

Country report on animal welfare during long distance transport by land and sea

## Situation regarding animal welfare during long duration transport - FRANCE

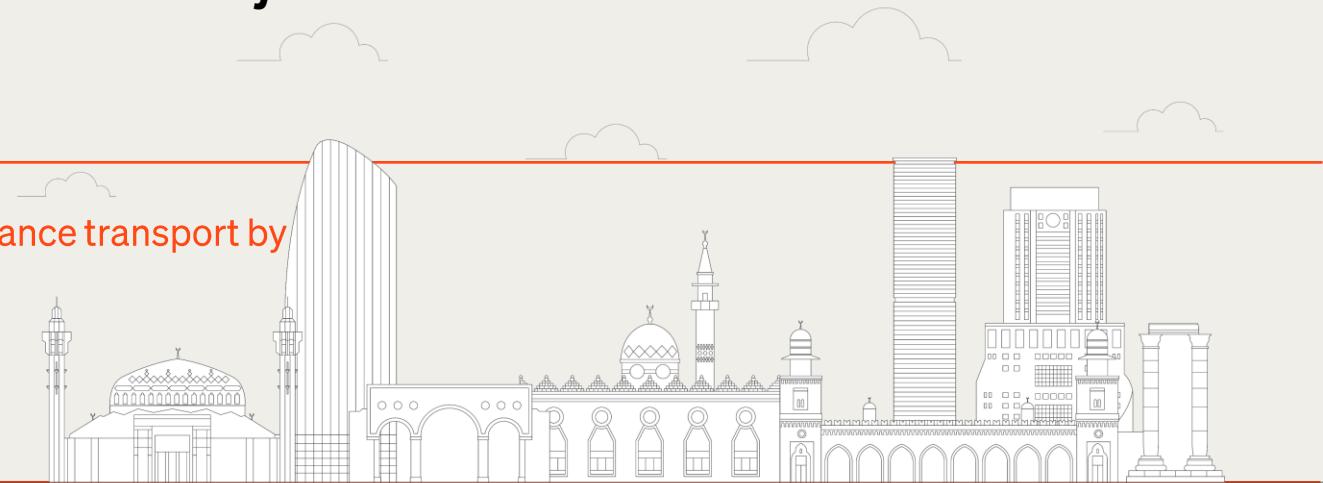
Speaker(s) name ***DIDIERLAURENT Sabine / LOCHET Benjamin***

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Multi-regional Whole Journey Scenario workshop on long-distance transport by land and sea between Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa

