption. *OJ L 229, 30/08/1980 P. 11*
Council Directive 88/407/EEC of 14 June 1988 laying down the animal health requirements applicable to intra-community trade in and imports of **semen of domestic animals** of the bovine species *OJ L 194, p. 10*
Council Directive 90/539/EEC on animal health conditions governing intra-Community trade in and imports from third countries of **poultry and hatching eggs** *OJ L 303, 31/10/90. P. 6*
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 *OJ No. L 302, 19.10.89, p. 1*
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 *OJ No. L 224, 18.8.90 p. 62*
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**. *OJ L 046, 19/02/1991 P. 1*
Council Directive 91/496/EEC of 15 July 1991 laying down the principles governing the organization of **veterinary checks on animals entering the Community** from third countries and amending Directives 89/662/EEC, 90/425/EEC and 90/675/EEC *OJ L 268, 24.9.91, p.56*
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 *OJ L 268 , 14/09/1992 P. 54*

Council Directive 92/118/EEC of 17 December 1992 laying down animal health and public health requirements governing trade in and imports into the Community of **products not subject to the said requirements laid down in specific Community rules referred to in Annex A (I) to Directive 89/662/EEC and, as regards pathogens, to Directive 90/425/EEC** *OJ L 062 , 15/03/1993 P. 49*
Council Directive 93/53/EEC of 24 June 1993 introducing minimum Community measures for the control of **certain fish diseases**. *OJ L 175, 19/07/1993 P. 23*
Council Regulation (EC) No 1093/94 of 6 May 1994 setting the terms under which **fishing vessels** of a third country may **land directly and market their catches at Community ports**. *OJ L 121, 12/05/1994 P. 3*
Council Directive 95/70/EC of 22 December 1995 introducing minimum Community measures for the control of certain diseases affecting **bivalve molluscs** *OJ L 332, 30/12/1995 P. 33*
Council Directive 96/93/EC of 17 December 1996 on the **certification of animals and animal products** *OJ L 013 , 16/01/1997 P. 28*
Council Regulation (EC) No 2406/96 of 26 November 1996 laying down common marketing standards for certain **fishery products** *OJ L 334, 23/12/1996 P. 1*
Council Directive 97/78/EC of 18 December 1997 laying down the principles governing the organisation of **veterinary checks on products entering the Community** from third countries *OJ No L 24, 30.01.98, p.9*
Directive 2000/13/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 March 2000 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the **labelling, presentation and advertising of foodstuffs** *OJ L 109, 06/05/2000 P. 29*
Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2001 laying down rules for the prevention, control and eradication of certain **transmissible spongiform encephalopathies** *OJ L 147 , 31/05/2001 P. 1*
Commission Regulation (EC) No 2065/2001 of 22 October 2001 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 104/2000 as regards **informing consumers about fishery and aquaculture products** *OJ L 278, 23/10/2001 P. 6*
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 safety *OJ No. L 31, 01.02.2002, p. 1*
Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 3 October 2002 laying down health rules concerning **animal by-products not intended for human consumption** *OJ No. L 273, 10.10.2002, p. 1*
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 consumption** *OJ No. L 18, 23.1.2003, p. 11*

Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the control of **salmonella** and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents *(OJ No. L 325, 12.12.2003, p. 1)*
Council Directive 2004/68/EC of 26.4.2004 laying down animal health rules for the importation into and transit through the Community of certain **live ungulate animals**, amending Directives 90/426/EEC and 92/65/EEC and repealing Directive 72/462/EEC *OJ No. L 139. 30.04.2004, p. 321, corrigendum by OJ No. L 226, 25.06.2004, p. 128*
Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the **hygiene of foodstuffs** *OJ No. L 139, 30.04.2004, p. 1) corrigendum by OJ No. L 226, 25.06.2004, p. 3*
Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 laying down **specific hygiene rules for on the hygiene of foodstuffs** (OJ No. L 139, 30.04.2004, p. 55) corrigendum by OJ No. L 226, 25.06.2004, p. 22
Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 laying down specific rules for the organisation of **official controls** on products of animal origin intended for human consumption *(OJ No. L 155, 30.04.2004, p. 206) as amended by (EC) No 882/2004 (ON No. L 165, 28.05.2004, p. 1), corrigendum by (OJ No. L 226, 25.06.2004, p. 83)*
Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on **official controls** performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules *(ON No. L 165, 28.05.2004, p. 1), corrigendum by OJ No. L 191, 30.04.2004, p. 1*
Commission Regulation (EC) No 1003/2005 of 30 June 2005 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 as regards a **Community target for** the reduction of the prevalence of certain **salmonella** serotypes in breeding flocks of Gallus gallus and amending Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 *(OJ No. L 170, 01.07.2005, p. 12)*
Commission Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005 of 15 November 2005 on **microbiological criteria** for foodstuffs *(OJ L 338, 22.12.2005, p. 1)*
Commission Regulation (EC) No 2074/2005 of 5 December 2005 laying down **implementing measures** for certain products under Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council and for the organisation of official controls under Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council, derogating from Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council and amending Regulations (EC) No 853/2004 and (EC) No 854/2004 *OJ No. L 338, 22.12.2005, p. 27)*
Commission Regulation (EC) No 2075/2005 of 5 December 2005 laying down specific rules on **official controls for Trichinella** in meat *(OJ No. L 338, 22.12.2005, p. 60)*
Commission Regulation (EC) No 2076/2005 of 5 December 2005 laying down **transitional arrangements** for the implementation of Regulations (EC) No 853/2004, (EC) No 854/2004 and (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council and amending Regulations (EC) No 853/2004 and (EC) No 854/2004 *(OJ No. L 338, 22.12.2005, p. 83)*

15.4. General legislation no longer in force from the 1 January 2006

Council Directive 64/433/EEC of 26 June 1964 on health problems affecting intra-Community trade in **fresh meat***   *OJ P 121 , 29/07/1964 P. 2012*
Council Directive 71/118/EEC of 15 February 1971 on health problems affecting trade in **fresh poultrymeat***   *OJ L 055 , 08/03/1971 P. 23*
Council Directive 72/462/EEC of 12 December 1972 on health and veterinary inspection problems upon **importation of bovine animals and swine and fresh meat** from third countries**   *OJ L 302 , 31/12/1972 P. 28*
Council Directive 77/96/EEC of 21 December 1976 on the examination for **trichinae** (trichinella spiralis) upon importation from third countries of **fresh meat derived from domestic swine***   *OJ L 026 , 31/01/1977 P. 67*
Council Directive 77/99/EEC of 21 December 1976 on health problems affecting intra-Community trade in **meat products***   *OJ L 026 , 31/01/1977 P. 85*
Council Directive 89/437/EEC of 20 June 1989 on hygiene and health problems affecting the production and the placing on the market of **egg products***   *OJ L 212 , 22/07/1989 P. 87*
Council Directive 91/492/EEC of 15 July 1991 laying down the health conditions for the production and the placing on the market of **live bivalve molluscs***   *OJ L 268 , 24/09/1991 P. 1*
Council Directive 91/493/EEC of 22 July 1991 laying down the health conditions for the production and the placing on the market of **fishery products***   *OJ L 268 , 24/09/1991 P. 15*
Council Directive 91/494/EEC concerning animal health conditions governing intra Community trade in and imports from third countries of **fresh poultrymeat***   *OJ L 268, 24/9//91 P. 35*
Council Directive 91/495/EEC of 27 November 1990 concerning public health and animal health problems affecting the production and placing on the market of **rabbit meat and farmed game meat***   *OJ L 268 , 24/09/1991 P. 41*
Council Directive 92/45/EEC of 16 June 1992 on public health and animal health problems relating to the killing of wild game and the placing on the market of **wild game meat***   *OJ L 268 , 14/09/1992 P. 35*
Council Directive 92/46/EEC of 16 June 1992 laying down the health rules for the production and placing on the market of **raw milk, heat-treated milk and milk-based products***   *OJ L 268 , 14/09/1992 P. 1*

* Legislation marked with an asterix are repealed by Directive 2004/41/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council with effect from the date of application of Regulations (EC) No 852/2004, (EC) No 853/2003 and (EC) No 854/2003 i.e. 1 January 2006. With effect from that date, references to the directives referred to in Article 2 of Directive 2004/41/EC or to Annex II to Directive 92/118/EEC shall be construed as being made, as the context demands, to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 or Directive 2002/99/EC.

** Directive 72/462/EEC is repealed by Council Directive 2004/68/EC from the date of application of Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 i.e. 1 January 2006.

