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MEETING DOCUMENT

From:	Presidency
To:	Working Party on Animals and Veterinary Questions (Animal Welfare)
N° Cion doc.:	ST 16405 2023 + ADD 1
Subject:	Working Party on Animals and Veterinary Questions (Animal Welfare) on 11 and 12 September 2025 - Presidency flash

In view of the above meeting, delegations will find in Annex the Presidency flash.

Danish Presidency
Council of the European Union

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Presidency Flash

Working Party on Animals and Veterinary Questions (Animal Welfare and Husbandry)

11 - 12 September 2025, Brussels

When	Where	Format
11 and 12 September 2025 10.00	LEX Building	2 + 2

Dear Colleagues,

The Danish Presidency is pleased to invite you to the second meeting under Danish Presidency in the Working Party on Animals and Veterinary Questions (Animal Welfare and Husbandry). The meeting will take place on 11 and 12 September 2025 in Brussels.

The Presidency will continue the examination of the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council *on the protection of animals during transport and related operations*. Specifically, we will continue discussions on training (updated Chapter VIII) and initiate discussions on obligations prior to transport (Chapter IV).

Training

At the Working Party meeting in July, the Danish Presidency mentioned to regroup all requirements regarding training in a new Chapter. However, on the basis of subsequent considerations the Presidency instead proposes to introduce two new articles in Chapter VIII (Obligations of Competent Authorities) to set up a two-level training system; 36a on a basic training course and 36b on an advanced training course. In the Commission proposal, Chapter VIII already contained Article 37 (Trainings) and 38 (Certificate of competence).

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In addition to setting up a two-level training system, Articles 36a and 36b serve two purposes: (1) to clarify who shall participate in training courses, and (2) to lay down provisions on the content of these training courses.

It is the intention of the Presidency proposal to ensure a high level of flexibility for the Member States to integrate the two-level training system in their existing national systems. With the proposal, it is possible for Member States to set up at national level module-based training systems, conduct in-house training, incorporate practical elements in the courses, include online training, etc.

We invite Delegations to share their views on the Presidency text. Furthermore, we welcome input on these specific questions:

1. Should we introduce provisions on the minimum duration of the training courses?
2. Should there be an option to suspend a certificate of competence?
   During the drafting of the proposal, it has been unclear in which situations suspension of a certificate of competence would be relevant.
3. We are proposing a refresher course to renew the certificate of competence. Is it necessary to provide further provisions regarding the set-up and content of a refresher course?

The rest of Chapter VIII has not been amended at this stage. The Presidency proposal on Chapter VIII is available on Delegates Portal under document **ST 11903/25**.

Chapter IV

The Presidency will also present a proposal on Chapter IV (Obligations prior to transport) based on the Delegations' written comments from the consultation in May and based on the latest compromise text presented by the Polish Presidency on Chapter VI (Conditions for transport of terrestrial animals) that was discussed during the Working Party meeting in June.

Please take note that changes made in Articles 14 and 15 reflect the latest proposal on Chapter VI regarding maximum journey times and the use of assembly centres. Also, we have replaced Article 16 regarding journey logs for short journeys within the Union with a new Article 16a introducing an obligation for the transporter to carry documentation about the animals and the journey. This is a continuation of the current rules regarding transport documentation in Article 4 of Regulation 1/2005 with a few amendments.

We invite Delegations to share their views on the Presidency text. Furthermore, we welcome input on these specific questions:

1. Do you wish to maintain point (b) in Article 15(4)? Or do you find that point (a) in Article 15(4) already covers this provision?
2. Do you find it necessary to have an obligation for the keeper (or organiser) to indicate in the journey log the date of insemination or the presumptive date of natural service in Article 17(1)?

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The Presidency proposal on Chapter IV is available on Delegates Portal under document **ST 11902/25**.

Next steps

Consultations on questions related to **Articles 13 and 13a**, **Chapter IV** and **Chapter VIII (only Articles 36a-38)** have already been launched on Delegates Portal. Delegations are invited to submit their written comments no later than **24 September 2025**. Presidency proposals based on the oral and written comments will be presented at a later meeting.

At the meeting in October, the Danish Presidency intends to present proposals on **fitness for transport** and **space allowances** based on the Delegations' written and oral comments from July and September.

Any other business

Delegations that would like to raise any other business during the meeting are kindly requested to inform the General Secretariat of the Council (LIFE.3@consilium.europa.eu) as well as the Chairs of the Presidency team, [redacted] and [redacted] in advance of the meeting.

The helpful support by the General Secretariat of the Council is highly appreciated.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Brussels.

Kind regards,

The Danish Presidency team

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The Knabstrupper

The Knabstrupper is a Danish horse breed renowned for its distinctive spotted fur and versatile temperament. It is described as being polite, calm, and highly trainable, which is why Knabstruppers are popular among both experienced equestrians as well as beginners.

The history of the Knabstrupper

The breed traces its origins back to 1812, when Villars Lunn, the owner of Knabstrupgård, bred a uniquely spotted mare with a Spanish stallion that also had spotted fur. In the following years, the Knabstrupper gained popularity and was used for variety of purposes, including military service, farm work, and circus performances.

Throughout its history, the breed faced several periods of near extinction, most notably after a fire at Knabstrupgård in 1891. However, dedicated breeders and associations have preserved the Knabstrupper and now maintains it at a stable population.





Pippi Longstockings horse

Although the Swedish author Astrid Lindgren never explicitly named the breed of Pippi Longstocking's horse in her books, illustrations and adaptations often show it as a white horse with black spots. Therefore, many people today identify the Knabstrupper as Pippi Longstocking's horse.