13- 15 January 2026, Amman, Jordan

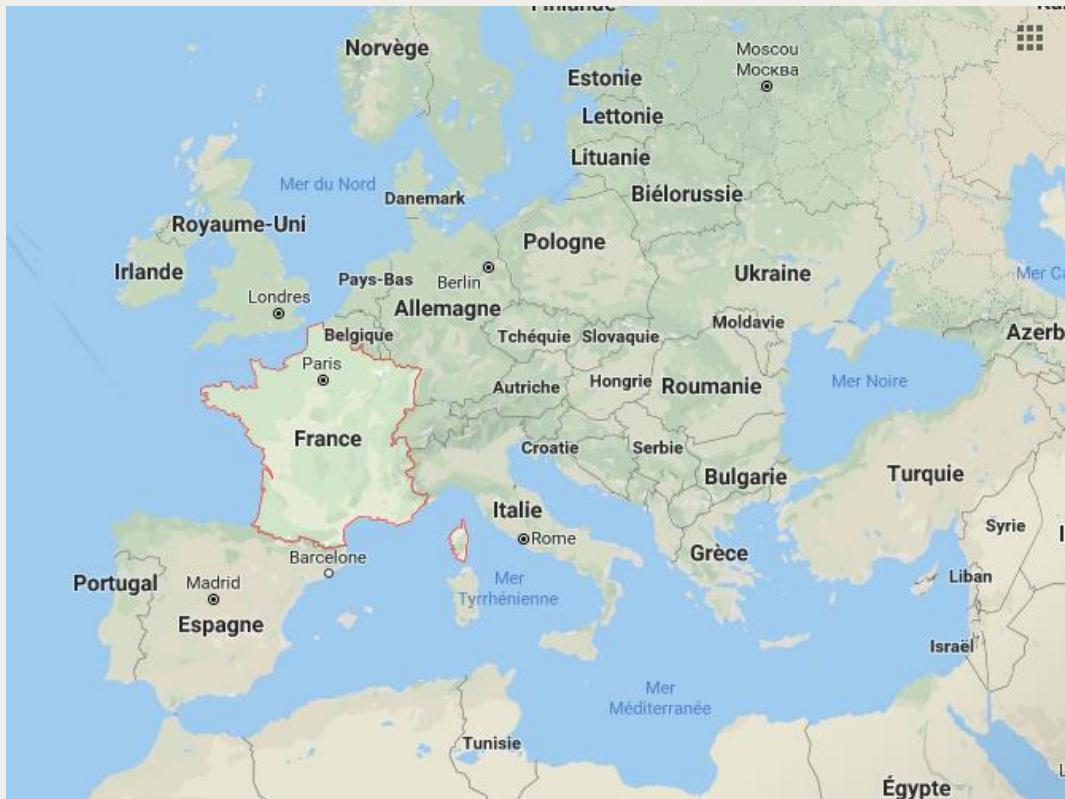
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World Organisation  
for Animal Health