Council Directive 92/48/EEC of 16 June 1992 laying down the minimum hygiene rules applicable to **fishery products** caught on board certain vessels in accordance with Article 3 (1) (a) (i) of Directive 91/493/EEC* *OJ L 187 , 07/07/1992 P. 41*
Council Directive 93/99/EEC of 29 October 1993 on the subject of additional measures concerning the official **control of foodstuffs**[***] *OJ L 290 , 24/11/1993 P. 14*
Council Directive 94/65/EC of 14 December 1994 laying down the requirements for the production and placing on the market of **minced meat and meat preparations*** *OJ L 368 , 31/12/1994 P. 10*

15.5. Animal welfare legislation

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 *OJ L 340, 11.12.91, p. 17*
Council Directive 93/119/EC of 22 December 1993 on the **protection of animals at the time of slaughter or killing** *OJ L 340 , 31/12/1993 P. 21*
Council Regulation (EC) No 411/98 of 16 February 1998 on additional **animal protection standards** applicable to road vehicles used for the carriage of livestock on journeys exceeding eight hours *(OJ L 52, 21.2.98, p.8)*
Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 of 22 December 2004 on the **protection of animals during transport** and related operations and amending Directives 64/432/EEC and 93/119/EC and Regulation (EC) No 1255/97 *(OJ No. L 3, 05.01.2005, p. 1)*

15.6. Materials in contact with foodstuffs

Council Directive 78/142/EEC of 30 January 1978 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to **materials and articles which contain vinyl chloride monomer and are intended to come into contact with foodstuffs** *OJ L 44, 15/02/1978 P. 15*
Council Directive 89/109/EEC of 21 December 1988 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to **materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs** *OJ L 40, 11/02/1989 P. 38*
Commission Directive 93/10/EEC of 15 March 1993 relating to materials and articles made of **regenerated cellulose film intended to come into contact with foodstuffs** *OJ L 93 , 17/04/1993 P. 27*
Commission Directive 2002/72/EC of 6 August 2002 relating to **plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs** *OJ L 220 , 15/08/2002 P. 18*

*** repealed with effect from 1 January 2006 by Regulation (EC) 882/2004

15.7. Residue and contaminant controls

Council Regulation (EEC) No 2377/90 of 26 June 1990 laying down a Community procedure for the establishment of maximum **residue limits of veterinary medicinal products in foodstuffs of animal origin** *OJ L 224 , 18/08/1990 P. 1*
European Parliament and Council Directive No 95/2/EC of 20 February 1995 on **food additives other than colours and sweeteners** *OJ L 061, 18/03/1995 P. 1*
Council Directive 96/22/EC of 29 April 1996 concerning the prohibition on the use in stockfarming of certain **substances having a hormonal or thyrostatic action and of ß-agonists**, and repealing Directives 81/602/EEC, 88/146/EEC and 88/299/EEC *OJ L 125 , 23/05/1996 P. 3*
Council Directive 96/23/EC of 29 April 1996 on measures to monitor **certain substances and residues thereof** in live animals and animal products and repealing Directives 85/358/EEC and 86/469/EEC and Decisions 89/187/EEC and 91/664/EEC *OJ L 125 , 23/05/1996 P. 10*
Commission Directive 98/53/EC of 16 July 1998 laying down the sampling methods and the methods of analysis for the official control of the levels for certain **contaminants in foodstuffs** *OJ L 201 , 17/07/1998 P. 93*
98/179/EC: Commission Decision of 23 February 1998 laying down detailed rules on official sampling for the monitoring of certain **substances and residues thereof in live animals and animal products** *OJ L 065 , 05/03/1998 P. 31*
Commission Decision 2004/432/EC of 29 avril 2004 on the approval of residue monitoring plans submitted by third countries in accordance with Council Directive 96/23/EC. *OJ L 189, 27.05.2004, p33*
Commission Directive 2001/22/EC of 8 March 2001 laying down the sampling methods and the methods of analysis for the official control of the levels of **lead, cadmium, mercury and 3-MCPD** in foodstuffs *OJ L 077, 16/03/2001 P. 14*
Commission Regulation (EC) No 466/2001 of 8 March 2001 setting **maximum levels for certain contaminants in foodstuffs** *OJ L 077, 16/03/2001 P. 1*
Commission Directive 2002/69/EC of 26 July 2002 laying down the sampling methods and the methods of analysis for the official **control of dioxins and the determination of dioxin-like PCBs in foodstuffs** *OJ L 209 , 06/08/2002 P. 5*
2002/657/EC: Commission Decision of 12 August 2002 implementing Council Directive 96/23/EC concerning the performance of **analytical methods and the interpretation of results** *OJ L 221 , 17/08/2002 P. 8*

