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MEETING DOCUMENT

From:	Presidency
To:	Working Party on Animals and Veterinary Questions (Animal Welfare)
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Subject:	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of animals during transport and related operations, amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/97 and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 - Chapter IV of Annex I

In preparation of the Working Party on Animals and Veterinary Questions (Animal Welfare) of 17-18 February 2026, delegations will find in annex Chapter IV of Annex I of the above Regulation as revised by the Presidency on the basis of delegations' comments. The text will be included in a revised compilation of Annexes of that Regulation, together with Presidency suggestions to Annex II and to Chapters II, III and VI of its Annex I.

CHAPTER IV
ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS FOR LIVESTOCK VESSELS AND CONTAINER VESSELS

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1. Construction and equipment requirements for livestock vessels

1.1. Strength for pen rails and decks shall be appropriate to the **animals being** transported ~~animals~~. Strength calculations of pen rails and decks shall be verified ~~during construction or conversion of the livestock vessel~~ by a **[recognized organization as defined in Regulation (EC) No 391/2009, and authorized in accordance with Directive 2009/15/EC] in one of the Member States.** ~~classification society approved by the competent authority~~[1].

1.2. ~~Compartments~~ **Livestock decks** where animals are **accommodated** ~~to be transported~~ shall be equipped with a forced ventilation system which gives sufficient capacity to **renew** ~~change~~ the air in **the** ~~its~~ entire volume **of the decks,** as follows:

(a) **minimum** 40 air changes per hour if the ~~compartment~~ **deck** is fully enclosed and the clear height is less or equal to 2,30 meters;

(b) **minimum** 30 air changes per hour if the ~~compartment~~ **deck** is fully enclosed and the clear height is more than 2,30 meters;

(c) **minimum** 75 % of the above relevant capacity if the ~~compartment~~ **deck** is partially enclosed.

The forced ventilation system shall have the capacity to maintain a minimum air velocity of 0,5 m/sec throughout all decks.

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[1] **Proposed wording aligned with article 13(2)(c). A 10-year transition period is proposed for this point and for point 2(c) of Article 13 to be included in articles 58 and 59.**

1.3. Storage or production capacity for fresh water **for the animals** shall be appropriate to meet the water requirement laid down in **point 2.** ~~Chapter VI taking into account the maximum number and the type of animals to be transported as well as the maximum duration of the intended journeys~~ **Storage tanks for fresh water shall be used exclusively for the purpose of storing water for the animals and be clearly and visibly marked as 'fresh water for animals'. The storage tanks shall be maintained so as not to have an adverse impact on the quality of the water.**

1.4. The fresh water **distribution** system shall be capable of supplying fresh water continuously in each ~~livestock area~~ **pen where animals are accommodated.** ~~and sufficient receptacles shall be available to ensure that a~~

All animals **shall** have easy and constant access to **sufficient quantities of** fresh water.

Each pen shall have watering devices that are in good working order, appropriately designed and positioned taking into account the species, categories and size of the animals. The number of watering devices in each pen shall be sufficient to minimize any aggressive or competitive behavior between the animals.

Alternative pumping equipment shall be available to ensure water supply in the event of failure of the primary pumping **equipment** ~~system~~.

1.4a. If feeding equipment is used, it shall be adapted to the species, categories and size of the animals and the number of feeders in each pen shall be sufficient to minimize any aggressive or competitive behaviour between the animals. In such a case, the feeding equipment shall be secured to ensure that it does not tip over during transport.

1.5. The drainage system shall be of appropriate capacity to drain fluids from pens and decks under all conditions. Drainpipes and channels shall collect the fluids in wells or tanks from where sewage can be discharged by means of pumps or ejectors. Alternative pumping equipment shall be available to ensure drainage in the event of failure of the primary pumping **equipment** ~~system~~.

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1.6. Livestock ~~areas~~ **decks**, passageways and ramps to livestock ~~areas~~ **decks** shall be provided with sufficient lighting. Emergency lighting shall be available in case of a failure of the main electrical installation. Sufficient portable lighting shall be provided to allow **for** the ~~animal attendant~~ adequate **checks** ~~inspection~~ and **the provision of** care ~~of~~ **to** the animals.