## France has a central position in Europe

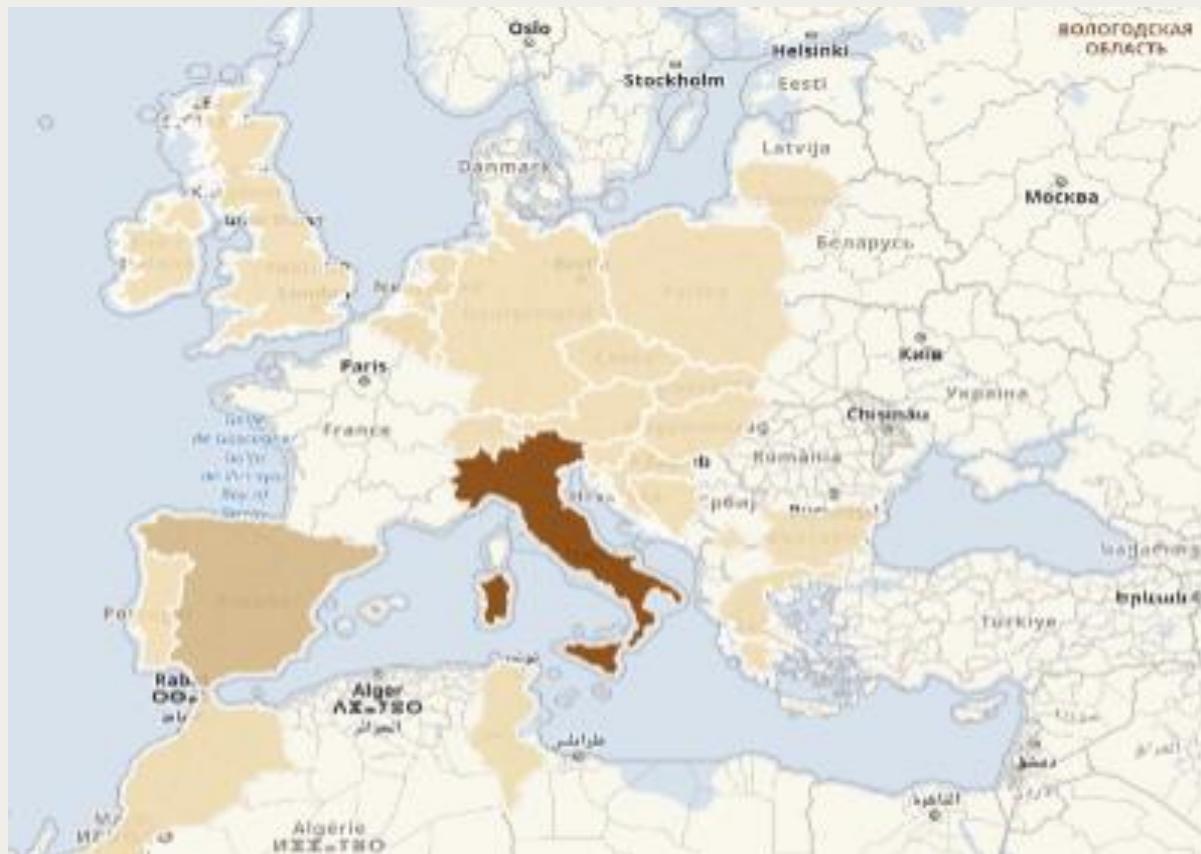


Terrestrial borders : only with EU member states or Switzerland and United Kingdom

But 2 designed maritime exit points

## Overview of country livestock transport and trade

France mainly exports live cattle to Member States or Third Countries.



	cumul 2023 (Têtes)	cumul 2024 (Têtes)	cumul 2025 (Têtes)
Monde	1 219 029	1 162 212	1 122 962
UE27	1 170 015	1 125 391	1 096 008
ITALIE	740 864	723 582	667 199
ESPAGNE	365 549	355 294	380 115
BELGIQUE	12 077	8 996	18 032
GRÈCE	10 599	10 692	11 589
PAYS-BAS	15 884	7 892	5 886
ALLEMAGNE	4 646	3 747	4 301
POLOGNE	3 153	8 360	4 080
HONGRIE	1 749	1 144	1 308
BULGARIE	4 526	1 466	1 145
LUXEMBOURG	982	305	867
TIERS	49 014	36 821	26 954
MAROC	3 545	16 797	15 932
TUNISIE	3 176	8 956	6 459
SUISSE	2 349	2 477	1 599
KOSOVO	.	528	1 270
SÉNÉGAL	1 134	1 277	1 217

\*The FranceAgrimer (visiotrade) data as of 01 nov. 2025

# Overview of country livestock transport and trade

France mainly exports live sheeps to Member States or Third Countries.



	cumul 2023 (têtes)	cumul 2024 (têtes)	cumul 2025 (têtes)
<b>Monde</b>	263 274	277 827	272 042
<b>UE27</b>	244 178	275 469	271 009
<b>ESPAGNE</b>	127 407	137 652	132 360
<b>ITALIE</b>	64 281	81 830	76 790
<b>ALLEMAGNE</b>	9 544	6 746	36 277
<b>GRÈCE</b>	32 044	28 414	20 943
<b>BULGARIE</b>	1 327	1 394	2 078
<b>PAYS-BAS</b>	1 324	2 373	1 147
<b>PORTUGAL</b>	85	646	466
<b>BELGIQUE</b>	511	1 607	338
<b>HONGRIE</b>	2 519	9 818	300
<b>ROUMANIE</b>	806	230	285
<b>LUXEMBOURG</b>	16	124	22
<b>RÉPUBLIQUE TCHÈQUE</b>	296	.	3
<b>TIERS</b>	19 096	2 358	1 033
<b>SUISSE</b>	2 173	826	712
<b>ALBANIE</b>	33	.	320
<b>TUNISIE</b>	.	.	1

