

12th meeting of the EU Platform on animal welfare

Subgroup on Animal Welfare on Transport



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The subgroup

- 10 members + Commission + guests
 - **1 Independent expert**
 - **2 Civil society organisations**
 - **3 Business and professional organisations**
 - **4 Member States**
- 4 meetings since June



Michael Marahrens

Animal Welfare Foundation, Animals' Angels

FESASS/UECBV/Copa

Spain /Netherlands / Portugal / Czech Republic

Topics discussed

- ✓ **August:** Transport of unweaned and other vulnerable animals
- ✓ **September:** EU electronic database
- ✓ **October:** Temperatures and vulnerable animals
- ✓ **November:** Journey times and exports
- ✓ **December:** Space allowances, sanctioning system, cats & dogs

Transport of unweaned and other vulnerable animals

1. Main challenges

- Better definition “vulnerability” & “fitness for transport”
- Feeding & watering on board
- Vehicles not adapted
- Difficult to assess stage of pregnancy

2. Maximum journey times

- Maximum journey times and revisiting resting periods is needed
- Problems to keep unweaned calves on farm

3. Special situation of certain MS

- Ireland

4. Requirements for trucks or vessels

- Temperature sensors
- Watering systems
- Type 3 of road vehicles?

EU Electronic Database

1. Are current databases enough?

- Important that TRACES + MS databases are linked
- TRACES + GPS reports for retrospective checks
- Central database of certificates and authorisations

2. New data to be recorded?

- Official controls and use the database as notification system
- Sanctions
- Conditions of the journey: temperatures, route

3. Is the journey log still fit for purpose?

- Two different journey logs by road + vessel
- Place of destination to be revisited

4. Apps at MS level that could be of inspiration

- Hundland app Hungary

EFSA scientific opinions on welfare during transport

- Cattle
- Small ruminants
- Equidae
- Pigs
- Domestic birds and rabbits transported in containers



New way of working: baseline scenarios

- Baseline: EFSA recommendations
- Proposed options to address the issues
- Pros, Cons, Impacts and Alternatives
- 3 meetings left: October, November and December

And as always:

- No consensus intended
- All comments are recorded

October

Temperatures

- Seasonal ban
 - Easy to implement
 - Doesn't solve all aspects
- Transport at night
 - Not very supported, leads to more problems
- Alternatives
 - Stricter temperatures with no tolerance policy
 - Increased space allowances

Vulnerable animals

- 8h transport
 - Easy to implement
 - Challenging for some MS
- 8h + 3h rest + 8h
 - Means status quo
- Alternatives
 - Proper enforcement
 - Change farming systems

November

Journey times

- Max 12 h for all animals
- 8h-9h for slaughter
- 21 + 24 + 21
- Alternatives:
- Better enforcement
- Improving vehicles to meet needs

Exports

- Ban of small + large ruminants
- Exports under stricter conditions
- Most supported
- Lessons from TC can be drawn
- Limit the transport throughout the life of the animal



Thank you



European
Commission