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NOTE

From:	Presidency
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Subject:	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of animals during transport and related operations, amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/97 and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 *- Presidency text on Chapter I and on the elements concerning air transport*

With a view to the Working Party on Animal and Veterinary Questions (Animal Welfare) on 1-2 July 2026, delegations will find in annex the Presidency text on Chapter I and on the elements concerning air transport.

Changes with respect to the Commission proposal have been marked **with bold and italics** for insertions and ~~strikethrough~~ for deletions. Text [marked in yellow between brackets] needs further reflection and more suggestions will follow.

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CHAPTER I

SUBJECT MATTER, SCOPE, DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

Subject matter

This Regulation lays down rules for the protection of animals during transport in connection with an economic activity.

Transport in connection with an economic activity means the transport of animals in the course of the economic activity of the owner or keeper of the animals, or that is performed as a service on the market for any consideration, irrespective of whether the consideration is immediate.

Article 2

Scope

1. This Regulation shall apply to the transport of animals:

   - within the Union;
   - from a place of departure in a third country to a place of destination in the Union;
   - from a place of departure in the Union to a place of destination in a third country; and
   - from a Border Control Post of entry into the Union until an exit point from the Union, when the transport of animals transits through the Union territory.

2. Transport for the following purposes shall only be subject to Article 4:

   (a) transport by farmers of their own animals using their own means of transport for the purpose of ~~seasonal~~ transhumance;

(b) transport by farmers of their own animals using their own means of transport ~~for purposes other than transhumance~~, for a distance of no more than 50 km from the holding in which they are kept~~.~~***;***

(c) transport of animals for the purposes of participating in training, exhibitions, competitions, ***races,*** cultural events, circuses, and equestrian sport and ***equestrian*** leisure activities;

(ca) direct deliveries of aquatic animals to food businesses supplying the final consumer within a distance of no more than 50 km;

(cb) the transport of protected species under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) unless these animals are used for farming purposes;

(cc) the transport of animals to zoos as defined in Article 2 of Council Directive 1999/22/EC[1];

(cd) the transport of ornamental aquatic animals;

(ce) the transport of dogs or animals of the equine species used by military, police, customs or sanitary and phytosanitary services by a transporter on account of these services;

(cf) the transport of search and rescue dogs for search and rescue operations;

(cg) the transport of guide dogs, hearing dogs, mobility dogs and medical alert dogs by a transporter on account of their owners or trainers;

(ch) the transport of animals to an authorised establishment under Directive 2010/63/EU.

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1 ***Council Directive 1999/22/EC of 29 March 1999 relating to the keeping of wild animals in zoos, OJ L 94, 9.4.1999, p. 24–26.***

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3. This Regulation shall not apply to the following types of transport:

(a) ~~the transport of animals which does not take place in connection with an economic activity;~~

(b) the transport of animals directly to or from veterinary practices or clinics;

(ba) the transport of animals at the stage of gametes, embryos and larvae;

(bb) the transport of aquatic animals by fishing vessels in the course of fishing activities under the common fisheries policy;

(c) ~~the transport of protected species, under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)[2];~~

(d) ~~the transport of animals between zoos as defined in Article 2 of Council Directive 1999/22/EC[3].~~

(e) ~~the transport of ornamental fish;~~

(f) ~~direct deliveries of aquatic animals to food businesses supplying the final consumer.~~

4. ~~Articles 4(2)(b), 20, 26, Chapters I and V of Annex I and point 4 of Annex II shall not apply to transport of animals for the purposes of an authorised project under Directive 2010/63/EU[4].~~

4a. Articles 14(3)(a) and (aa), 15, 22(2)(f) and (g), 26a(1) and (2) shall not apply to transport of purebred breeding animals of the species Equus caballus and Equus asinus entered in the main section of a breeding book established by a breed society recognised in accordance with Article 4 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1012 for purposes other than slaughter.