15.8. Lists of approved third countries and certification requirements

Council Decision 79/542/EEC of 21 December 1976 drawing up a list of third countries or parts of third countries, and laying down animal and public health and veterinary certification conditions, for importation into the Community of **certain live animals and their fresh meat** *OJ L 146 , 14/06/1979 P. 15*
Council Directive 92/118/EEC of 17 December 1992 laying down animal health and public health requirements governing trade in and imports into the Community of **products not subject to the said requirements laid down in specific Community rules** referred to in Annex A (I) to Directive 89/662/EEC and, as regards pathogens, to Directive 90/425/EEC *OJ L 062 , 15/03/1993 P. 49*
Commission Decision 92/260/EEC of 10 April 1992 on animal health conditions and veterinary certification for **temporary admission of registered horses** *OJ L 130 , 15/05/1992 P. 67*
Commission Decision 93/51/EEC of 15 December 1992 on the microbiological criteria applicable to the production of **cooked crustaceans and molluscan shellfish**. *OJ L 013, 21/01/1993 P. 11*
Commission Decision 93/140/EEC of 19 January 1993 laying down the detailed rules relating to the visual inspection for the purpose of **detecting parasites in fishery products**. *OJ L 056, 09/03/1993 P. 42*
Commission Decision 93/195/EEC of 2 February 1993 on animal health conditions and veterinary certification for the **re-entry of registered horses** for racing, competition and cultural events after temporary export *OJ L 086 , 06/04/1993 P. 1*
Commission Decision 93/196/EEC of 5 February 1993 on animal health conditions and veterinary certification for imports of **equidae for slaughter** *OJ L 086 , 06/04/1993 P. 7*
Commission Decision 93/197/EEC of 5 February 1993 on animal health conditions and veterinary certification for imports of **registered equidae and equidae for breeding and production** *OJ L 086 , 06/04/1993 P. 16*
Commission Decision 93/342/EEC of 12 May 1993 laying down the criteria for classifying third countries with regard to **avian influenza and Newcastle disease** *OJ L 137 , 08/06/1993 P. 24*
Commission Decision 94/63/EC of 31 January 1994 drawing up a list of third countries from which Member States authorise imports of **semen, ova and embryos of the ovine and caprine species** and ova and embryos of the porcine species *OJ No L 28, 2.2.94, p. 47*
Commission Decision 94/85/EC of 16 February 1994 drawing up a list of third countries from which the Member States authorize imports of **fresh poultrymeat*** *OJ L 044 , 17/02/1994 P.31*

* NOTE: legislation marked with an asterix will be repealed by new legislation that has already been voted and waiting for adoption and publication: Commission Decision 2006/xxx/EC laying down a list of third countries from which poultry, hatching eggs, day-old chicks, meat of poultry, ratites and wild game-birds, eggs and egg products and specified pathogen-free eggs may be imported into and transit through

