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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. Cion doc.:	C(2019) 4625 - ST 11372/19 + ADD 1
Subject:	COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) .../... of 28.6.2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards rules for establishments keeping terrestrial animals and hatcheries, and the traceability of certain kept terrestrial animals and hatching eggs <i>- Intention not to raise objections</i>

Statement of Portugal

Chapter 1 of title 2 (traceability of kept ovine and caprine animals, means and methods of identification):

Article 45 Obligations on operators of kept ovine and caprine animals as regards the means and methods of identification of those animals, their application and use

Paragraph 1 allows ovine and caprine animals intended to be moved directly to a slaughterhouse before the age of 12 months to be identified by at least a conventional ear tag attached to an ear flap on the animal or a conventional pastern band with the unique registration number of the establishment of birth of the animal or the identification code of the animal;

Paragraph 2 specifies that animals not intended to be moved directly to slaughterhouses before the age of 12 months shall be individually identified by a conventional ear tag and by one of the means listed in points (c) to (f) of Annex III of this regulation.

There are a certain derogations of the application of Art. 45.2 , but none allows to have a similar identification as proposed in Art. 45.1.a) for animals aged less than twelve months intended to be moved directly to a slaughterhouse.

These provisions amend significantly the measures currently in force in Portugal which allow an identification like those in Art. 45.1.a) for ovine and caprine animals of less of 12 months intended to be moved directly or not to a slaughterhouse.

Taking in account the Portuguese organisation of the ovine and caprine sector, the individually identification of all the ovine and caprine animals of less than twelve months that goes to fattening houses before the slaughterhouse **will have tremendous heavy economic consequences** considering the poor economic value of these animals.

For the above mentioned reasons, **the Portuguese authorities object this delegated act proposed by the Commission.**