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[2] ~~Council Decision (EU) 2015/451 of 6 March 2015 concerning the accession of the European Union to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), OJ L 75, 19.3.2015, p. 1–3.~~

[3] ~~Council Directive 1999/22/EC of 29 March 1999 relating to the keeping of wild animals in zoos, OJ L 94, 9.4.1999, p. 24–26.~~

[4] ~~Directive 2010/63/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 September 2010 on the protection of animals used for scientific purposes, OJ L 276, 20.10.2010, p. 33–79.~~

Article 3

Definitions

For the purposes of this Regulation the following definitions shall apply:

1. ‘animals’ means live vertebrate animals, cephalopods and decapods;

2. ‘place of departure’ means~~:~~ ***the place where an animal hatched, or was born or where it has been accommodated for at least four days prior to departure or, in the case of dogs and cats, or of breeding animals of the equine species, at least 48 hours prior to departure and where it is first loaded onto a means of transport;***

   (a) ~~the place where an animal has been accommodated for at least a week prior to departure and where it is first loaded onto a means of transport; or~~

   (b) ~~an assembly centre if the animal has been collected within a distance of no more than 100 km;~~

3. ‘place of destination’ means a slaughterhouse or ~~any other~~ ***a*** place where an animal is unloaded from a means of transport ***at the end of a journey*** and accommodated for at least ~~a week~~ ***4 days prior to the time of any subsequent departure or, in the case of dogs and cats, or of breeding animals of the equine species, at least 48 hours*** prior to the time of any subsequent departure;

4. ‘journey’ means the movement of animals ~~effected by~~ ***between the places listed below, that is completed with the use of*** one or more means of transport***,*** starting with the loading ~~of the first animal~~ onto the first-means of transport ~~at the place of departure~~ and ending with the unloading ~~of~~***from*** the last ~~animal at the place of destination,~~***means of transport*** and the related operations including rest ***and break*** periods and transfer from one means of transport to another~~;~~***:***

   (a) between a place of departure and a place of destination, or

   (b) between a place of departure and an assembly centre, or

   (c) between an assembly centre and a place of destination, or

   (d) between two assembly centres;

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5. ‘means of transport’ means road or rail vehicles, vessels and aircraft used for the transport of animals;

5a. ‘loading’ means the process of placing animals onto a means of transport starting with the placing of the first animal onto the means of transport or, in the case of animals in containers, the placing of the first container onto the means of transport.

5b. ‘unloading’ means the process of removing animals from a means of transport, ending with the removal of the last animal from the means of transport, or, in the case of animals in containers, the removal of the last container from the means of transport.

6. ‘aquatic animals’ means fish, cephalopods and decapods;

6a. ‘ornamental aquatic animals’ means aquatic animals that are intended for display, exhibition, competition, or intended to be kept as a pet;

7. ‘organiser’ means~~:~~ ***a natural or legal person who prepares and coordinates the journey or journeys and who signs the planning section of the journey log in TRACES;***

(a) ~~a transporter who transports or has subcontracted the transport of animals for the whole journey or a part of the journey to at least one other transporter; or~~

(b) ~~a natural or legal person who has contracted the transport of animals to a transporter; or~~

(c) ~~a person who has signed Section 1 of the journey log in TRACES as set out in Annex III.~~

8. ‘long journey’ means a journey that exceeds 9 hours;

9. ‘competent authority’ means a competent authority as defined in Article 3(3) of Regulation (EU) 2017/625;

10. ‘TRACES’ means the computerised system for the purposes of exchanging data, information and documents referred to in Articles 133(4) of Regulation (EU) 2017/625;

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11. ‘transporter’ means ~~an operator whose economic activity consists of~~ ***a natural or legal person*** transporting animals on ~~its own behalf~~***their own account*** , or on ~~behalf~~ ***account*** of a third party;

11a. ‘type 1 transporter authorisation’ means an authorisation for a transporter to transport animals by road within the Union for short journeys;

11b. ‘type 2 transporter authorisation’ means an authorisation for a transporter to transport animals;

(a) for long journeys within the Union or to third countries by any means of transport, or

(b) for short journeys within the Union by rail vehicle, livestock vessel, roll-on-roll-off vessel, container vessel, well-boat or aircraft, or

(c) for short journeys to third countries by any means of transport.

12. ‘short journey’ means a journey that does not exceed 9 hours;

13. ‘attendant’ means a ***natural*** person directly in charge of the welfare of the ~~transported~~ animals ***and*** who accompanies them ~~during a journey on road or rail~~***on the means of*** transport ***other than a livestock vessel, a container vessel or aircraft for the duration of the journey*** ;

14. ~~‘vehicle’ means a means of transport fitted with wheels which is propelled or towed;~~

15. ‘Animal welfare officer’ means a person directly in charge of the welfare of ~~transported~~ animals ~~by livestock vessel~~ for the duration of the ***leg of a*** journey ~~at sea~~***by livestock vessel or container vessel***[5];