\*The FranceAgrimer (visiotrade) data as of 01 nov. 2025

## Overview of country livestock transport and trade

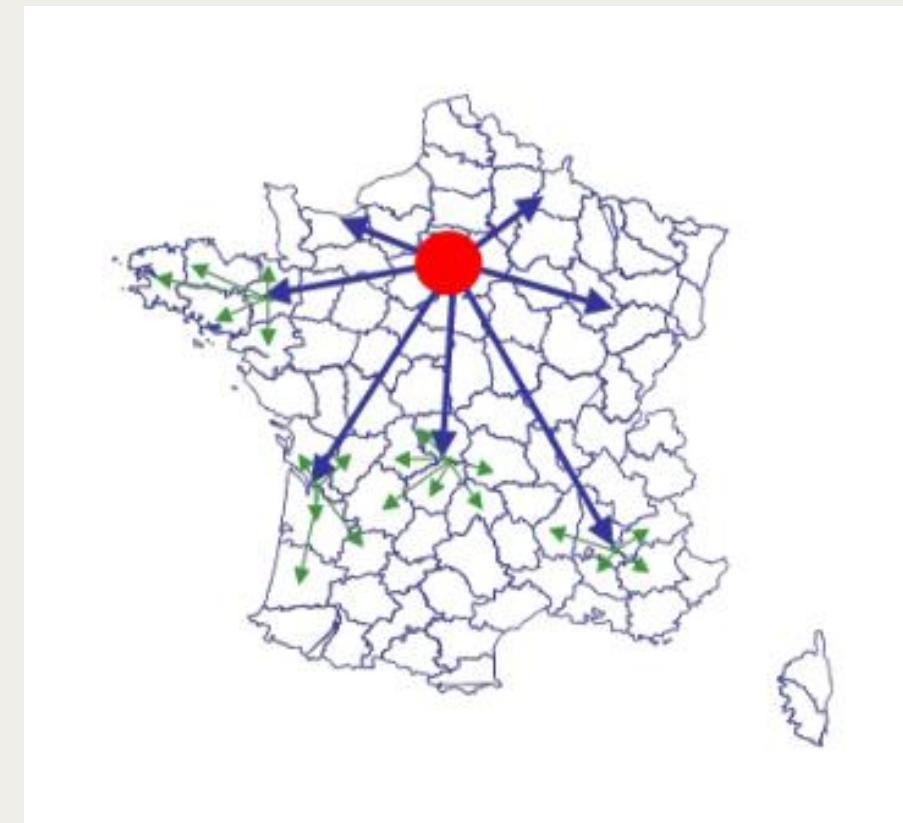
France also exports horses, goats, rabbits and pigs to Member States or Third Countries.



flux	pays source	groupe de produits	periode	2025
			pays partenaire	Quantités
Export	France	Chevaux destinés à la boucherie	* Groupe UE28	3 409
		Chevaux vivants, à l'exclusion des reproducteurs de race pure et des chevaux destinés à la boucherie	* Groupe UE28	2 761
		Chevaux, ânes, mulets et bardots, vivants	* Groupe UE28	7 847
		Lapins domestiques, vivants	* Groupe UE28	1 134
		total caprins vivants	* Groupe UE28	4 615
		total porcins vivants	* Groupe UE28	336 781
			* Groupe pays tiers	4 849

\*The FranceAgrimer (visiotrade) data as of 01 nov. 2025

## Competent Authorities





# National animal welfare standards

**Regulation (EU) 2017/625** on official controls performed to ensure compliance with the rules on animal health and welfare

**Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 on animal protection during transport:**

He gives the technical expectations regarding:

- means of transport (including ships)
- during loading operations.

- the criteria for fitness to continue the transport of animals

**Delegated Regulation (EU) 2023/842**

supplementing Regulation (EU) 2017/625 as regards rules for the performance of official controls to verify compliance with animal welfare requirements in relation to the transport of animals by livestock vessels

