



PERMANENT REPRESENTATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
TO THE EUROPEAN UNION
DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

REF. NO 04.39.01.01

13 January 2010

Dear Director

Subject: Regulation 1/2005 for the protection of animals during transport, article 27 (2)

Following the letter of 30/10/2009 from DG HCP, with ref. no. SANCO D5 DS/eu D (2009) 450397, concerning last year's annual report for the inspections of animals, means of transport and their accompanying documents, please find attached the information pertaining to the analysis of the major deficiencies detected and the action plan to address them. This information was sent to us from the Veterinary Service which is the competent authority for the legislative instrument in question.

We are at your disposal for any further clarifications or information.

Yours sincerely,

(signature)

G. Siakallis

Mrs Paola Testori Coggi
Deputy Director-General
Directorate General Health and Consumer Protection
B-1049 Brussels, Belgium



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

VETERINARY SERVICES
1417 NICOSIA

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESSOURCES
AND ENVIRONMENT

File No: 158/89/B1, 17/98/ΔΑ
Tel.: +357 22805 200 – 201
Fax: +357 22332 803
E-mail: director@vs.moa.gov.cy

16 December 2009

Permanent Representation
of the Republic of Cyprus
to the European Union
(C/O Dr Pipis Christodoulou)

**Subject: Notification of annual report for 2008 under article 27(2) of the Regulation
(EC) no 1/2005**

Regarding the abovementioned subject and your letter dated 11 November 2009, with ref. no 04.39.01.01, please find attached the analysis of the major deficiencies detected in Cyprus in the period 2006-2008 and an action plan to address them which must accompany the annual reports concerning controls for the protection of animals during transport, as stipulated in the article 27(2) of the Regulation (EC) no 1/2005 for transmission to the Directorate General Health and Consumers.

It is noted that the annual reports concerning controls for the protection of animals during transport for the years 2006 and 2007 were submitted in 2008, while the report for 2008 was submitted on October 2009. Since the letter sent to PREU from Directorate General Health and Consumers states that the annual report for 2008 has not been received, we enclose the said report in electronic format and we would be grateful if you forwarded it accordingly.

Dr Pavlos Toumazos (MVSc, DVM, Mphil, PhD)
Deputy Director

CC.: Head of Sector of Health and Welfare of Animals

**REGULATION (EC) NO 1/2005 OF THE COUNCIL ON THE PROTECTION OF
ANIMALS DURING TRANSPORT AND RELATED OPERATIONS**
**Analysis of the major deficiencies observed in Cyprus in the years 2006 to 2008 and an
action plan to address them according to article 27(2) of the Regulation**

Major deficiencies observed in relation to long journeys

In general:

In Cyprus no long journeys are being made and, so, all journeys of this category concern animals consignments from and to abroad. The mammal food-producing species are transported in road vehicles and then the vehicles are loaded on Ro-Ro ships whose routes are from Piraeus port in Greece to Lemessos port in Cyprus and inversely (average journey time 36-40 hours). Due to the small number of consignments which are carried out, all freights are controlled.

Deficiencies:

1. The main problem Cyprus is facing regarding long journeys is the absence of the possibility of animal consignment, in particular pigs, to other member states of the European Union. This is due to the geographical position of Cyprus, which is fairly remote in relation to the rest of the European Union and in connection with the fact that the transport of these animals is made through the sea route described above, i.e. from the port of Lemessos to the port of Piraeus with the use of Ro-Ro ships.

The problem is created from the lack of a control post of animals in the port of Piraeus or in the immediate vicinity, which results in not meeting the provisions of the regulation on the journey duration and the offer of rest to animals. In particular, according to point 1.4 of Chapter V Annex I of the Regulation, duration of transport should not exceed 24 hours. According to point 1.7 (b) of Chapter V Annex I of the Regulation, in case of transport by sea on a regular and direct link between two geographical points of the Community by means of vehicles loaded on to vessels without unloading of the animals, the latter must be rest for 12 hours after unloading at the port of destination or in its immediate vicinity. For this reason, the Veterinary Services do not allow any more the consignment of live pigs in the way described above and such animals consignments have not been carried out during 2009.

2. Another major problem was the non conformity with the provisions of the Regulation on journey duration and provision of rest to animals in relation to consignments of ovine and caprine animals from other member states to Cyprus (mainly from Bulgaria and Romania) through Greece, since until April 2008 no control post of animals was operating in Greece. With the operation of control post in Sidirokastron, Greece, which is near the northern borders of Greece with Bulgaria, the problem has been solved and this control post is used for the resting of animals when animals are sent to Cyprus from other member states.

3. From the controls performed on the animals consignments from other member states to Cyprus some cases of non conformity with the Regulation provisions on the journey logs were detected and the Competent Authorities of the sending member states were informed in order to solve the identified problems.

The main deficiencies observed in relation to short journeys

In general:

For the transports in the interior of Cyprus, which, due to the size of Cyprus, are of short duration, controls are carried out mainly in the place of destination and mostly in slaughterhouses. A very small number of inspections may be performed in the place of departure and no inspections are carried out during road transport.

Deficiencies:

1. The most common deficiencies observed during the abovementioned controls concern the construction and/or the maintenance of the vehicles (i.e. loading and unloading equipment, partitions, ceiling etc.) as well as the density of the transported animals. If needed, necessary measures are taken.

2. Although the majority of animals transports which are carried out in Cyprus concerns distances shorter than 65 km, all transporters are registered in a common register following inspection, control and approval of their vehicles. This procedure will be revised and transport authorisation will be granted only to persons transporting animals in distances longer than 65 km, as provided in article 6 of the regulation. From the examination of the documentation of animals transport, in which the place of departure and the place of destination is stated, the transporters who carry out journeys over 65 km will be identified and the procedure for their licensing will be followed.