16. ‘livestock vessel’ means a ~~sea going~~ vessel which has been built or adapted to be used for the transport of terrestrial animals, other than ~~domestic birds or rabbits~~***dogs, cats, poultry or farmed lagomorphs*** ;

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[5] ***Article 21 needs to be amended accordingly***

17. ‘container’ means any crate, box, receptacle or other rigid structure used for the transport of animals which is not a means of transport;

17a. ‘container for large animals’ means a container used for transport of terrestrial animals of the equine, bovine, porcine, ovine and caprine species and kept cervids and camelids, on means of transport by road, rail or on container vessels;

18. ‘container vessel’ means a vessel carrying ~~terrestrial animals, other than domestic birds or rabbits in moveable~~ containers ***for large animals***;

19. ‘terrestrial animals’ means ~~kept equidae, and~~ ***domestic*** animals of the ***equine,*** bovine, porcine, ovine, caprine species, ***kept*** cervids~~, rabbits and domestic birds, including~~ ***and camelids, dogs, cats, farmed lagomorphs and*** poultry;

20. ‘roll-on-roll-off vessel’ means a vessel with facilities to enable road or rail vehicles to roll on and roll off the vessel;

21. ~~‘container for large animals’ means a container used for transport of terrestrial animals other than domestic birds and rabbits on means of transport by road, rail or container vessels;~~

21a. ‘container for aquatic animals’ means any container, well or tank used for the transport of aquatic animals;

22. ‘official veterinarian’ means an official veterinarian as defined in Article 3(32) of Regulation (EU) 2017/625;

23. ‘assembly centre’ means an establishment***, including markets and venues for auctions,*** ~~for assembly operations~~ registered ***in accordance with Article 93 of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 or approved*** in accordance with Article 97(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 where ~~animals of the bovine, ovine, caprine, equine or porcine species originating from more than one holding are grouped together temporarily to form a consignment;~~***:***

(a) terrestrial animals originating from more than one establishment are grouped together temporarily to form a consignment; or

(b) terrestrial animals from a consignment are separated in order to be distributed to more than one establishment.

24. ‘control posts’ means control posts as defined in Article 1 of Regulation (EC) No 1255/97;

25. ‘journey time ***by land***’ means the time period ~~during which animals are moved by means of transport, including the time for loading and unloading~~ ***of a journey that*** the animals~~;~~ ***spend on a vehicle excluding:***

(a) the time for loading onto and unloading the animals off the vehicle;

(b) the time during which the vehicle is on a roll-on roll-off vessel;

26. ‘keeper’ means any natural or legal person, except a transporter, in charge of or handling animals whether on a permanent or temporary basis;

26a. ‘poultry’ means ‘poultry’ as defined in Article 4(9) of Regulation EU 2016/429;

26b. ‘handling facility at a port or airport’ means a premises or structure where animals are temporarily kept before or after their transfer to or from an aircraft or a vessel other than a well-boat;

26c. ‘unweaned’ means a characteristic of a mammal whose dietary and physiological needs consist fully or partially of milk or appropriate milk replacements;

26d. ‘weaned’ means a characteristic of a mammal which is not unweaned;

27. ‘exit point’ means an exit point as defined in Article 3(39) of Regulation (EU) 2017/625;

28. ‘border control post’ means a border control post as defined in Article 3(38) of Regulation (EU) 2017/625.

29. ‘positioning systems’ means systems of infrastructures providing ~~global,~~ continuous, accurate and guaranteed timing and positioning services needed for the purpose of this Regulation ***on a world-wide basis***;

30. ‘rest period’ means a ~~continuous~~ period in the course of a journey ***by land*** during which animals are ~~not being moved by a means of transport;~~***rested outside the vehicle after unloading;***

30a. ‘day-old chicks’ means poultry less than 72 hours old;

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30b. ***'break period' means a period in the course of a journey by land during which animals are rested on board of a stationary vehicle;***

31. 'biosecure transport' means the transport of animals for the purposes of Directive 2010/63/EU that provides a physical barrier protecting the animals from the transfer of microbial contaminants ~~and ensures their welfare by the provision of feed, water and environmental conditions appropriate to the species and their stage of development, including sufficient space to rest and stretch;~~[6]***;***

32. '~~certification~~ ***conformity assessment*** body' means a ~~legal entity accredited in accordance with~~ ***conformity assessment body as defined in Article 2(13) of*** Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 ~~and operating in accordance with ISO/IEC/17065 for Conformity assessment — Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services;~~***;***

