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From: Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Ms Martine DEPREZ, Director

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To: Ms Thérèse BLANCHET, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union

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Subject: ANNEX to COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) .../... amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/688 as regards infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24) and infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus and introducing a derogation for movements of registered equine animals

Delegations will find attached document C(2026) 901 annex.

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ANNEX

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to

COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) .../...

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ANNEX

ANNEX IX

RISK MITIGATING MEASURES FOR INFECTION WITH BLUETONGUE VIRUS (SEROTYPES 1-24) OR INFECTION WITH EPIZOOTIC HAEMORRHAGIC DISEASE VIRUS IN THE EVENT OF MOVEMENTS TO OTHER MEMBER STATES OF KEPT AND WILD ANIMALS OF LISTED SPECIES FOR THOSE DISEASES

(Referred to in Articles 9, 10, 13, 15, 17, 23, 24, 26, 27, 29, 30 and 101)

Part 1

Movement of animals

1. The kept animals:
 - (a) have been kept at least for the last 60 days prior to the date of departure, or since birth, if they are younger than 60 days of age, in establishments, within an area of at least 150 km radius in which infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24) or infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus, as relevant, has not been reported in the listed species for those diseases during the last 2 years prior to the date of departure; and
 - (b) have not been vaccinated with a live vaccine against infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24) or infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus during the last 60 days prior the date of movement.
2. The kept animals have been kept in establishments, within an area of at least 150 km radius in which infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24) or infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus, as relevant, has been reported in the listed species for those diseases during the last 2 years prior to the date of departure, and at least one of the following requirements is complied with:
 - (a) they have been kept in an area seasonally vector-free in accordance with the requirements for seasonally vector-free areas laid down in Part 2:
 - (i) for at least 60 days prior to the date of departure or since birth, if they are younger than 60 days of age; or
 - (ii) for at least 28 days prior to the date of departure, and they have been subjected to a serological test, with negative results, carried out on samples collected at least 28 days following the entry date of the animal into the seasonally vector-free area; or
 - (iii) for at least 14 days prior to the date of departure, and they have been subjected to a PCR test, with negative results, carried out on samples collected at least 14 days following the entry date of the animal into the seasonally vector-free area.
 - (b) they have been kept protected from attacks by vectors from infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24) or infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus in a vector protected establishment fulfilling the requirements for a vector protected establishment laid down in Part 3 :
 - (i) for at least 60 days prior to the date of departure or since birth, if they are younger than 60 days of age; or

- (ii) for at least 28 days prior to the date of departure, and they have been subjected to a serological test, with negative results, carried out on samples collected at least 28 days following the date of the commencement of the period of protection from attacks by vectors; or
 - (iii) for at least 14 days prior to the date of departure, and they have been subjected to a PCR test, with negative results, carried out on samples collected at least 14 days following the date of commencement of the period of protection from attacks by vectors.
 - (c) they have been vaccinated against all serotypes of infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24) or infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus, as relevant, reported during the last two years prior to the date of departure in that area and they are within the immunity period, between the onset of immunity and end of immunity, set in the specifications of the vaccine, and at least one of the following requirements is complied with:
 - (i) they have been vaccinated at least 60 days prior to the date of departure; or
 - (ii) they have been vaccinated with an inactivated vaccine and have been subject to a PCR test, with negative results on samples collected at least 14 days after the onset of the immunity set in the specifications of the vaccine.
3. The kept animals have been kept in establishments within an area of at least 150 km radius in which infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24) or infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus, as relevant, has been reported in the listed species for those diseases during the last 2 years prior to the date of departure, and at least one of the following requirements is complied with:
- (a) they have been vaccinated against all serotypes of infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24) or infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus, as relevant, reported during the last two years prior to the date of departure in that area;
 - (b) they comply with specific risk-mitigating measures required by the competent authority of the Member State of destination;
 - (c) the animals comply with any of the requirements provided for in point (c) of paragraph 2 or points (a) or (b) of this paragraph only for the serotypes of infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24) or infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus, as relevant, reported during the last 2 years prior to the date of departure in the area of origin and not in the area of destination during that period.
4. The wild animals come from a habitat within an area of at least 150 km radius in which infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24) or infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus, as relevant, has been reported in the listed species for those diseases during the last 2 years prior to the date of departure and at least one of the following requirements is complied with:
- (a) they come from an area seasonally vector-free in accordance with the requirements for seasonally vector-free areas laid down in Part 2 for at least 60 days prior to the date of departure;

- (b) they have been vaccinated against all serotypes of infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24) or infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus, as relevant, reported during the last two years prior to the date of departure in that area;
- (c) the animals comply with specific risk-mitigating measures required by the competent authority of the Member State of destination;
- (d) the animals comply with any of the requirements provided for in point (b) or (c) of this paragraph only for the serotypes of infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24) or infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus, as relevant, reported for the past 2 years prior to the date of departure in the area of origin and not in the area of destination during that period.

Part 2

Seasonally vector-free areas

1. In the event of movements to other Member States of animals of listed species for infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24) or infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus, seasonally vector-free areas may be established if the beginning and the end of the vector-free period has been demonstrated by the competent authority based on entomological surveillance.
2. If the vector-free period has been successfully demonstrated for a period of 3 consecutive years, additional criteria, such as temperature may replace entomological surveillance to substantiate the beginning and the end of the vector-free period on the basis of scientific evidence.
3. The recognition of seasonally vector-free areas shall immediately be withdrawn when there is evidence of the end of the vector-free period or of first annual circulation of bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24) or epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus.

Part 3

Vector protected establishment

Vector protected establishments shall comply with the following requirements recognised, and verified, by the competent authority at an appropriate frequency:

- (a) it has appropriate physical barriers at entry and exit points;
- (b) openings shall be vector screened with mesh of appropriate gauge which shall be impregnated regularly with an approved insecticide according to the manufacturers' instructions;
- (c) vector surveillance and control shall be carried out within and around the vector protected establishment;
- (d) measures shall be taken to limit or eliminate breeding sites for vectors in the vicinity of the vector protected establishment; and
- (e) standard operating procedures shall be in place, including descriptions of back-up and alarm systems, for operation of the vector protected establishment and transport of animals to the place of loading.