



VALSTYBINĖ MAISTO IR VETERINARIJOS TARNYBA
STATE FOOD AND VETERINARY SERVICE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA



To: Mr. Bernard Van Goethem
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Subject: Annual report on the protection of animals during transport for 2010

Please find attached the annual report on protection of animals during transport for year 2010 as required by Article 27 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1/2005.

The State Food and Veterinary Service of Republic of Lithuania (hereafter - SFVS) inform that in 2010 the county, district and city SFVS officials made 13878 checks of means of transport containing animals: 11706 at the place of destination, 67 during transport by road, 10 at the markets and 2095 at the place of departure and detected 81 infringements on protection of animals during transport. Under the Administrative Code of the Republic of Lithuania, 18 physical and legal persons were imposed fines at total amount of 1360 LTL and 3 carriers had their activities suspended for the violation of legal acts on animal welfare.

An analysis of the major infringements in 2010 is presented below:

| Non conformity points | Number | Percentage |
|---|--------|------------|
| 1. Suitability of animals for transport | 3 | 3,7 % |
| 2. Space and density | 4 | 4,9 % |
| 3. Ventilation | 11 | 13,5 % |
| 4. Design and maintenance of the means of transport | 9 | 11,1 % |
| 5. Separation of animals | 11 | 13,5 % |

| | | |
|---|----|--------|
| 6. Absence or non conformity of the journey log | 13 | 16,0 % |
| 7. Duration of transport and rest | 9 | 11,1 % |
| 8. Loading and unloading | 2 | 2,4 % |
| 9. Care and handling of animals | 7 | 8,6 % |
| 10. Others | 12 | 14,8% |
| Total: | 81 | 100% |

Competent officials of the territorial SFVS performing control on implementation of requirements for protection of animals during transport are guided by the SOP KT-2-4-10 "Official veterinary control on the welfare of animals during transport and of transporters of animals" approved by SFVS director Order No. B1-577 of 29 December 2009. The SOP establishes the procedure on the inspection of vehicles for transport of animals at the place of dispatch and destination and during journey, on the assessment for suitability to transport animals, on control of travel and resting times and on checks of transporters of animals. The officials of the territorial SFVS must verify the actual watering and feeding intervals, resting and journey times during the journey by inspecting the filled in journey logs after completion of the journey.

In accordance with Council Regulation (EC) No.1/2005 of 22 December 2004 on the protection of animals during transport and related operations and amending Directives 64/432/EEC and 93/119/EC and Regulation (EC) No.1255/97, the SFVS has organized meetings with the official veterinary inspectors who perform quarterly inspections. Last year, the Food and Veterinary Internal Audit Service carried out one non-scheduled inspection on the conformity with Regulation (EC) No. 1/2005.

From 24 November to 3 December 2009, a general audit of FVO was carried out in order to evaluate the implementation of controls for animal welfare on farms and during transport. On 11 January 2010, the SFVS aiming to ensure implementation of the requirements on welfare and protection of animals, informed the competent officials of the territorial SFVS about the infringements detected during the inspection. During the meeting of 28 July of the chief officers the attention was drawn to the detected irregularities during transport and the local SFVS were instructed to implement and strengthen control on the requirements of Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005, with an emphasis on realistic execution of long time journey and the intervals for feeding, watering and resting of animals, and ventilation navigation and temperature control systems and space per animal. If the vehicles do not satisfy the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1/2005, they are not approved for transport of animals.

The SFVS has an annual training programme for its officials. Aiming to ensure effective training of the responsible officials of the territorial SFVS performing official veterinary control on conformity with the requirements on protection of animals in transport, the SFVS has conducted

trainings to them on the issues of SOP KT-2-4-10 "Official veterinary control on the welfare of animals during transport and of transporters of animals", during which the attention was drawn to the infringements detected during inspections, including of the requirements referred to in Chapters II and VI of Annex 1 to Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 as required in Article 18(1)b of Regulation (EC) No 1/2005.

The Training Centre of Continuing Education of the Lithuanian Veterinary Academy has organized and conducted training for animal handlers, drivers and attendants on the issues of animal safety during transport. The Centre has also organized trainings for transporters and drivers – 95 in 2010.

The trainings for the official veterinary inspectors who perform official controls of the animals during transport have been conducted on the following subjects:

General conditions for the transport of animals, filling in transport documents, suitability of animals for transport, suitability of means of transport for long journey of animals, ventilation of vehicles and temperature monitoring and navigation system, understanding of the physiology of animals, their needs for feeding and watering, of animal behaviour and stress, practical aspects of behaviour towards animals, impact of driving practices on the welfare of animals and the quality of meat, care of animals in emergencies, safety of staffs handling animals. Following the FVO mission recommendations, the Training Centre has organised extra training courses in Kaunas and Klaipeda counties on the implementation of the requirements of Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport. The veterinary inspectors of slaughterhouses were also included among the trainees.

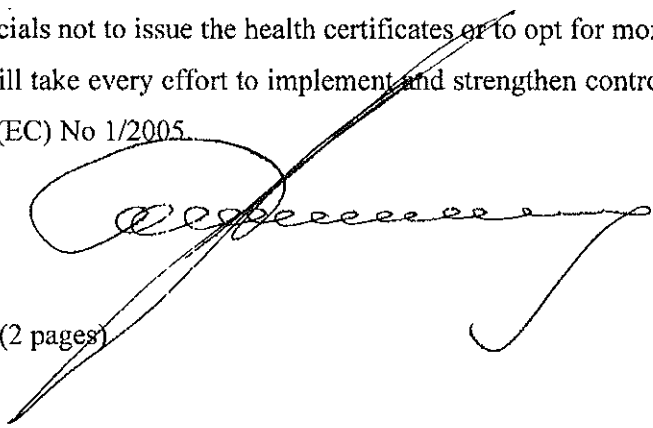
The SFVS has requested all the transporters to return the journey log within one month after it has been completed, but the greatest problem is that the majority of the transporters for long-time journey are not from Lithuania, but from others Members States. The SFVS has recommended the territorial SFVS officials not to issue the health certificates or to opt for more disciplined carriers.

The SFVS will take every effort to implement and strengthen control on the requirements of Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005.

Sincerely yours,

Director

Attachment: Report (2 pages)



Dr. Jonas Milius