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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:	Working Party on Animals and Veterinary Questions 2-3/4/2025 - Presidency Flash

In view of the above meeting, delegations will find attached the Presidency Flash.

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PRESIDENCY FLASH

Working Party on Animals and Veterinary Questions (Animal Welfare and Husbandry) 2 - 3 April, 2025

When	Where	Format
2 – 3 April 10:00	JL 50.1	2+2

Dear colleagues,

we are delighted to invite you to the second meeting of the Working Party on Animals and Veterinary Questions (Animal Welfare and Husbandry), chaired by the Polish Presidency, that will take place on 2nd and 3rd April 2025 in Brussels.

The aim of the meeting is to 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*, based on a number of working documents prepared by the Presidency.

Chapter II of the Proposal and new Annex Va

The Presidency will present the revised Presidency suggestions for Chapter II, amended on the basis of verbal and written contributions of delegations.

The latest Presidency text suggestions regarding Chapter II are accessible via Delegates Portal under document **ST 6626/25**.

The Presidency will present a new Annex Va, which was prepared based on suggestions expressed by a few delegations. The new Annex Va includes the main elements that shall be included in the contingency plans, as referred to in Article 7 and 8 of the Presidency suggestions for Chapter II.

The text can be accessed via Delegates Portal under document **ST 6627/25**.

Over the course of the meeting delegations are welcome to express their opinions and remarks concerning the presented documents.

Article 22 of Chapter V

The Presidency will present drafting suggestions for Article 22 of Chapter V prepared with the view to accommodate the new approach to the interlink between the use of assembly centres (described in Article 22 of the proposal) and the overall journey time (outlined in Chapter VI), as presented i.a. in the concept paper presented at the previous meeting of the Working Party and accessible via Delegates Portal under document WK 901/2025 INIT.
The new text on Article 22 is published in the Delegates Portal under document **ST 7307/25.**

Over the course of the meeting delegations are welcome to express their opinions and remarks concerning Article 22 of Chapter V.

Chapter VI of the Proposal and Chapter V of its Annex I

The Presidency will present drafting suggestions for Chapter VI of the Proposal along with drafting suggestions for the corresponding Chapter V of Annex I, prepared on the basis of comments expressed during previous meetings of the Working Party and the written contributions of delegations as well as accommodating the approach to the overall journey time (as described in the concept paper presented during the previous meeting on 5-6th February 2025).
The Presidency text suggestions are accessible via Delegates Portal under documents **ST 7372/25** (for Chapter VI) and **ST 5651/1/25 REV1** (for Chapter V of Annex I).

Over the course of the meeting delegations are welcome to express their opinions and remarks concerning the presented documents.

Presidency concept paper

In addition to the above documents the Presidency will present a new concept paper aimed at explaining the rationale behind linking the counting of the journey time of animals with the counting of the driving time as laid out in the drivers' social legislation (Regulation 561/2006) and at serving as a visual aid for understanding the incorporation of the leg of journey by sea/air into the overall journey (as outlined in Chapter VI).

The Presidency concept paper is accessible via Delegates Portal under document WK 4109/2025 INIT.

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Next steps

Based on the outcome of the meeting, delegations will be invited to submit their written comments – separately for Chapter II (as drafted in ST 6626/25), Annex Va (as drafted in ST 6627/25), Chapter VI (as drafted in ST 7372/25) and for Chapter V of Annex I (as drafted in ST 5651/1/25 REV1), by **30 April 2025.**

Based on the opinions expressed during the Working Party meeting and the subsequent written consultations, the Presidency will formulate revised drafting suggestions where needed.

Delegations are also kindly reminded about the ongoing consultation process launched in Delegates Portal, concerning Chapter III and Chapter IV of the proposal. Please note that the deadline is prolonged until **16 May 2025.**

Any other business

Delegations that would like to raise any further issues are kindly invited to inform the General Secretariat of the Council (LIFE.3@consilium.europa.eu) as well as the Presidency [redacted]) in advance of the meeting.

The invaluable support by the General Secretariat of the Council is very much appreciated.

We are looking forward to continue our fruitful and constructive discussions in Brussels.

[redacted] & [redacted]

P.S. Scroll the page to learn more about our unique breed of geese ☺

The Oat Goose - an autumn delicacy

The White Kołudzka Goose (gęś Biała Kołudzka) has been bred for 60 years at the Experimental Station of the Institute of Animal Production - State Research Institute in Kołuda Wielka. **Geese of this breed constitute approximately 98% of all geese kept in Poland**.

The term "oat goose" comes from the fact that 3 weeks before slaughter, **the goose is fed with whole oat grain** *ad libitum*. Oat goose meat has excellent taste and dietary values.

90% of the domestic geese production is sold to other European countries, mainly to Germany.

Geese on November 11

The geese are traditionally linked to **Saint Martin**. The tradition of indulgences on St. Martin's Day, along with eating roast goose was spread mostly in areas near Poznań, including Kujawy and Pomerania and as a result, goose became a permanent highlight of the special occasion menu related to the celebration of **November 11**, the day of the burial of the saint, and the celebration of the **Polish National Independence Day**, which falls on the same day and commemorates Poland regaining independence in 1918, after 123 years of partitions.

