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**'I/A' ITEM NOTE**

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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>

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**Statement of the Republic of Cyprus**

Cyprus objects the delegated act proposed by the Commission as it amends substantially the current method of identification which has been shown to render this identification option reliable, as regards the traceability of movements to the slaughterhouse of this category of animals.

The new provisions amend significantly the current system applied in Cyprus which, allows the identification of animals of the age of less than 12 months moved either directly or not to a slaughterhouse, to be identified by using only a conventional ear tag bearing the registration number of the establishment of birth of the animal, according to the provisions of Art. 45.1.a).

Taking in account the organization of the ovine and caprine sector in Cyprus, the proposal for new provisions for the identification of all ovine and caprine animals of the age of less than 12 months which are directed to fattening establishments prior the slaughterhouse, will have major negative social and economic consequences for both farmers and consumers, let alone the unnecessary administrative burden.

There are certain derogations of the application of Art. 45.2, but none of them foresees the option of having the same identification as proposed in Art. 45.1.a) for the animals of age less than twelve months intended to be moved indirectly to a slaughterhouse.

If the delegated act is finally adopted, the Commission should evaluate and review this Act the soonest in order to allow the MS to avail from the option of maintaining the current identification system based on the conventional farm code ear tag.