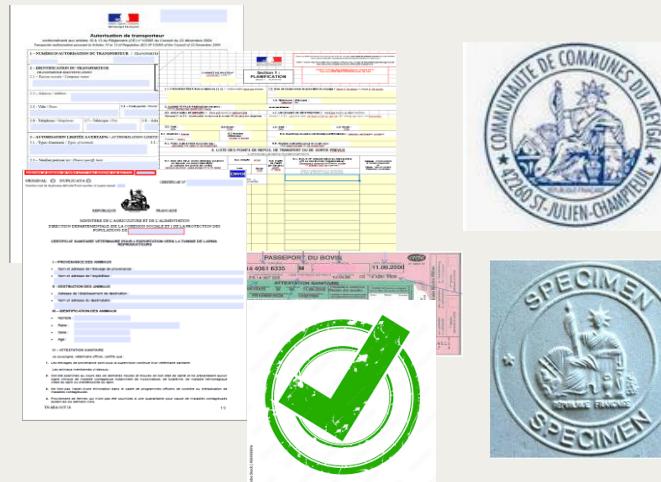
**Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/372**

laying down rules for the recording and sharing of official control reports (...) on approval of livestock vessels and minimum requirements for exit points

# National animal welfare standards

For all the animal long journey the minimum animal welfare standards on animal transport established in France include the compliance with the expectations of European Regulations (No. (EC) 1/2005)

1) Systematic documentary checks before departures by the departmental authorities (completed journey log and certification)



2) Physical checks of means of transport and animals welfare at place of departure (by a veterinarian within 24 hours before the animals departure)





# National animal welfare standards

## Road transport :

France have a system for training drivers of road vehicles (authorized training organisations), which has been in operation since 2000 and has been regularly improved, for example in terms of evaluation system at the end of training.

## Maritime transport :

In France, at the local level (Sète) by the person in charge of the control post (not equivalent official system) has set up specific training for crews of livestock carriers.

In progress : development of an official training system for maritime crews. Live animal conveyors are on board to accompany the animals during sea crossings

# Focus on Cross-border maritime transport of animals

*In order to better organize the arrival of animals for loading on the livestock vessel, the operator must provide the local competent authority with all information relating to maritime transport 5 days before loading*



**Notification de chargement d'un navire bétailier au départ du port de Sète (34200)**

**PRÉFET DE L'HÉRault**  
Ainsi qu'il est prévu

Cette préinformation doit être transmise :

- à l'agent inspecteur du port de destination, au plus tard 5 jours ouvrables avant le chargement du navire
- à l'agent inspecteur des lieux de départ, dès la validation par l'autorité territoriale
- à l'agent inspecteur des lieux de débarquement
- aux autorités des lieux de débarquement, au plus tard 5 jours ouvrables avant le début du voyage, pour leur permettre d'apprécier la conformité du programme prévisionnel

I - Organisateur au port / Transitaire : **DELOM PORTUAIRE**

II - NOM/Numéro IMO de la Compagnie ISM : **KALIFEH LIVESTOCK TRADING** n° Type 2

III - NOM / IMO du navire : **KARIM ALLAH 5519144** N° Agrément : **FR34059NB**

Date de validité : **10/05/2023** Surface agrée (m²) : **2392,98**

IV - DESTINATION – Pays tiers : **ALGERIE** Port : **ORAN**

V - CHARGEMENT

Co-chargement : **OUI**

Date pour le début du chargement du fourrage : **27/04/2023 14H00**

Quantité (en tonnes) de : Foin **238** Aliment concentré **17** Paille **17** Granule de paille **0**

Quotidien moyen d'abordage et d'arrivée prévus à l'annexe 1, chapitre IV, section 2, tableau 1 (plus 25 % ou l'équivalent de trois jours d'approvisionnement supplémentaire, la quantité la plus grande étant retenue)

VI - Date / heure de DÉBUT du chargement des animaux : **28/04/2023 08H00**

VII - Date / heure de FIN du chargement des animaux : **28/04/2023 12H00**

VIII - Planification du chargement :

