

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FOOD

VETERINARY ADMINISTRATION

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Slovenia's annual report for 2009 on the inspections of animals, means of transport and accompanying documents, pursuant to art. 27 of the Regulation 1/2005/EC

We are sending you the annual report as required in article 27 of Regulation 1/2005/EC.

In 2009 Slovenia introduced a new system of collecting data on inspections performed in accordance with the Reg. 1/2005/EC, and infringements found during these inspections. Data presented herewith can therefore not be compared with data of preceding years.

Nevertheless, the analysis of the existing data reveals a few interesting facts which will help us improve the official control in the field of animal welfare in all stages of transport.

It should also be noted that Veterinary Administration of the Republic of Slovenia (VARS) as the Slovenian competent authority can only vouch for the reliability of data obtained from its own records. Some data presented in this annual report are obtained from the TRACES data warehouse, the reliability of which cannot be guaranteed by VARS. Therefore this report can at the very best be viewed as informative.

This report was compiled in a form agreed upon on one of the meetings of the Working group of Veterinary experts on animal welfare. It needs to be emphasized, however, that this table is obsolete and does not completely reflect the provisions of relevant legislation, especially in terms of terminology. In order to unify the method of data collection mandatory instructions for the OVs were issued by the central competent authority (CCA). These instructions included definitions of categories listed in the tables:

- a) During transport by road: inspections performed by mobile unit of VARS
- b) At the place of destination: unloading of animals at slaughter houses or elsewhere, where the OV is present, except at markets and collection centers.
- c1) At Markets: inspections at markets as defined in Dir. 63/432/EEC

- c2) At place of departure: official control at place of origin except markets and collection centers c3)At staging point: official control at control point
- c4) At transfer point: official control at collection centers as defined in Dir 64/432/EEC

Report run-through:

The analysis of data showed that almost 94% (16.091) of all inspections were performed at the **place of destination**. This number is not surprising considering the fact that it includes checks of shipments at slaughterhouses. However, only 11.26% of all infringements found were discovered on these locations, which makes the percentage of infringements per inspections considerably low (0.11%).

2% (349) of all inspections were performed **on-road**. Contrary to the numbers relating to inspections at the place of destination, the roadside inspections of the Slovenian mobile unit discovered a far larger percentage of infringements presenting 84% of all infringements found, discovering an infringement in every third inspection (36%). It should also be noted that the mobile unit of official veterinarians was increased in number of OVs from three to four in last year, which in time will allow the unit to operate in two shifts and consequently increase the number of inspections performed.

Markets are not organized frequently in Slovenia therefore the numbers presented are negligible.

Slovenia has only one **control point**, which is located in the port of Koper and is only used for the purpose of unloading animals from road vehicles before loading them to sea vessels. In 2009 182 shipments arrived to the port to be transported by sea. BIP in port of Koper inspected all of them. This stands for 1.06% of all inspections performed in Slovenia.

274 inspections (1.60%) were performed at **collecting centers** discovering almost 4% of all infringements. Percentage of infringements per inspection was 2.19%.

Action plan:

Based on the data collected it can be concluded that percentage of infringements per inspections vary greatly across the locations of the inspection. Moreover the high percentage of infringements per inspections was observed in road-side inspections which manly cover the shipments in transit through Slovenia, suggesting that internal transport of animals is better in line with the legislation than the international transport.

Nevertheless there is a need to train the official veterinarians in the field of transportation of animals and thus maintain and/or raise the level of OV's competence.

CCA in Slovenia already initiated this process by organizing training for the official veterinarians. The training was conceived as a simulation exercise, which included both elements of animal health as well as animal welfare issues relating to transport of animals.

Apart from training CCA is also preparing Codes of good practice for transporters, which will also be useful for the OVs and will undoubtedly raise the level of their competence.

Conclusion:

Data on inspections performed in relation to the Regulation 1/2005/EC was collected from various sources. Nevertheless they offer an informative insight into state-of-play in the field of protection of animals in transport in Slovenia.

It needs to be stressed again that the form for collection of the data is obsolete and does not entirely reflect the actual provisions of the relevant EU legislation.

Slovenia therefore suggests that clear procedures for data collection are agreed upon. This and several other open issues regarding Regulation 1/2005/EC could either be carried out in accordance with provisions of Art. 30(2) of the Regulation or provided in a form of codes of good practice as provided for in Art. 29.

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