

Regulation (EC) No 998/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 on the animal health requirements applicable to the non-commercial movement of pet animals and amending Council Directive 92/65/EEC (repealed)

CHAPTER IV

Common and final provisions

Article 15

Where the requirements applicable to movement provide for an antibody titration for rabies, the sample must be taken by an authorised veterinarian and the test must be carried out by a laboratory approved in accordance with Council Decision 2000/258/EC of 20 March 2000 designating a specific institute responsible for establishing the criteria necessary for standardising the serological tests to monitor the effectiveness of rabies vaccines⁽¹⁾.

Article 16

For a transitional period of five years starting from the date of entry into force of this Regulation, those Member States which have special rules for the control of echinococcosis and ticks on the date on which this Regulation comes into force may make the entry of pet animals into their territory subject to compliance with those requirements.

For this purpose, they shall send the Commission a report on their situation with regard to the disease in question, setting out grounds for the need for additional guarantees to prevent the risk of introduction of the disease.

The Commission shall inform the Member States within the Committee provided for in Article 24 of those additional guarantees.

Article 17

For the movement of animals of the species listed in parts A and B of Annex I, requirements of a technical nature other than those laid down by this Regulation may be laid down in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 24(2).

The model passports which must accompany animals of the species listed in parts A and B of Annex I which are being moved shall be drawn up in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 24(2).

Article 18

The safeguard measures provided for by Council Directive 90/425/EEC of 26 June 1990 concerning veterinary and zootechnical checks applicable in intra-Community trade in certain live animals and products with a view to the completion of the internal market⁽²⁾, and Council Directive 91/496/EEC of 15 July 1991 laying down the principles governing the organisation of veterinary checks on animals entering the Community from third countries and amending Directives 89/662/EEC, 90/425/EEC and 90/675/EEC⁽³⁾, shall apply.

In particular, at the request of a Member State or on the initiative of the Commission, where the rabies situation in a Member State or a third country so warrants, a decision

Status: Point in time view as at 03/07/2004.

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may be taken, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 24(3), that animals of the species listed in parts A and B of Annex I coming from that territory must meet the conditions laid down in Article 8(1)(b).

Article 19

Part C of Annex I and parts B and C of Annex II may be amended in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 24(2) to take account of developments in the situation within Community territory or in third countries as regards diseases affecting the species of animals covered by this Regulation, in particular rabies, and, if need be, limit, for the purposes of this Regulation, the number of animals which can be moved.

Article 20

Any implementing measure of a technical nature shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 24(2).

Article 21

Any transitional implementing provisions may be adopted in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 24(2) to permit the changeover from the current arrangements to the arrangements established by this Regulation.

Article 22

Directive 92/65/EEC shall be amended as follows:

1. in Article 10:
 - (a) in paragraph 1 the word ‘ferrets’ shall be deleted;
 - (b) paragraphs 2 and 3 shall be replaced by the following:
 2. To be the subject of trade, dogs, cats and ferrets must satisfy the requirements set out in Articles 5 and 16 of Regulation (EC) No 998/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 on the animal health requirements applicable to the non-commercial movement of pet animals and amending Council Directive 92/65/EEC⁽⁴⁾.

The certificate accompanying the animals must also confirm that, 24 hours before dispatch of the animals, a clinical examination was carried out by a veterinarian authorised by the competent authority showing the animals to be in good health and able to withstand carriage to their destination.
 - 3 By way of derogation from paragraph 2, when trade is to Ireland, the United Kingdom or Sweden, dogs, cats and ferrets shall be subject to the conditions set out in Articles 6 and 16 of Regulation (EC) No 998/2003.

The certificate accompanying the animals must also confirm that, 24 hours before dispatch of the animals, a clinical examination was carried out by a veterinarian authorised by the competent authority showing the animals to be in good health and able to withstand carriage to their destination.
 - (c) in paragraph 4 the following shall be added after ‘carnivores’:

with the exception of the species referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3;
 - (d) paragraph 8 shall be deleted.

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2. the following subparagraphs shall be added to Article 16:

With respect to cats, dogs and ferrets, import conditions must be at least equivalent to those of Chapter III of Regulation (EC) No 998/2003.

The certificate accompanying the animals must also confirm that, 24 hours before dispatch of the animals, a clinical examination was carried out by a veterinarian authorised by the competent authority showing the animals to be in good health and able to withstand carriage to their destination.

Article 23

Before 1 February 2007 the Commission, after receipt of the opinion of the European Food Safety Authority on the need to maintain the serological test, shall submit to the European Parliament and to the Council a report, based on experience gained and on a risk evaluation, together with appropriate proposals for determining the regime to be applied with effect from 1 January 2008 for Articles 6, 8 and 16.

Article 24

1 The Commission shall be assisted by a Committee.

2 Where reference is made to this paragraph, Articles 5 and 7 of Decision 1999/468/EC shall apply, having regard to the provisions of Article 8 thereof.

The period referred to in Article 5(6) of Decision 1999/468/EC shall be three months.

3 Where reference is made to this paragraph, Articles 5 and 7 of Decision 1999/468/EC shall apply, having regard to the provisions of Article 8 thereof.

The period referred to in Article 5(6) of Decision 1999/468/EC shall be 15 days.

4 The Committee shall adopt its rules of procedure.

Article 25

This Regulation shall enter into force on the 20th day after that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It shall apply from 3 July 2004.

Status: Point in time view as at 03/07/2004.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Regulation (EC) No 998/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council (repealed), CHAPTER IV. (See end of Document for details)

- (1) [OJ L 79, 30.3.2000, p. 40.](#)
- (2) [OJ L 224, 18.8.1990, p. 29.](#) Directive as last amended by Directive 92/118/EEC ([OJ L 62, 15.3.1993, p. 49.](#))
- (3) [OJ L 268, 24.9.1991, p. 56.](#) Directive as last amended by Directive 96/43/EC ([OJ L 162, 1.7.1996, p. 1.](#))
- (4) [OJ L 146, 13.6.2003, p. 1.](#)

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