33. 'unbroken ~~equine~~ animal' ~~means an~~ ***of the*** equine ***species means an*** animal ***of the equine species***[7] that cannot be tied or led by a halter without causing avoidable excitement, pain or suffering~~.~~***;***

33a. ***'End of lay hens' means layer or breeder hens that have been used for the production of eggs for more than 30 weeks;***

33b. ***'European Union Reference Centre for Animal Welfare' means a European Union Reference Centre for Animal Welfare designated in accordance with Article 95 of Regulation (EU) 2017/625;***

33c. ***'Well-boat' means a vessel which has a well or tank for the transport of aquatic animals in water.***

Article 4

General provisions on the transport of animals

1. No person shall transport animals or cause animals to be transported in a way that causes or is likely to cause ~~undue~~***unnecessary*** suffering to ~~it~~***them***.

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[6] ***Deleted part belongs to a provision (Article 2)***

[7] ***Consequential to the use of term "animal of the equine species" in Chapter VI.***

2. Any person transporting animals or causing animals to be transported shall ensure compliance with the following requirements:

(a) all necessary arrangements have been made in advance to minimise the duration of the journey ~~so that~~ ***and to minimise*** the most common animal welfare hazards, including suffering from hunger, thirst, ***noise,*** fatigue, injuries or thermal discomfort ~~are minimised~~;

(b) ***at the time of loading,*** the animals are fit for the entire ***planned*** journey;

(ba) the welfare condition of the animals is regularly checked and appropriately maintained throughout the entire journey;

(c) the means of transport ***and containers*** are designed, constructed, maintained and operated ***or handled*** in a way to prevent injury or unnecessary suffering and to ensure the safety of the animals;

(d) the loading and unloading facilities are designed, constructed, maintained and operated in a way to ~~avoid~~ ***prevent*** injury and unnecessary suffering and to ensure the safety of the animals;

(e) any natural person ~~responsible for~~ ***handling*** the animals at any stage of their transport, is competent for this purpose ~~and for handling the animals transported~~, and carries out ~~his or her~~ ***their*** tasks without using violence or any method likely to cause injury or unnecessary suffering to the animals;

(f) the transport is carried out without undue delay;

(g) ~~the welfare condition of the animals is regularly checked and appropriately maintained;~~

(h) the floor area and ***ceiling*** height of the means of transport***, containers*** and the unloading and loading facilities are adapted to the species, size, category of the animals concerned and to the planned journey;

(i) water, feed and rest are offered to animals ~~at regular intervals~~ ***, as necessary,*** during the journey and are appropriate in quality and quantity to the animal's species and their physiological needs;

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(j) aquatic animals ***transported in water*** are provided with water in sufficient volume and quality.

Article 4a

Organisers and transporters

1. No transport of animals shall be carried out without a natural or legal person acting as an organiser and a natural or legal person acting as a transporter.

2. There shall be a single organiser for each journey.

3. Where several journeys converge and animals are loaded onto a single livestock vessel or aircraft for a leg of their journeys by sea or air, there shall be a single organiser who shall be responsible for planning and coordinating the legs of the journeys by road or rail and the leg of the journeys by sea or air.

4. In all other cases where the transport consists of several journeys, the organisers shall appoint a single point of contact for the entire transport.

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ANNEX II

ELEMENTS CONCERNING AIR TRANSPORT

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Article 5

Application for organiser authorisation for *any long journey, and for short*~~long~~ journeys *to third countries of terrestrial and aquatic animals*

1. ~~Organisers may only~~ ***The organiser shall*** make arrangements for the transport of ***terrestrial or aquatic*** animals for ***any long journey, any journey including a leg by livestock vessel, container vessel, well-boat or aircraft, and for short***~~long~~ journeys ***to third countries, only*** if they hold an authorisation granted in accordance with Article 6.