Commission Decision 94/86/EC of 16 February 1994 drawing up a provisional list of third countries from which Member States authorize imports of **wild game meat*** *OJ L 044 , 17/02/1994 P. 33*
94/356/EC: Commission Decision of 20 May 1994 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Directive 91/493/EEC, as regards **own health checks on fishery products** *OJ L 156, 23/06/1994 P. 50*
94/371/EC: Council Decision of 20 June 1994 laying down specific public health conditions for the putting on the market of certain types of **eggs** *OJ L 168 , 02/07/1994 P. 34*
Commission Decision 94/438/EC of 7 June 1994 laying down the criteria for classifying third countries and parts thereof with regard to avian influenza and Newcastle disease in relation to imports of **fresh poultrymeat** and amending Decision 93/342/EEC *OJ L 181 , 15/07/1994 P. 35*
Commission Decision 94/984/EC of 20 December 1994 laying down animal health conditions and veterinary certificates for the importation of **fresh poultrymeat** from certain third countries* *OJ L 378 , 31/12/1994 P. 11*
95/149/EC: Commission Decision of 8 March 1995 fixing the total **volatile basic nitrogen** (TVB-N) **limit values** for certain categories of fishery products and specifying the analysis methods to be used. *OJ L 097, 29/04/1995 P. 84*
Commission Decision 95/233/EC of 22 June 1995 drawing up lists of third countries from which the Member States authorize imports of **live poultry and hatching eggs*** *OJ L 156 , 07/07/1995 P. 76*
95/328/EC: Commission Decision of 25 July 1995 establishing health certification for **fishery products** from third countries which are not yet covered by a specific decision.** *OJ L 191, 12/08/1995 P. 32*
96/333/EC: Commission Decision of 3 May 1996 establishing health certification of **live bivalve molluscs, echinoderms, tunicates and marine gastropods** from third countries which are not covered by a specific decision *OJ L 127, 25/05/1996 P. 33*
Commission Decision 96/482/EC of 12 July 1996 laying down animal health conditions and veterinary certificates for the importation of **poultry and hatching eggs** other than ratites and eggs thereof from third countries including animal health measures to be applied after such importation *OJ L 196 , 07/08/1996 P. 13*
Commission Decision 96/539/EC of 4 September 1996 on animal health requirements and veterinary certification for imports into the Community of **semen of the equine** species OJ No L 230, 11.9.1996, p. 23
Commission Decision 96/540/EC of 4 September 1996 on animal health requirements and veterinary certification for imports into the Community of **ova and embryos of the equine** species OJ No L 230, 11.9.1996, p. 28

the Community and the applicable veterinary certification conditions, and amending Decisions 93/342/EEC, 2000/585/EC and 2003/812/EC

** Please note that apart from the listed legislation here, there exist a large number of Commission Decisions addressed to individual countries and laying down special health conditions for import of fishery products from the given country and certificate for such purpose.

Commission Decision 97/20/EC of 17 December 1996 establishing the list of third countries fulfilling the equivalence conditions for the production and placing on the market of **bivalve molluscs, echinoderms, tunicates and marine gastropods** *OJ L 6 , 10/01/1997 P. 46*
97/38/EC: Commission Decision of 18 December 1996 setting specific public health requirements for imports of **egg products** for human consumption* OJ L 014 , 17/01/1997 P. 61
Commission Decision 97/296/EC of 22 April 1997 drawing up the list of third countries from which the import of **fishery products** is authorized for human consumption *OJ L 122 , 14/05/1997 P. 21*
Commission Decision 2000/20/EC of 10 December 1999 establishing health certificates for the importation from third countries of **gelatine** intended for human consumption **and of raw materials** destined for the production of gelatine intended for human consumption *OJ L 006 , 11/01/2000 P. 60*
Commission Decision 2000/585/EC Commission Decision of 7 September 2000 drawing up a list of third countries from which Member States authorise imports of **rabbit meat and certain wild and farmed game meat**, and laying down the animal and public health and the veterinary certification conditions for such imports *OJ L 251 , 06/10/2000 P. 1*
Commission Decision 2000/572/EC of 8 September 2000 laying down animal and public health conditions and veterinary certification for imports of **meat preparations** from third countries and repealing Decision 97/29/EC OJ L 240 , 23/09/2000 P. 19
Commission Decision 2000/609/EC of 29 September 2000 laying down animal and public health conditions and veterinary certification for imports of **farmed ratite meat** amending Decision 94/85/EC drawing up a list of third countries from which the Member States authorise imports of fresh poultrymeat* *OJ L 258 , 12/10/2000 P. 49*
Commission Decision 2000/666/EC of 16 October 2000 laying down the animal health requirements and the veterinary certification for the import of **birds, other than poultry** and the conditions for quarantine *OJ L 278 , 31/10/2000 P. 26*
2001/182/EC: Commission decision of 8 March 2001 repealing Decision 93/351/EEC determining analysis methods, sampling plans and maximum limits for **mercury in fishery products** *OJ L 077, 16/03/2001 P. 22*
Commission Decision 2001/183/EC of 22 February 2001 laying down the **sampling plans and diagnostic methods** for the detection and confirmation of certain fish diseases and repealing Decision 92/532/EEC *OJ NO. L 67, 09.03.2001, p. 65*
Commission Decision 2001/393/EC of 4 May 2001 laying down animal health conditions and veterinary certification for the import of **specified pathogen free eggs** from non-member countries and drawing up a list of non-member countries from which Member States authorise imports of such eggs* *(OJ No. L 138, 22.05.2001, p. 31)*