Client/Chargeur/Exportateur	PLANTIER	FENVA	NECIS	CHEVAUX	LA RICHE							
Plage horaire prévue pour le chargement des bœufs à bord du navire	10h 12h	09h 10h	08h 09h20	08h40 09h	09h20 09h4							
Espèce et catégorie	GENISSES	GENISSES	GENISSES	GENISSES	GENISSES							
HOMME	356	230	80	71	77							
Poid moyen par animal (kg)	550	550	550	550	550							
Origine	FR	FR	FR	FR	FR							
Nombre de bœuffliers attendus	11	6	2	2	2							
Réservation au port	NON	NON	NON	NON	NON							
Décalage par catégorie d'espèce et de sexe	2	2	2	2	2							
Surface utilisée à bord du navire (m²)	700	460	180	142	154							

Calcul de l'espace libre restant à bord du navire : **2028,61 - 1708 = 322,61 m²**

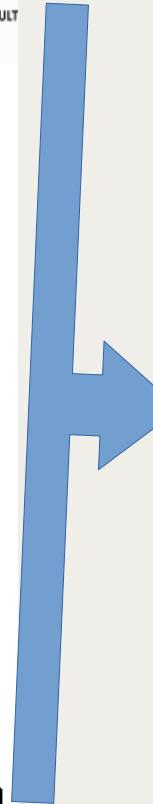
\* En cas d'hébergement programmé au poste de contrôle, l'organisateur au port de départ devra fournir à ce DD (ETB)PP une confirmation de réservation validée par l'exploitant. Pour rappel, le chargement des animaux sur le navire doit avoir lieu dans les 4 heures suivant à l'arrivée des animaux au port. Date d'envoi de la préinformation à la DDPP94 : **24/04/2023**

Code réservé à l'autorité compétente du point de sortie :

Numeros de préinformation : **23-028m**

Remarques : **Chargement et départ autorisé le 28/04/2023 aux conditions et horaires prévus. Conditions météorologiques stables à ce jour, confirmer le départ avec le Capitaine.**