Article 8

Application ~~for~~ *for type 2* transporter authorisation ~~for long journeys~~

3. ***For transporters of animals by road or rail vehicle, container vessel, livestock vessel, well-boat and roll-on-roll-off vessel*** the application provided for in paragraph 2 shall contain evidence that the following conditions are met:

4a. For transporters of animals by aircraft, the application provided for in paragraph 2 shall contain evidence that the following conditions are met:

(a) the transporter is established in the Member State in which they apply for the authorisation; or the transporter is established in a third country and has their representative established in the Member State in which they apply for the authorisation, and provides a signed copy of their contract with the representative;

(b) all aircraft to be used by the transporter have adequate lighting systems in place and can maintain adequate air quality and air pressure levels in the cargo hold;

(c) all aircraft to be used by the transporter are able to maintain temperatures between 5 and 32°C in the cargo hold and are able, where necessary, to adjust temperatures with regard to the species and categories of the transported animals in the cargo hold;

(d) the transporter holds a contingency plan in line with Annex Va;

(e) the transporter has sufficient and appropriate staff.

Where the transporter holds a valid certificate under the IATA Center of Excellence for Independent Validators for Live Animal Logistics and or the IATA Operational Safety Audit, it shall produce evidence of such certification and, in such case, shall be deemed compliant with the conditions referred to under points (b) and (c) of the first subparagraph.

Article 11

General rules on means of transport *and containers*

4. ~~Animals may only be transported by aircrafts belonging to carriers that are members of the International Air~~ ***No person shall*** transport ~~Association.~~***terrestrial animals by air, unless the following conditions are met:***

(a) In case of transport in containers, the aircraft complies with point 1, except for 1.1(f) and (g) and 1.4b, and point 4 of Chapter II of Annex I and the containers comply with point 1, except for 1.1(f) and (i) and 1.4b, and point 4 of Chapter II of Annex I;

(b) In case of transport without containers, the aircraft complies with point 1, except for 1.1 (f) and 1.4b, and point 4 of Chapter II of Annex I.

The same obligations shall apply in case of transport by air of animals other than terrestrial and aquatic animals.

4a. No person shall transport aquatic animals by air unless the transport is carried out using aircraft and containers complying with Chapter II of Annex II.

4b. If the transporter holds a valid certificate under the IATA Center of Excellence for Independent Validators for Live Animal Logistics or the IATA Operational Safety Audit, certifying compliance with IATA Live Animal Regulations, the containers shall be considered compliant with paragraphs 4 or 4a, as applicable.

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Article 14

Obligations for organisers

3. The organisers shall ensure that for each journey:

(da) Where the journey includes transport by air, a handling facility compliant with the requirements of points 1.3 to 1.6 and point 2 of Chapter III of Annex I is available at the airports to be used.

Article 15

Journey log for ~~all long journeys and~~*any long journey, any journey including a leg by livestock vessel, container vessel, well-boat or aircraft and for* short journeys to third countries

1. For ~~long journeys and~~ ***transport of terrestrial and aquatic animals on any long journey, any journey including a leg by a livestock vessel, container vessel, well-boat or aircraft, or***short ~~journeys to~~***journey to a*** third ~~countries, organisers~~***country, the organiser*** shall complete ~~in TRACES~~ ***and sign***[8]section 1 of the journey log prior to the journey,~~-~~as set out in~~ point 1~~ ***template 1, template 3***[9] ***or template 4***[10] of Annex~~ III~~ ***III, as applicable***.

2a. [Where several journeys converge and the animals are loaded onto a single livestock vessel or aircraft for a leg of a journey by sea or air, the single organiser referred to in Article 4a shall submit an integrated journey log covering all of those journeys, in accordance with template 3 of Annex III. The single organiser shall submit that journey log to the competent authorities of the Member State of the port or airport of departure at least 3 working days before the date of the planned start of the journey of the first consignment. The journeys cannot start before the competent authority has approved the journey log in accordance with paragraph 4.][11]

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[8] ***See new paragraph 3 in Article 55a (earlier referred to as 'Article XZ'.***

[9] ***A new template 3 for the journey log for transport of aquatic animals to be developed.***

[10] ***A new template 4 for an integrated journey log for transport by livestock vessel to be developed.***

[11] ***To be read together with the future template of integrated journey log.***

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Article 20a

Obligations for operators of handling facilities at ports and airports

The operator of a handling facility at a port or an airport shall ensure that their handling facility complies with the requirements in points 1.3 to 1.6 and point 2 of Chapter III of Annex I.