Commission Decision 2001/751/EC of 16 October 2001 laying down animal health conditions and veterinary certification for imports of **live ratites and hatching eggs** thereof from third countries including animal health measures to be applied after such importation, amending Commission Decision 95/233/EC drawing up a list of third countries from which the Member States authorise imports of live poultry and hatching eggs and amending Commission Decision 96/659/EC on protective measures in relation to Crimean Congo haemorrhagic fever* *OJ L 281 , 25/10/2001 P. 24*
2002/225/EC: Commission Decision of 15 March 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Directive 91/492/EEC as regards the maximum levels and the methods of analysis of certain **marine biotoxins** in bivalve molluscs, echinoderms, tunicates and marine gastropods *OJ L 75 , 16/03/2002 P. 62*
Commission Decision 2002/613/EC of 19 July 2002 laying down the importation conditions of **semen of** domestic animals of the **porcine** species *OJ No. L 196, 25.07.2002, p. 45*
Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 3 October 2002 laying down health rules concerning **animal by-products not intended for human consumption** (OJ No. L 273, 10.10.2002, p. 1)
Regulation (EC) No 998/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 on the animal health requirements applicable to the non-commercial movement of **pet animals** and amending Council Directive 92/65/EEC *OJ L 146, 13.6.2003, p. 1*
Commission Decision 2003/774/EC of 30 October 2003 approving **certain treatments** to inhibit the development of pathogenic micro-organisms in bivalve molluscs and marine gastropods *OJ No. L 283, 31.10.2003, p. 78*
Commission Decision 2003/779/EC of 31 October 2003 laying down animal health requirements and the veterinary certification for the import of **animal casings** from third countries *(OJ No. L 285, 01.11.2003, p. 38)*
Commission Decision 2003/804/EC of 14 November 2003 laying down the animal health conditions and certification requirements for imports of **molluscs, their eggs and gametes for further growth, fattening, relaying or human consumption** *OJ No. L 302, 20.11.2003, p. 22*
Commission Decision 2003/812/EC of 17 November 2003 drawing up lists of third countries from which Member States are to authorise imports of **certain products for human consumption subject to Council Directive 92/118/EEC** *(OJ No. L 305, 22.11.2003, p. 17)*
Commission Decision 2003/858/EC of 21 November 2003 laying down the animal health conditions and certification requirements for imports of **live fish, their eggs and gametes intended for farming, and live fish of aquaculture origin and products thereof** intended for human consumption *OJ No. L 324, 11.12.2003, p. 37*
Commission Decision 2004/211 of 6 January 2004 establishing the list of third countries and parts of territory thereof from which Member States authorise imports of **live equidae and semen, ova and embryos of the equine species,** and amending Decisions 93/195/EEC and 94/63/EC *OJ No. L 73, 11.03.2004, p. 1*

Commission Decision 2004/438/EC of 29 April 2004 laying down animal and public health and veterinary certifications conditions for introduction in the Community of **heat-treated milk, milk-based products and raw milk intended for human consumption** *OJ No. L 154, 30.04.2004, p. 72, corrigendum by OJ No. L 189, 27.05.2004, p. 57, corrigendum by OJ No. L 92, 12.04.2005, p. 47*
Commission Decision 2004/595/EC of 29 July 2004 establishing a model health certificate for the importation into the Community for trade of **dogs, cats and ferrets** *OJ L 266, 13.8.2004, p. 11*
Commission Decision 2004/639/EC of 6 September 2004 laying down the importation conditions of **semen of** domestic animals of the **bovine** species *OJ No. L 292, 15.09.2004, p. 21*
Commission Regulation (EC) No 745/2004 of 16 April 2004 laying down measures with regard to imports of products of animal origin for **personal consumption** *OJ No. L 122, 26.04.2004, p. 1*
Commission Decision 2005/64/EC of 26 January 2005 implementing Council Directive 92/65/EEC as regards import conditions for **cats, dogs and ferrets** for approved bodies, institutes or centres *OJ No. L 27, 29.01.2005, p. 48)*
Commission Decision 2005/432/EC of 3 June 2005 laying down the animal and public health conditions and model certificates for imports of **meat products for human consumption** from third countries and repealing Decisions 97/41/EC, 97/221/EC and 97/222/EC *(OJ No. L 151, 14.06.2005, p. 3)*
Commission Decision 2005/290/EC of 4 April 2005 on simplified certificates for the importation of **bovine semen and fresh pig meat** from Canada and mending Decision 2004/639/EC *(OJ No. L 93, 12.04.2005, p. 34)*
Commission Decision 2006/168/EC of 4 January 2006 establishing the animal health and veterinary certification requirements for imports into the Community of **bovine embryos** and repealing Decision 2005/217/EC *OJ L 57, 28.2.2006, p. 19*

