



# EU activities on animal transport



*Meeting of WOA National Focal Points on long distance transport  
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- Events outside the EU:
  - WOHG General Session in Paris
  - FAO Committee on Agriculture (COAG) in Rome

# The process to prepare the proposal

- Evaluation of the current legislation (Fitness Check)
- EFSA scientific opinions on animal welfare during transport
- Wide public consultation and meetings with all stakeholders involved
- External Study supporting the Impact Assessment
- Dedicated sub-group on animal transport under the EU Platform on AW
- Commission Staff Working Document on the Impact Assessment
- [https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/animal-welfare/animal-welfare-practice/animal-welfare-during-transport\\_en](https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/animal-welfare/animal-welfare-practice/animal-welfare-during-transport_en)

# The scope

- Focusing on most commonly transported animal species;
- Three layers of regulation
  - **Included with detailed provisions** (farm animals, aquatic animals, cats and dogs...)
  - **Included with general provisions** (transhumance, 50km radius, animals for the purposes of participating in training, exhibitions, competitions, cultural events, circuses, and equestrian sport and leisure activities)
  - **Excluded** (CITES, zoos, vet practice, no economic activity, ornamental fish, direct deliveries of aquatic animals to food businesses supplying the final consumer)
- Derogations (animals in scientific projects)
- Addition of provisions on **aquatic animals** and **dogs and cats**;

# Authorisations and approvals

## Organisers

- Established in the EU or represented
- Have the capacity to organise transports
- Special authorisation for exports

## Transporters

- Approved means of transport
- Trained and certified drivers, attendants and 'animal welfare officers'

## Means of transport

- Road,
- Rail,
- Containers for large animals
- Livestock vessels

- Authorisations
- Application
- Suspension
- Withdrawal

All will be done  
online

European Commission  
system TRACES

# Journey times



## New simplified approach

Short journeys - 9 h (to slaughterhouse max 9 h, derogation upon decision of CA)

Long journeys – 21 h + 24 h rest + 21 h

Transport of unweaned animals - 8 h (without feeding) and 19 h (with feeding)

Transport of poultry and rabbits - 12 h (incl. loading and unloading)

Transport at extreme temperatures

No journey times for transport by sea and by air (but providing water and feed)

# Increased space allowance

- **Uniform for all means of transport**
- **Calculated using allometric equation**

$$A = kW^{(2/3)}$$

A=area per animal [m<sup>2</sup> or cm<sup>2</sup> for transport of birds and rabbits in containers], W=live weight [kg], k= "k-value"

- **Species-specific (k-value);**

# Export of animals



**EU rules must be respected until the place of destination in the third country.**

- Organisers to be authorised;
- Checks in third countries by certification bodies;
- Control posts in third countries to be approved;



# Import and transit of animals



## **Entry into the European Union:**

EU rules or equivalent must be respected until the place of destination in the EU.

## **Transit through the EU:**

EU rules apply except provisions on journey times

# Transport by sea



## Paris Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control

Only vessels flying white or gray flag according to flag performance rating



Official veterinarian on board of the first journey



Animals to be loaded only to vessels with ship risk profile as “low risk” or “standard risk”



Acceptance of documentation from TC authorities

Attestation

Prerequisite for approval of journey log if animals are to be transported by sea

# Transport by air

Animals may only be transported by aircrafts belonging to carriers that are members of the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

The technical rules of IATA Live Animals Regulations (LAR) apply in the case of transport of animals by air.

# Transport in extreme temperatures

Journey times depend on temperature forecast at departure, destination, control post and exit point

- **Cold:**

- **< 0°C:** Protection from windchill
- **< -5 °C:** Protection from windchill and journey time max 9h



- **Heat:**

- **25-30 °C:** Journey between 10am and 9pm limited to 9h
- **>30 °C:** Only journeys between 9pm and 10am allowed
- **>30 °C by night:** Only journeys between 9pm and 10am allowed and 20% more space allowance



# Digitalisation and traceability

- Journey log fully digitalised
- All documents will be digital and in TRACES
- Mobile application will be created to facilitate administrative tasks on route
- Positioning of means of transport



# The way forward

- **Commission proposal was adopted on 7 December 2023:**
  - For more details:  
[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_23\\_6251](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_23_6251)
- **Ordinary legislative process – now at the level of co-legislators:**
  - Council of the EU
  - EU Parliament

## Side events at global forums



- WOAH General Session in Paris on 29 May 2024
- FAO Committee on Agriculture (COAG) in Rome on 18 July 2024
- <http://www.fao.org/webcast/home/en/item/6649/icode/>

**Thank you for your attention!**