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ANNEX III

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE RECITALS TO REFLECT THE PROVISIONS IN CHAPTER I AND ON AIR TRANSPORT

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(14) Experience enforcing Regulation (EC) No 1/2005, as well as case law of the Court of Justice of the EU such as in Case C-301/14[12] show that economic activity in relation to transport of animals should be construed in a broad sense. Transport of animals in connection with an economic activity should not be considered as limited to cases involving an immediate exchange of money, goods or services or where transport is carried out with the intention of making a profit. If a transport forms part of an offering of goods or services on a given market ***for any consideration***, it should be considered as a transport in connection with the economic activity. ***Consideration is to be understood broadly to encompass any benefit, whether monetary or non-monetary, received in connection with the transport of animals. It includes payment in kind, reciprocal arrangements, and any other tangible or intangible advantage accruing to the person providing the transport service, irrespective of whether that benefit is received at the time of transport or at a later point in time.***

[12] Judgement of 3 December 2015,

(15a) ***[Certain categories of animal transport present a welfare profile that warrants a differentiated approach. Animals transported for sporting, recreational, cultural events or professional purposes, including for training, exhibitions, competitions, races, circuses, and equestrian sport and equestrian leisure activities such as dressage and showjumping are usually transported with special adaptations designed to meet their particular needs. The direct interest of their owners and handlers in the wellbeing and performance of such animals operates as a strong practical incentive to minimise welfare risks during transport. Similarly, highly trained dogs and equines used by military, police, customs, or sanitary or phytosanitary services, search and rescue dogs, and guide, hearing, mobility, and medical alert dogs, are transported in conditions where the relationship between the animal and those responsible for its care provides a significant level of welfare protection. In recognition of these factors, transport of animals for the purposes set out above should be subject only to general provisions on animal welfare. This exception does not extend to dogs serving as human emotional support or dogs transported commercially for sale to consumers.]***

(15b) ***[Transport by farmers using their own means of transport for the purposes of transhumance represents a traditional practice where to impose the full requirements of the Regulation would be disproportionate having regard to the nature and scale of the activity. Transport by farmers using their own means of transport within 50km of the holding in which their animals are kept presents a lower welfare risk given the short journey times involved. To impose the full requirements of the Regulation on such local journeys would be disproportionate and would risk creating an unnecessary administrative burden for competent authorities and farmers without a commensurate welfare benefit. Accordingly, such transports should be subject only to general provisions on animal welfare.]***

(15c) ***The term 'farmer' is to be understood broadly to encompass agricultural or livestock farmers including herders such as reindeer herders, shepherds, and others who engage in traditional or culturally significant pastoral practices as well as those who keep and move animals seasonally as part of practices rooted in the cultural heritage of a region or community.***

(15d) Purebred breeding animals of the species Equus caballus and Equus asinus entered in the main section of a breeding book established by a recognised breed society represent animals of significant genetic and economic value. The high standard of transport arrangements typically applied to such animals, combined with the close oversight exercised by those responsible for them, means that welfare risks during transport are minimised. In recognition of these factors, the transport of such animals for purposes other than slaughter should be exempt from specific provisions relating to mandatory stay periods at places of departure, journey logs and journey times.

(16) Ornamental fish are usually transported in small boxes by express couriers in bags of water especially adapted to their needs and the duration of the journey is usually less than 24 hours. Therefore, the transport of ornamental fish rarely represents a major risk for animal welfare and should be ~~excluded from the scope of this Regulation~~ ***subject only to the general provisions on animal welfare***.

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(18) Experience with the application of Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 shows that operators often prolong journeys beyond the limits set out in the relevant provisions by transporting animals from a holding to several assembly centres consecutively. The animals are grouped together with animals from other holdings in these assembly centres and only the last assembly centre is recorded as the place of departure. Therefore, a mandatory stay of the animals at both the place of departure and destination should be imposed and assembly centres should only be allowed to be places ~~of departure~~ ***where a journey starts or ends*** if they are situated locally, ***less than 4,5 hours away from the place of departure or place of destination concerned,*** with the aim of preventing the practice of "assembly centre hopping". ***This aims at providing clarity and transparency on the overall transport operations for individual animals, and at providing for clearer time limits of the journeys. In such cases, no mandatory stay is imposed at an assembly centre where animals are grouped when it is the start of a journey and where all places of departure of the previous journeys for the animals concerned are situated less than 4,5 hours away from the assembly centre. Similarly, no mandatory stay is imposed at an assembly centre where animals are distributed when it is the end of a journey, and when all subsequent journeys from the assembly centre to the places of destination for the animals concerned are less than 4,5 hours. Consequently, if previous or subsequent journeys to or from an assembly centre take more than 4,5 hours, the assembly centre is to be considered a place of departure or place of destination, as applicable, and the mandatory period of stay for the animals applies.***