15.9. Lists and provisional lists of approved third country establishments: germinal products

Commission Decision 92/452/EEC of 30 July 1992 establishing lists of embryo collection teams approved in third countries for export of **bovine embryos** to the Community *OJ L 250, 29.08.92, p.40*
Commission Decision 93/693/EC of 14 December 1993 establishing a list of semen collection centres approved for the export to the Community of **semen of** domestic animals of the **bovine** species from third countries and revoking Decisions 91/642/EEC, 91/643/EEC and 92/255/EEC *(OJ No. L 320, p. 35, 22.12.1993)*
Commission Decision 2002/613/EC of 19 July 2002 laying down the importation conditions of **semen of** domestic animals of the **porcine** species *OJ No. L 196, 25.07.2002, p. 45*
Commission Decision 2004/616/EC of 26 July 2004 establishing the list of approved semen collection centres for imports of **equine semen** from third countries *(OJ No. L 278, 27.08.2004, p. 64)*

15.10. Lists and provisional lists of approved third country establishments: products for human consumption

Council Decision 95/408/EC of 22 June 1995 on the conditions for drawing up, for an interim period, provisional lists of third country establishments from which Member States are authorized to import certain **products of animal origin, fishery products or live bivalve molluscs** *OJ L 243 , 11/10/1995 P. 17* *NB. This Decision lays down the procedures to be followed in granting provisional establishment approvals; it does not contain specific lists of countries or establishments.*
Commission Decision 97/4/EC of 12 December 1996 drawing up provisional lists of third country establishments from which the Member States authorize imports of **fresh poultrymeat** *OJ L 2 , 04/01/1997 P. 6*
Commission Decision 97/252/EC of 25 March 1997 drawing up provisional lists of third country establishments from which the Member States authorize imports of **milk and milk products for human consumption** *OJ L 101 , 18/04/1997 P. 46*
Commission Decision 97/365/EC of 26 March 1997 drawing up provisional lists of third country establishments from which the Member States authorize imports of **products prepared from meat of bovine animals, swine, equidae and sheep and goats** *OJ L 154 , 12/06/1997 P. 41*
Commission Decision 97/467/EC of 7 July 1997 drawing up provisional lists of third country establishments from which the Member States authorize imports of **rabbit meat and farmed game meat** *OJ L 199 , 26/07/1997 P. 57*
Commission Decision 97/468/EC of 7 July 1997 drawing up provisional lists of third country establishments from which the Member States authorize imports of **wild game meat** *OJ L 199 , 26/07/1997 P. 62*
Commission Decision 97/569/EC of 16 July 1997 drawing up provisional lists of third country establishments from which the Member States authorize imports of **meat products** *OJ L 234 , 26/08/1997 P. 16*
Commission Decision 1999/120/EC of 27 January 1999 drawing up provisional lists of third country establishments from which the Member States authorize imports of **animal casings** *OJ L 036 , 10/02/1999 P. 21*
Commission Decision 99/710/EC of 15 October 1999 drawing up provisional lists of third country establishments from which the Member States authorise imports of **minced meat and meat preparations** *OJ L 281 , 04/11/1999 P. 82*
Commission Decision 2001/556/EC of 11 July 2001drawing up provisional lists of third country establishments from which Member States authorise imports of **gelatine intended for human consumption** *(OJ no. L 200, 25.07.2001, p. 23)*

