



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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NOTE

from: General Secretariat of the Council

to: Delegations

No. Cion prop.: 13700/11 - COM(2011) 525 final + 13701/11 - COM(2011) 524 final

Subject: - Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 as regards electronic identification of bovine animals and deleting the provisions on voluntary beef labelling
- Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Directive 64/432/EEC as regards computer databases which are part of the surveillance networks in the Member States

Further to the meeting of the Working Party of Veterinary Experts (Animal Health) on 29 November 2011, delegations will find attached comments from the Greek delegation on the above issue.

Greek comments based on document 16732/11

(deletion of voluntary beef labeling – Com. delegated powers for compulsory beef labelling)

Title II Reg 1760/2000

General comment

Section II of Title II of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 lays down rules for a voluntary beef labelling system which provide for the approval of certain labelling specifications by the competent authority of the Member State. Up to now the M-S approved voluntary labelling specifications which were used as their name imply on a voluntary basis. Interested parties decided whether they wish to participate in the schemes by assessing the economic impact that would result from the implementation of each system. There are many farmers who made use of the voluntary schemes and deleting the provisions of voluntary beef labelling will create problems to them. Therefore, we are not in favour of the deletion and we strongly believe that the voluntary beef labelling scheme should remain as it is today. We should leave the decision to them who apply the systems to evaluate their benefits as well.

Art 19

We recommend that the Commission is authorized to adopt implementing acts and the wording of the article 19 to be similar to that used in Article 10a. In particular, we believe that the Commission should not have the power to adopt delegated acts concerning the labelling provisions related to the simplification of the indication of origin (indent c).

Art 23

We do not agree with the deletion of subparagraph 1b (Reg 1760/2000). We would like to have the option existed. The Commission should be assisted by the Management Committee for the Common Organization of the Agricultural Markets (Animal Products) as regards the issue of beef labelling in order to have a uniform application of the rules for the beef labelling (beef and veal together). Up to now the application of beef labelling (Title II) was in the responsibilities of the Beef Management Committee.