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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 the COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) .../... amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/686 as regards infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1 – 24), infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus and contagious equine metritis (*Taylorella equigenitalis*)

Delegations will find attached document C(2026) 900 annex.

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ANNEX

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to the

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

amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/686 as regards infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1 – 24), infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus and contagious equine metritis (*Taylorella equigenitalis*)

ANNEX

Annex II is amended as follows:

(1) Part 4 is amended as follows:

(a) in Chapter I, point 1(a)(iii) is replaced by the following:

‘(iii) an agent identification test for contagious equine metritis (*Taylorella equigenitalis*), carried out with a negative result in each case on three specimens (swabs) taken from the donor stallion on two occasions with an interval of not less than 7 days, and in any case no earlier than 7 days (systemic treatment) or 21 days (local treatment) after the possible antimicrobial treatment of the donor stallion, from at least the following sites:

- the penile sheath (prepuce),
- the urethra,
- the fossa glandis.

The specimens subject to culture shall be placed in a transport medium with activated charcoal, such as Amies medium, before being dispatched to the laboratory.

The specimens shall be subjected to at least one of the following tests:

- culture under microaerophilic conditions for a period of at least 7 days for the isolation of *Taylorella equigenitalis*, set up within 24 hours from the time of taking the specimens from the donor animal, or 48 hours where the specimens are kept cool during transport;
- or
- PCR or real-time PCR for the detection of genome of *Taylorella equigenitalis*, carried out within a period of 7 days from the time of taking the specimens from the donor animal;’;

(b) in Chapter II, point 2(c) is replaced by the following:

‘(c) be subjected to an agent identification test for contagious equine metritis (*Taylorella equigenitalis*), carried out with a negative result in each case on at least two specimens (swabs) taken from the donor animal, which must in any case not be earlier than 7 days (systemic treatment) or 21 days (local treatment) after the possible antimicrobial treatment of the donor animal, from at least the following sites:

- the mucosal surfaces of the clitoral fossa,
- the clitoral sinuses.

The specimens shall be taken during the period of at least 30 days referred to in point (a) on two occasions with an interval of not less than 7 days in the case of the test referred to in point (i), or on one occasion in the case of the test referred to in point (ii).

The specimens referred to in point (i) shall be placed in a transport medium with activated charcoal, such as Amies medium, before being dispatched to the laboratory.

The specimens shall be subjected to at least one of the following tests:

- (i) culture under microaerophilic conditions for a period of at least 7 days for the isolation of *Taylorella equigenitalis*, set up within 24 hours from the time of taking the specimens from the donor animal, or 48 hours where the specimens are kept cool during transport;
- or
- (ii) PCR or real-time PCR for the detection of genome of *Taylorella equigenitalis*, carried out within a period of 7 days from the time of taking the specimens from the donor animal.’;

(2) Part 5 is amended as follows:

(a) Chapter II is amended as follows:

- (i) point 1(a) is replaced by the following:
 - ‘(a) they have been kept for a period of at least 60 days prior to and during collection of the semen in a Member State or zone thereof where infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24) has not been reported for a period of at least the preceding 2 years within a radius of 150 km of the establishment;’;
- (ii) point 1(b) is replaced by the following:
 - ‘(b) they have been kept for a period of at least 60 days prior to and during collection of semen in an area seasonally vector-free in relation to infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24);’;
- (iii) point 2(a) is replaced by the following:
 - ‘(a) they have been kept for a period of at least 60 days prior to and during collection of the oocytes or embryos in a Member State or zone thereof where infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24) has not been reported for a period of at least the preceding 2 years within a radius of 150 km of the establishment;’;
- (iv) point 2(b) is replaced by the following:
 - ‘(b) they have been kept for a period of 60 days prior to and during collection of the oocytes or embryos, in an area seasonally vector-free in relation to infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24);’;

(b) Chapter III is amended as follows:

- (i) the title is replaced by the following:

‘Requirements for bovine, ovine and caprine animals and for animals of the families *Camelidae* and *Cervidae* as regards infection with the epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus’;
- (ii) in point 1, the introductory sentence is replaced by the following:

‘The bovine, ovine and caprine animals and animals of the families *Camelidae* and *Cervidae* which are semen donors must fulfil at least one of the following conditions:’;
- (iii) point 1(b) is replaced by the following:

- ‘(b) they have been kept for a period of at least 60 days prior to and during collection of the semen in an area seasonally vector-free in relation to infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus;’;
- (iv) in point 2, the introductory sentence is replaced by the following:
 - ‘The bovine, ovine and caprine animals and animals of the families *Camelidae* and *Cervidae* which are oocyte donors for the *in vitro* production of embryos and *in vivo* derived embryo donors must fulfil at least one of the following conditions:’;
- (v) point 2(b) is replaced by the following:
 - ‘(b) they have been kept for a period of at least 60 days prior to and during collection of the oocytes or embryos in an area seasonally vector-free in relation to infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus;’.