15.11. Legislation related to pet animals

Regulation (EC) No 998/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 on the animal health requirements applicable to the non-commercial movement of **pet animals** and amending Council Directive 92/65/EEC *OJ L 146, 13.6.2003, p. 1*
Commission Decision 2004/301/EC of 30 March 2004 derogating from Decisions 2003/803/EC and 2004/203/EC as regards the **format for certificates and passports** for the non-commercial movement of dogs, cats and ferrets and amending Decision 2004/203/EC *OJ No. L 98, 02.04.2004, p. 55*
Commission Decision 2004/824/EC of 1 December 2004 establishing a **model health certificate** for non-commercial movements of dogs, cats and ferrets from third countries into the Community *OJ No. L 358, 03.12.2004, p.12*
Commission Decision 2004/839/EC of 3 December 2004 establishing conditions for non-commercial movements of **young dogs and cats** from third countries into the Community *OJ No. L 361, 08.12.2004, p. 40*

15.12. Legislation related to border inspection post (BIP) procedures

Commission Decision 94/360/EC of 20 May 1994 on the **reduced frequency of physical checks** of consignments of certain products to be implemented from third countries, under Council Directive 90/675/EEC *(OJ NO. L 158, 25/06/94, P. 41)*
Commission Decision 97/794/EC of 12 November 1997 laying down certain detailed rules for the application of Council Directive 91/496/EEC as regards **veterinary checks on live animals** to be imported from third countries *(OJ No. L 323, 26.11.97, p. 31)*
Commission Decision 2000/25/EC of 16 December 1999 establishing the detailed rules for the application of Article 9 of Council Directive 97/78/EC concerning the **transhipment of products** at a Border Inspection Post where the consignments are intended for eventual import into the European Community, and amending Commission Decision 93/14/EEC *(OJ No. L 9, 13.01.2000, p. 27)*
Commission Decision 2000/208/EC of 24 February 2000 establishing detailed rules for the application of Council Directive 97/78/EC concerning the **transit of products** of animal origin from one third country to another third country by road only across the European Community *(OJ No. L 64, 11.03.2000, p. 20)*
Commission Decision 2000/571/EC of 8 September 2000 laying down the methods of veterinary checks for products from third countries destined for introduction into **free zones, free warehouses, customs warehouses** or operators supplying cross border means of sea transport *(OJ No. L 240, 23.09.2000, p. 14)*
COMMISSION DECISION 2001/881/EC of 7 December 2001 drawing up a **list of border inspection posts** agreed for veterinary checks on animals and animal products from third countries and updating the detailed rules concerning the checks to be carried out by the experts of the Commission *(OJ No. L 326, 11.12.2001, p. 44)*

Commission Decision 2002/349/EC of 26 April 2002 laying down the **list of products to be examined** at border inspection posts under Council Directive 97/78/EC *(OJ L 121, 8.5.2002, p.6)*
Commission Regulation (EC) No 136/2004 of 22 January 2004 laying down procedures for **veterinary checks** at Community border inspection posts **on products** imported from third countries *(OJ No. L 21, 28.01.2004, p. 11)*
Commission Regulation (EC) No 282/2004 of 18 February 2004 introducing a **document for** the declaration of, and veterinary checks on, **animals** from third countries entering the Community *(OJ No. L 49, 19.02.2004, p. 11)*
Commission Decision 2004/292/EC of 30 March 2004 on the introduction of the **Traces** system and amending Decision 92/486/EEC *(OJ No. L 94, 31.03.2004, p. 63)*
Commission Regulation (EC) No 745/2004 of 16 April 2004 laying down measures with regard to imports of products of animal origin for **personal consumption** *(OJ No. L 122, 26.04.2004, p. 1)*

15.13. Zootechnical legislation

Council Directive 94/28/EC of 23 June 1994 laying down the **principles relating to the zootechnical and genealogical conditions** applicable to imports from third countries of animals, their semen, ova and embryos, and amending Directive 77/504/EEC on pure-bred breeding animals of the bovine species *(OJ No. L 178, 12.07.1994, p. 66)*
Commission Decision 96/509/EC of 18 July 1996 laying down pedigree and zootechnical requirements for the importation of **semen** of certain animals *(OJ No L 210, 20.6.1996, p. 47)*
Commission Decision 96/510/EC of 18 July 1996 laying down the pedigree and zootechnical certificates for the importation of **breeding animals, their semen, ova and embryos** *(OJ No L 210, 20.6.1996, p. 53)*
Commission Decision 2006/139/EC of 7 February 2006 implementing Council Directive 94/28/EC as regards a list of authorities in third countries approved for the **keeping of a herdbook or register** of certain animals *(OJ No L 54, 24.2.2006, p. 34)*