



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 24 May 2012**

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**AGRILEG 71  
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**"I/A" ITEM NOTE**

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from : Presidency

to : Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1) / Council

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No. Cion prop.: 5398/1/12 - COM(2012) 6 final/2  
16798/11 - COM(2011) 700 final

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No. prev. doc.: 9213/12 AGRILEG 58 VETER 32

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Subject : - Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council and the European Economic and Social Committee on the European Union Strategy for the Protection and Welfare of Animals 2012-2015

- Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on the impact of Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport

- Adoption of Council Conclusions on the Protection and Welfare of Animals

**COMMON GUIDELINES**  
**Consultation deadline: 01.06.2012**

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1. The Commission, on 19 January 2012, transmitted to the European Parliament, the Council and the European Economic and Social Committee a Communication on the European Union Strategy for the Protection and Welfare of Animals 2012-2015.

On 10 November 2011, the Commission had transmitted to the European Parliament and the Council a Report on the impact of Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Delegations' comments on the Communication and on the Report are set out in doc. 6072/3/12 REV 3.

2. On 29 February - 1 March 2012, the Danish Presidency and the Commission organised in Brussels a Conference on the EU Animal Welfare Strategy : “*Empowering consumers and creating market opportunities for animal welfare*”. During this Conference, representatives of the Member States, of the European Institutions, international parties and a wide range of stakeholders discussed and commented the Communication.
3. On 6, 23 March and 20 April 2012, the Working Party of Veterinary Experts (Animal Welfare) thoroughly examined the draft Council conclusions on the Protection and Welfare of Animals submitted by the Danish Presidency. During these proceedings, the Working Party of Chief Veterinary Officers took note of the state of play of the examination.

On 24 April 2012, the Working Party of Agricultural Counsellors/Attachés assessed the outcome of proceedings of the Working Party of Veterinary Experts (Animal Welfare) and suggested amendments.

The Presidency submitted to the Working Party of Agricultural Counsellors/Attachés the final version of the Presidency compromise, as set out in the Addendum to this note, and invited the delegations to confirm this outcome.

On 27 April 2012, the Working Party of Agricultural Counsellors/Attachés confirmed agreement<sup>1</sup> on the draft Council conclusions on the Protection and Welfare of Animals.

On 4 May 2012, the Presidency informed the Working Party of Chief Veterinary Officers about this outcome.

4. In light of the foregoing, the Working Party of Agricultural Counsellors/Attachés invites the Permanent Representatives Committee to suggest to the Council that it adopt the draft Council conclusions as set out in the Addendum to this note as an "A" item at a forthcoming session.

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<sup>1</sup> ES maintained a waiting reservation.  
NL maintained its reservation.  
DK entered a parliamentary scrutiny reservation.