1.7. A **fire detection and** firefighting system shall be appropriately installed in all ~~livestock~~ areas **where animals are accommodated** and fire equipment within thes**e** ~~livestock~~ areas shall comply with ~~the most recent~~ the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) standards regarding fire protection, fire detection and fire extinction. **The firefighting equipment shall be maintained in good working order.**

1.8. The following systems for livestock shall be equipped with a monitoring, control and alarm system in the wheelhouse:

(a) ventilation;

(b) fresh water supply ~~and drainage~~;

(ba) drainage;

(c) lighting;

(d) fresh water production**, where applicable** ~~if necessary~~.

1.9. A primary source of power shall be sufficient to supply continuous power for the systems for livestock referred to in points 1.2, 1.4, 1.5 and 1.6 under normal operation of the livestock vessel. A secondary source of power shall be sufficient to replace the primary source of power for a continuous period of three days.

1.10. Livestock vessels shall be equipped with a means of killing suitable for the species transported with written instructions in a language that **animal welfare officers** ~~attendants~~ understand.

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1.11. Each deck of the livestock vessel shall have a hospital pen with dimensions adapted to the species, <u>categories and maximum number</u> of animals transported;

<u>1.11a. The capacity of the hospital pens shall be sufficient to accommodate at least 0,5% of the total number of animals being transported.</u>

~~1.12. Each pen shall have drinkers adapted to the species of animal transported;~~[2]

~~1.13. The ceiling height of each pen shall be adapted to the species of animal transported;~~[3]

1.14. Each deck shall ~~have~~ be equipped with humidity and temperature sensors <u>positioned so as to provide accurate measurements representative for the entire deck. In addition, livestock vessels shall be equipped with ammonia sensors, which may be portable</u>;

1.14a. The humidity, temperature and ammonia levels for the entire deck shall be measured at least daily.

~~1.15. Storage for feed and bedding shall be appropriate to meet the requirements laid down in Chapter VI taking into account the maximum number and the type of animals to be transported as well as the maximum duration of the intended journeys;~~[4]

1.16. Each pen shall be enclosed by vertical fences or walls.

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2 Now covered by point 1.4.

3 Covered by the new point 3 of this Chapter.

4 **<u>Covered by point 2 of this Chapter.</u>**

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2. Feed, bedding and water supply on livestock vessels or container vessels ~~transporting containers for large animals~~.

Livestock vessels ~~or~~ **and container** vessels ~~transporting animals in containers for large animals,~~ shall carry ~~from the time of departure~~ sufficient **amounts of** bedding**,** as well as sufficient feed and water ~~to cover~~ **to meet** the minimum daily ~~feed and water supply~~ requirements set out in **the** Table ~~1~~ **to cover the time needed** for **the loading and** the intended journey **and an additional contingency supply of at least [25%] or three days, whichever is greatest.** ~~at least several days' spare supply of bedding, feed and water~~. [5]

The contingency plan referred to in Articles 7 and 8 shall include arrangements for additional supply of feed and water in case the contingency supply is insufficient.

[By way of derogation from the first subparagraph, if a functional desalination system is in place, the vessel's water tank capacity shall be sufficient to carry a minimum 2-day supply of fresh water for the animals.]

[5] **The definition of container vessel is proposed to be amended.**

Table

Minimum daily feed and water supply on livestock vessels or container vessels

Category	**Feed (in % of ~~live~~ weight of animals)**		**Fresh water (in % of ~~live~~ weight of animals)**
	Fodder	**Concentrated feed**	
~~Cattle and~~ **Animals of the** bovine and equine **species** ~~animals~~	2	1,6	10
Animals of the ovine and caprine species ~~Sheep~~	2	1,8	
Animals of the porcine species ~~Pigs~~	—	3	

Fodder may be replaced by concentrated feed and vice versa, ~~. However, due regard shall be paid to the need of certain categories of animals to become~~ **provided that the animals have been** accustomed to the change of feed **prior to the journey** ~~with regard to their metabolic needs~~.

3. Ceiling height

3.1. For livestock vessels, the minimum ceiling height of each pen shall be [2 meters];

3.2. For containers for large animals in container vessels, the ceiling height shall be adapted to the species of animals transported.

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4. Additional provisions for container vessels.

4.1. When loading containers for large animals onto a container vessel, the containers for large animals shall be placed so as to:

(a) protect the animals from sea water and adverse weather conditions;

(b) allow access to the animals for the animal welfare officer and the staff handling the animals.

4.2. Containers for large animals shall be loaded and unloaded without undue delay.

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