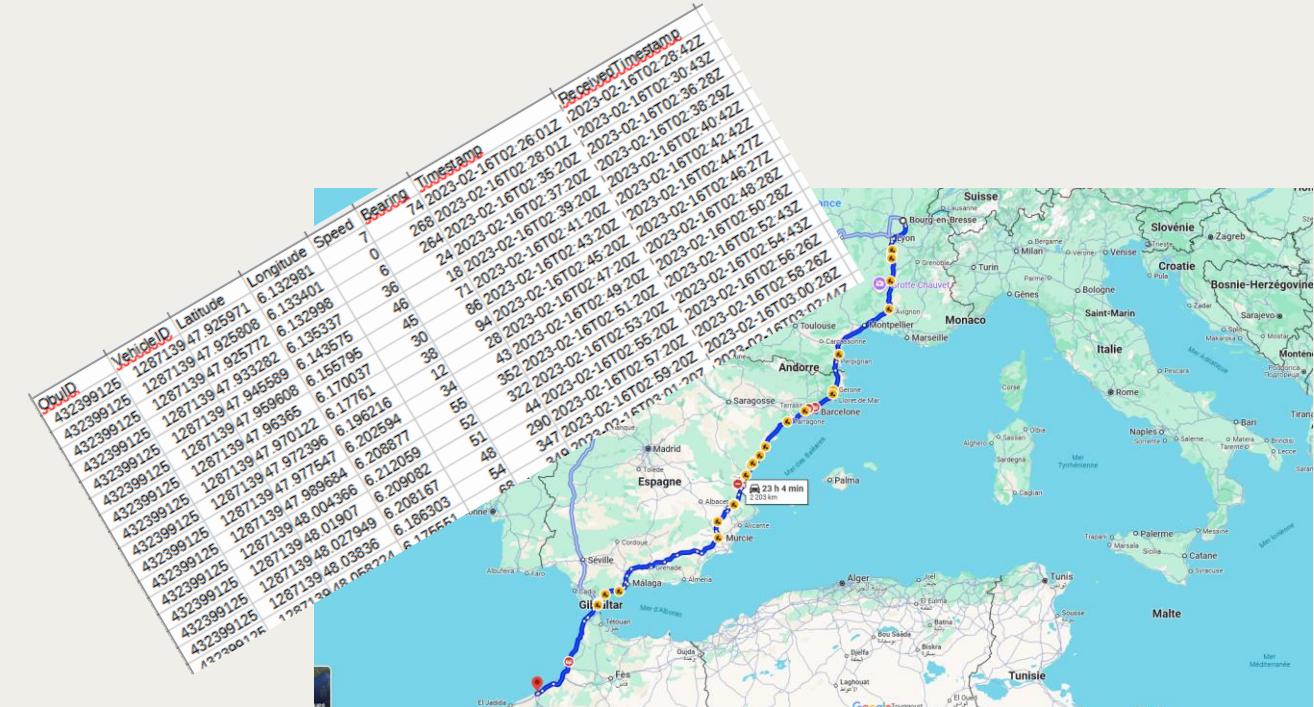
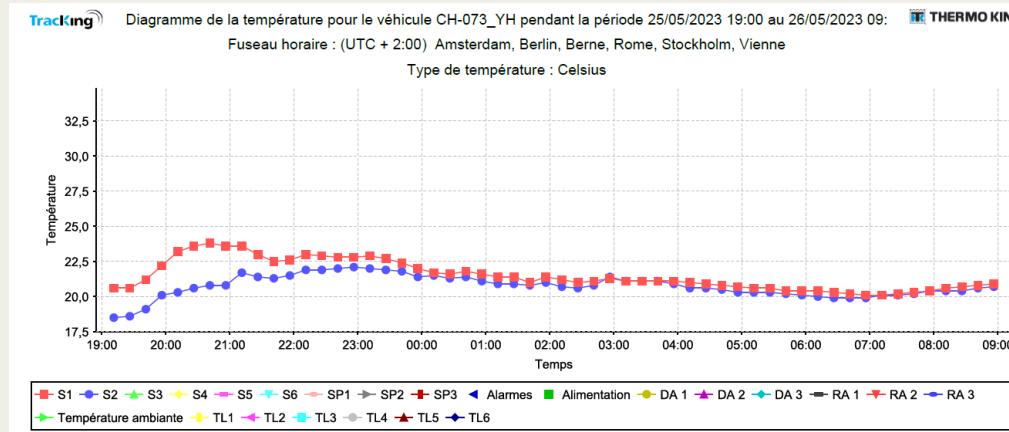
Date de validation : **24/04/2023** Agent : **G. HAMARD**



- Vessel
- Destination
- Departure date, crossing duration
- Needs on board (Hay-Straw)
- Available area
- Load composition
- Exporters
- Number of animals, type
- Origin
- Accommodation at the control post

# Monitoring and evaluation

*In order to monitor and assess the effectiveness of animal welfare standards during long-distance and cross-border transport, the local competent authorities carry out retrospective checks based on recording data (temperature, geolocation).*





# Focus on Cross-border maritime transport of animals

To report to France the significant animal welfare issues that occurred during the trip, there is a generic email address:

**[transport.protectionanimale.dgal@agriculture.gouv.fr](mailto:transport.protectionanimale.dgal@agriculture.gouv.fr)**

Simply send all the elements found and someone will take care of the investigation (in addition to the I rasff alert systems ...)



# Conclusions

## Strengths for the competent authorities:

- Strong regulation on transports, common for EU members > 20 years
- Official controls system implemented, evaluated and improved since 2005
- A network of competent official inspectors (4 persons), dedicated to animal protection during transport, in place for many years : support for all inspectors, exchanges
- Training system for official inspectors : annual trainings for new and refreshment courses



# Conclusions

## Challenges for the competent authorities:

- lack of human resources for control the loading at each place of departure (or reloading at resting places) - given the scale of the total number of means of transport - given the distances to be covered - given the constraints linked to the working hours (at night, during holidays, etc.)
- difficulties in obtaining complete data in return, after the end of the journey and targeting "risk journey" in order to anticipate problems on future trips
- Work in silos at central level : experts from different ministries (transports, agriculture, customs)

# Thank you

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