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(19) ***Organisers should be responsible for ensuring compliance with Union rules while planning and coordinating the entire journey.*** Only organisers ~~of the transport of animals~~ who have the means to comply with the requirements of this Regulation should be ~~allowed to~~***authorised to arrange for the*** transport ***of terrestrial and aquatic*** animals ~~for~~***on any*** long journeys***, any journeys with a leg of the journey by livestock vessel, container vessel, well-boat or aircraft, or a short journey to third countries, given that ensuring animal protection for such journeys is particularly demanding and requires extensive knowledge and logistical capability to meet the requirements of this Regulation. For such transports, it is*** therefore~~, it is~~ appropriate to establish an authorisation system for organisers. ~~Organisers should be responsible for ensuring compliance with Union rules from the place of departure to the place of destination. They may subcontract the transport of animals to a transporter and should remain responsible for ensuring compliance with Union rules by that transporter and any other persons involved in that transport.~~ The organiser should provide proof to the competent authorities of their ability to ensure that Union rules on transport are met until the animals' arrival at the place of destination.

(20b) Persons who handle terrestrial and aquatic animals during road, rail, sea and air transport and related operations should have the necessary knowledge, skills and competences on animal welfare. Various operations associated with the transport of animals have different levels of impact on the welfare of the animals. Therefore, it is appropriate to set up a two-level training system for this purpose. The primary objective of the basic training course is to raise general awareness on animal welfare. Regular farm staff, who take part in the daily care of the animals, are assumed to have such awareness based on other training obligations and experience and should therefore be exempted from this requirement. [However, where operators at the place of departure hire external persons for activities such as catching and crating animals to be transported in containers, or loading animals, those persons should be subject to the basic training requirement]. Similarly, crew members who are handling animals on livestock vessels, and persons handling animals at handling facilities at ports and airports, should be covered by the basic training requirements. Transporters, and operators of handling facilities at ports and airports, should ensure that such persons are so trained.

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(22) The transport of animals by air is significantly less common compared to transport by road and sea. Due to the costs associated with this type of transport, in the majority of cases, animals transported by air are pets and high-value animals intended for breeding or sport activities. Air transport of animals is ***usually*** carried out in line with International Air Transport Association (IATA) technical rules set out in Live Animals Regulations (LAR), designed and annually updated by the Live Animals and Perishables Board (LAPB) to balance the principles of protecting welfare of animals and safety on board of aircraft, as well as taking into account the specificities and limitations of air transport. ***It is therefore appropriate to establish that the*** ~~Carriers that are members of IATA are obliged to follow the standards in the regulations in carrying out transport operations, as well as in equipping their aircraft.~~ transport of animals by air ~~should therefore only be~~ ***is*** allowed in ~~aircrafts belonging to carriers that are members of~~***aircraft and containers that comply with requirements similar to those set out by*** IATA.

(22a) The transport of animals by air is predominantly a cross-border activity, subject to specific safety and operational constraints. In order to ensure a high level of protection of animals and the smooth functioning of the internal market, it is appropriate to lay down technical rules for the transport of animals by air, particularly regarding the design of containers, specific stocking densities required to reduce the risk of injury due to particular conditions during air transport, and the handling of animals. These rules take into account, as appropriate, the internationally recognised standards of World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), the IATA LAR and operational practices currently applied by the commercial aviation sector. Such an approach ensures predictability and clarity for operators, allowing the transport operations to be carried out in consistent manner, while guaranteeing effective enforcement of animal welfare standards during air transport under Union law.

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(22b) The space allowances set out in IATA LAR for the transport of animals by air are in general significantly lower than international standards for space allowances for transport by road. The Terrestrial Animal Health Code of WOAH points to the need to set space allowances during air transport to give a high enough stocking density to prevent injuries at take-off, during turbulence and at landing, but not to the extent that individual animals cannot lie down and stand up without risk of injury. The particular needs of air transport also include limiting movement of animals within the aircraft and to maintain mass balance during flight for safety reasons. The space allowances for air transport set in this Regulation are considered in light of the foregoing explanations.

