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MEETING DOCUMENT

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Working Party on Animals and Veterinary Questions (Animal Welfare)
N° Cion doc.:	ST 16405 2023 ADD 1 + ST 16405 2023 INIT
Subject:	End of career animals - revised Presidency suggestion

Delegations will find in Annex the revised Presidency suggestion on end of career animals based on the dicussion at the meeting of the above working party on 4 December 2026. The text will be discussed at the Working Party on 5 December 2025.

Danish Presidency
Council of the European Union

End of career animals

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Updated definition

34. 'End of career animals' means the following animals which are transported for slaughtering:

a) dairy cows that had more than three calves and have been used for the production of milk;

b) sows that have been used for the production of piglets for more than three cycles; or

c) layer or breeder hens that have been used for the production of eggs for more than 30 weeks.

Questions for Member States

- Would you be able to support the inclusion of end of career animals in Article 28 if the journey time is longer than 9 hours, i.e. 15 hours?
- Or would you prefer to deal with end of career animals in a provision concerning better transport conditions?

Danish Presidency
Council of the European Union

End of career animals

PUBLIC

Article 28

[4. In case of transport to slaughter of end of career animals, the following conditions shall apply

(a) no more than one assembly centre shall be used;

(b) the journey or the journeys between the place of departure and the slaughterhouse shall not exceed [15] hours excluding the time spent at an assembly centre;

(c) if no slaughterhouse adapted to the species and categories of animals concerned and with sufficient slaughter capacity can be reached within [15] hours, the journey shall end at the nearest slaughterhouse which meets these conditions.

5. The animals referred to in paragraph 1 and in paragraph 4 shall be provided feed and water in accordance with points 1 and 4 of Chapter V of Annex I.]