


# Procedure file

Basic information	
COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic) <a href="#">2001/2085(COS)</a>	Procedure completed
Protection of animals during transport : experience acquired (Directive 95/29/EC)	
Subject 3.10.04.02 Animal protection	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>AGRI</b> Agriculture and Rural Development		25/04/2001
		PPE-DE <a href="#">MAAT Albert Jan</a>	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	<b>ENVI</b> Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy		10/04/2001
		V/ALE <a href="#">MCKENNA Patricia</a>	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	<a href="#">Agriculture and Fisheries</a>	<a href="#">2360</a>	19/06/2001
	<a href="#">Agriculture and Fisheries</a>	<a href="#">2328</a>	29/01/2001
European Commission	Commission DG <a href="#">Health and Food Safety</a>	Commissioner	

Key events			
06/12/2000	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2000)0809	Summary
29/01/2001	Debate in Council	<a href="#">2328</a>	
14/05/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
19/06/2001	Resolution/conclusions adopted by Council		
10/10/2001	Vote in committee		Summary
10/10/2001	Committee report tabled for plenary	<a href="#">A5-0347/2001</a>	
12/11/2001	Debate in Parliament		
13/11/2001	Decision by Parliament	<a href="#">T5-0594/2001</a>	Summary
13/11/2001	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2001/2085(COS)
Procedure type	COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)
Procedure subtype	Commission strategy paper
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 142
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AGRI/5/14684

Documentation gateway					
Non-legislative basic document		COM(2000)0809	06/12/2000	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		<a href="#">A5-0347/2001</a>	10/10/2001	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		<a href="#">T5-0594/2001</a> <a href="#">OJ C 140 13.06.2002, p. 0027-0149 E</a>	13/11/2001	EP	Summary

## Protection of animals during transport : experience acquired (Directive 95/29/EC)

**PURPOSE :** to present a report from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on the experience acquired by Member States since the implementation of Council Directive 95/29/EC amending Directive 91/628/EEC concerning the protection of animals during transport. **COMMUNITY MEASURE :** the main findings of the report show that that Member States have difficulties in fully applying the Directive and also that there is a low level of priority given by Member States in implementing it. Difficulties in collecting inspection reports from Member States and insufficient harmonisation of the data transmitted limited their use. The transport of horses from Central and Eastern European Countries to the European union is a particular area of concern. Little long-term improvement has been secured. From a technical point of view the main findings are the following: inadequate road vehicles, illegal route plans and non-compliance with travelling time limits, negligence and poor handling of animals, transport of unfit animals, insufficient ventilation on road vehicles, overloading, difficulties in checking the approval of transporters for animal transport. Arising from these findings, the main areas where remedial action must be considered are as follows: - Member States must allocate rapidly adequate resources to meet the objectives set up by the Directive; - a harmonised certificate of registered transporters needs to be established in order to allow rapid checks; - specific procedures must also be set up with a view to facilitating checks by competent authorities in particular in relation to the implementation of the route plan and appropriate follow-up of violations; - the Central and Eastern European countries should be called upon to ensure that their transport operators are aware of their obligation to respect Community rules once they have crossed the border of the Union; - the Community should become a party to the European Convention for the Protection of Animals during International Transport; - to address the specific problem of transported horses, unloading and fixed resting period of horses passing through the border of the Union should become compulsory; - technical amendments of the Directive are necessary and in particular in relation to route plan, definition of animals unfit for transport, health certificates, ventilation standards for road vehicles and Member States inspection reports. Longer-term initiatives will be considered especially the need to update the scientific knowledge presently available to the Commission. Several fundamentals of the Directive should be evaluated on a scientific basis and notably data concerning travelling times and loading densities. Reflection is also needed to improve the qualifications of the personnel involved in animal transport. Measures to encourage the slaughter of animals closer to their breeding place also merit examination. ?

## Protection of animals during transport : experience acquired (Directive 95/29/EC)

The committee adopted the report by Albert MAAT (EPP-ED, NL) on the Commission paper looking at the implementation of the directive on animal welfare conditions during transport. The committee called for the existing rules on animal transport to be amended, and made a series of recommendations. It called, for example, for a maximum transport time of eight hours, or a maximum distance of 500 km. This could be exceeded in the case of animals intended for breeding and sporting purposes, subject to a maximum travelling time of 48 hours and prior authorisation. Temporary dispensation to the maximum 8-hour travelling time could also be granted in certain areas where there were no slaughterhouses within a radius of 500 km, although the travelling time could not be increased by more than 50%. The committee called on the Commission to present a policy plan by 1 January 2003 for the regionalisation of meat production chains so as to limit the long-distance transport of live animals. It should look into ways of promoting small, local abattoirs and mobile slaughterhouses to ensure that journey time to slaughter was minimised. Shocked by the scandalous abuses of animal welfare rules revealed in the Commission's report, the committee called for tougher sanctions against offenders, which should be harmonised at EU level as far as possible. It also reminded the Commission that it was the latter's task to ensure that the Member States enforced the directive properly, and said that infringement proceedings against Member States which had not yet complied with EU rules on animal transport should be speeded up. The report also called for specific proposals to improve the quality of road transport, such as aligning journey and rest periods for animals with driving and rest periods for drivers, defining space and temperature requirements during transport, etc. It also wanted animal transporters to undergo compulsory training and certification. Lastly, the committee called for the abolition, as of 1 January 2002, of subsidies for the export of live animals for slaughter to third countries and said imports of animals into the EU must meet EU standards. ?

## Protection of animals during transport : experience acquired (Directive 95/29/EC)

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The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by its rapporteur Albert Jan MAAT (EPP/ED, Neth) on the protection of live animals during transport. (Please refer to previous text). The number of Food and Veterinary Office (FVO) inspections to verify implementation of the rules by Member States is to be increased substantially, and the FVO is to appoint at least 15 inspectors by 2002. The Council needs to establish as a matter of urgency a common position on the Commission's proposal to improve the construction and design of livestock vehicles.?