

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 14 June 2012

10478/12 ADD 3

AGRILEG 75 VETER 42

ADDENDUM TO REPORT

from: Presidency

to: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1) / Council

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

16798/11 - COM(2011) 700 final

No. prev. doc.: 9213/12 ADD 1 AGRILEG 58 VETER 32

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

<u>DECLARATION FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO BE ENTERED IN THE COUNCIL</u> <u>MINUTES</u>

The UK agrees with the EU Commission that the number one priority is better enforcement of the existing legislation on welfare during transport, across the EU. However, in addition, it would like to see a review of long journey rules to take account of existing and emerging scientific evidence, including that highlighted by the recent EFSA report, particularly in relation to revising the journey time down to a maximum of 12 hours for horses going to slaughter.

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We also wish to see discussion on greater protection for infant livestock, particularly calves, taking into account the Commission's own written guidance on the treatment of unweaned calves on long journeys and considering the very long distances some unweaned calves have to travel, which can involve multiple cycles of 19 hour journeys.

We believe it is important that the rules should be updated where there is sufficient evidence to support such change. We note that the recent EFSA report does not include any recommendation suggesting that all major species of livestock going to slaughter should face the same maximum journey length in all cases.

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