



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels,  
C(2003)

Final

Draft

**COMMISSION DECISION**

of

**amending Decision 2003/828/EC with regards to the movements of vaccinated animals  
from protection zones**

(Memorandum from Mr. D. BYRNE)

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Draft

COMMISSION DECISION

of

amending Decision 2003/828/EC with regards to the movements of vaccinated animals from protection zones

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 2000/75/EC of 20 November 2000 laying down specific provisions for the control and eradication of bluetongue<sup>1</sup>, and in particular, Article 9 (1)(c), thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Commission Decision 2003/828/EC<sup>2</sup> on protection and surveillance zones in relation to bluetongue and on rules applicable to movements of animals in and from those zones and repealing Decision 2003/218/EC<sup>3</sup>, was adopted in the light of the the bluetongue situation prevailing in the affected regions. That Decision demarcates protection and surveillance zones corresponding to specific epidemiological situations and lays down the conditions for providing exemptions from the ban on the movements of animals in and from those zones.
- (2) A Symposium on bluetongue has been organised by the Office International des Epizooties (O.I.E -World Organisation for Animal Health) on the 26-29 October 2003. One of the conclusions of this Symposium was that animals may move from an infected zone to a free zone without posing a risk of virus spread if they have been vaccinated at least one month prior to movement, provided that the vaccine used covers all serotypes present in the region of origin.
- (3) Taking into account this conclusion, conditions for movements of vaccinated animals provided in Decision 2003/828/EC have been amended, on the base of the situation prevailing during the last quarter 2003, by Decision 2004/34/EC<sup>4</sup> in order to allow such movements without requiring the cessation of the virus circulation in the region of origin or of the vector activity in the region of destination. Nevertheless, as a precaution, Decision 2004/34/EC was considering this possibility only for domestic

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 327, 22.12.2000, p. 74.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 311, 27.11.2003, p. 41. Decision as last amended by Decision 2004/.../EC (SANCO/10164/2004 Rev3

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 82, 29.3.2003, p. 35.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 7, 13.1.2004, p. 47.

movements from areas where the vaccination has been completed according to the programme adopted by the competent authority of the Member State concerned.

- (4) After the third vaccination campaign which has been conducted during the last winter and the general reduction of the virus circulation in all the restricted zones concerned, it is now possible to consider general conditions for national movements of vaccinated animals from any restricted zones without taking in consideration the residual virus circulation in the area of origin. Nevertheless, as a precaution, animals should come from herds vaccinated according to the programme adopted by the competent authority of the Member State concerned and the vector surveillance programme in an epidemiologically relevant area of destination has proved no adult *Culicoides imicola* activity.
- (5) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

Article 3 (2) of Decision 2003/828/EC is replaced by the following:

- "2. In France, Italy and Spain, domestic dispatches as provided for in paragraph 1 shall be also exempted from the exit ban by the competent authority when:
- a) The animals originate from a herd vaccinated according to the programme adopted by the competent authority, and
  - b) The animals have been vaccinated more than 30 days and less than a year before the date of dispatch against the serotype(s) present or possibly present in an epidemiologically relevant area of origin, and
  - c) The vector surveillance programme in an epidemiologically relevant area of destination has proved no adult *Culicoides imicola* activity"

*Article 2*

Annex I to Decision 2003/828/EC is replaced by the text in the Annex to the present Decision.

*Article 3*

This Decision shall apply from dd/mm/yy [insert 20 days after the date of publication in the OJ].

*Article 4*

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels,

*For the Commission*  
*David BYRNE*  
*Member of the Commission*

ANNEX

Annex as referred to in Article 1 to this Decision.

"ANNEX I

(Restricted zones: geographic areas where protection and surveillance zones shall be established by the Member states)

Zone A (serotypes 2 and 9, and in a lesser extent 4 and 16)*Italy*

Abruzzo: Chieti, all Municipalities belonging to the Local Health Unit of Avezzano-Sulmona  
 Basilicata: Matera, and Potenza  
 Calabria: Catanzaro, Cosenza, Crotona, Reggio Calabria, Vibo Valentia  
 Campania: Caserta, Benevento, Avellino, Napoli, Salerno  
 Lazio: Frosinone, Latina  
 Molise: Isernia, Campobasso  
 Puglia: Foggia, Bari, Lecce, Taranto, Brindisi  
 Sicilia: Agrigento, Catania, Caltanissetta, Enna, Messina, Palermo, Ragusa, Siracusa and Trapani

*Malta\**Zone B (serotype 2)*Italy*

Abruzzo: L'Aquila with the exception of all Municipalities belonging to the Local Health Unit of Avezzano-Sulmona  
 Lazio: Viterbo, Roma, Rieti  
 Marche: Ascoli Piceno, Macerata  
 Toscana: Massa Carrara, Pisa, Grosseto, Livorno  
 Umbria: Terni and Perugia

Zone C (serotypes 2 and 4 and in a lesser extent 16)*France (serotypes 2 and 4):*

Corse du sud, Haute Corse

*Spain (serotypes 2 and 4):*

Islas Baleares

*Italy (serotypes 2, 4 and 16):*


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\* transitional animal health status for Cyprus and Malta, pending the analysis of epidemiological data; status to be reviewed at the latest by 1 May 2007.

Sardinia: Cagliari, Nuoro, Sassari, Oristano.

Zone D

*Greece*

The entire Greek territory with the exception of prefectorates listed in Zone E.

Zone E

*Greece*

Dodekanisi, Samos, Chios and Lesbos prefectorates.

*Cyprus\**