(22c) Experience has shown that the protection of animals transported by air depends significantly on the conditions of their handling prior to loading and after unloading from the aircraft. Animals can spend considerable time in handling facilities at airports, particularly during transfers or delays. In order to ensure continuous protection of, and care for, the animals, it is necessary to allow the transport of animals by air only from airports with appropriate handling facilities and equipment, and to lay down specific obligations for the operators of these facilities and for keepers of animals at these facilities.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ANNEXES ON AIR TRANSPORT

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Annex I Chapter II point 4

4.1a In the case of air transport, containers shall be marked with the following information:

a) full name and contact details of the organiser;

b) the species of the animal(s) transported;

c) the number of animals per container;

d) the label 'venomous' in case of venomous animals;

e) the label 'aggressive' in case of aggressive animals;

f) instructions for watering and feeding if applicable.

Annex I Chapter V point 5:

5. Terrestrial animals transported by aircraft

Terrestrial animals transported by aircraft shall be fed and watered ~~in such a way as~~ ***in accordance with written instructions provided by the organiser. The frequency of feeding and hydration and the quantity of feed and means of hydration shall be sufficient*** to meet the physiological needs of the animals transported.

Space Allowances: Chapter VII of Annex I in the consolidated version of the Annexes (14768/1/25 REV 1).

1.2.1. Space allowance ***in m²*** area per animal [m^2] during **for** transport **of bovine species** by road, by rail, ~~or~~ by sea or by air, shall **be calculated using the following minimum k-values**:

Bovine species	**Time on a road or rail vehicle, including on a roll-on-roll-off vessel**			**Livestock vessel**	~~**Air transport**~~
	< 9 hours	**9-21 hours**	**> 21 hours (applicable only for road or rail vehicles loaded on a roll-on-roll-off vessel)**		
k-value for unweaned animals	**0.0220**	**0.0270**	**0.0320**	**0.0320**	~~**0.017**~~
k-value for weaned animals	**0.0205**	**0.0270**	**0.0320**	**0.0320**	~~**0.020**~~

Bovine Species - Air transport	
Category	**k-value**
≤100 kg	**0.017**
>100 kg	**0.020**

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1.3.1. Space allowance in m^2 per animal for the transport of porcine species shall be calculated using the following <u>minimum</u> k-values:

Porcine species	Time on a road or rail vehicle, including on a roll-on-roll-off vessel			~~Time on a~~ Livestock vessel	Air transport
	< 9 hours	9-21 hours	> 21 hours <u>(applicable only for road or rail vehicles loaded on a roll-on-roll-off vessel)</u>		
k-value	0.0197	0.0230	0.0270	0.0270	[<u>0.0270</u>]

1.4.1. Space allowance in m^2 per animal for the transport of ovine and caprine species shall be calculated using the following <u>minimum</u> k-values:

Ovine and caprine species (shorn)	Time on a road or rail vehicle, including on a roll-on-roll-off vessel			Livestock vessel	Air transport
	< 9 hours	9-21 hours	> 21 hours <u>(applicable only for road or rail vehicles loaded on a oll-on-roll-off vessel)</u>		
k-value	~~0,0260~~ <u>0.0240</u>	~~0,0310~~ <u>0.0290</u>	~~0,0370~~ <u>0.0350</u>	~~0,0370~~ <u>0.0350</u>	<u>[0.021]</u>

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1.5.1 Space allowance in cm^2 per animal for the transport of weaned farmed lagomorphs shall be calculated using the following <u>minimum</u> k-values:

Weaned farmed lagomorphs	**Time on a road or rail vehicle, including on a roll-on-roll-off vessel**			**Air transport**
	< 12 hours	**12 – 36 hours**	**> 36 hours** **<u>(applicable only for road or rail vehicles loaded on a oll-on-roll-off vessel)</u>**	
k-value	**[200]**	**[270]**	**[350]**	**<u>[400]</u>**

1.6.1 Space allowance in cm^2 per animal for the transport of poultry other than day-old chicks shall be calculated using the following <u>minimum</u> k-values:

Poultry other than day-old chicks	**Time on a road or rail vehicle, including on a roll-on-roll-off vessel**			**Air transport**
	< 12 hours	**12 – 21 hours**	**> 21 hours** **<u>(applicable only for road or rail vehicles loaded on a oll-on-roll-off vessel)</u>**	
k-value	**195**	**240**	**290**	**<u>250</u>**

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2.1.3 [Air transport of animals of the equine species – to be decided]

Weight [kg]	Area [m^2]
0-100	0,42
101-200	0,66
201-300	0,87
301-400	1,04
401-500	1,19
501-600	1,34
601-700	1,51
701-800	1,73
801-900	1,95
901-1000	2,17

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