FRANCE ET TCHÉCOSLOVAQUIE


FRANCE AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA

1 Traduction. — Translation.


French official text communicated by the Permanent Delegate of the Czechoslovak Republic accredited to the League of Nations. The registration of this Convention took place November 12, 1931.

The President of the Czechoslovak Republic and the President of the French Republic, having recognised the necessity of concluding a Veterinary Sanitary Convention for the purpose of facilitating as far as possible the traffic in animals and substances and products of animal origin between the two countries, while at the same time safeguarding their vital interest in the matter, have appointed as their respective Plenipotentiaries:

The President of the Czechoslovak Republic:
M. IBL, Counsellor of the Czechoslovak Legation at Paris;

The President of the French Republic:
M. Lesage, Director of Agriculture at the Ministry of Agriculture;
M. Leclainche, Inspector-General of Veterinary Schools, Head of the Veterinary Services;

Who, having exchanged their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following provisions:

Article 1.

The importation from the territory of either of the High Contracting Parties into the territory of the other of animals (equines, ruminants, pigs, poultry), raw substances and products of animal origin, and in general all articles liable to spread epizootic diseases, and also the importation of fresh and preserved meat and all meat products intended for food, may be confined to the Customs offices or ports expressly mentioned, and be subject to veterinary inspection by the State into whose territory they are to be imported.

Article 2.

Animals, in order to be admitted on importation, must be accompanied by a certificate of origin and health.

¹ Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations, à titre d'information.
² The exchange of ratifications took place at Paris, August 27, 1931. Came into force September 27, 1931.
This certificate must mention the place of origin, the station or port of shipment and the place of destination of the animals, and contain a declaration by a veterinary surgeon testifying to the healthy condition of the animals and to the fact that the commune of origin and the territory through which the animals passed while proceeding to the place at which they were loaded on to a wagon or boat are free from compulsorily notifiable infectious diseases, communicable to the animals covered by the certificate, with the exception of the special cases enumerated in the Final Protocol.

Certificates for the exportation of animals liable to contract:

(a) Cattle plague and pleuro-pneumonia of cattle;
(b) Dourine, swine plague, contagious pleuro-pneumonia of pigs and sheep-pox;
(c) Foot-and-mouth disease, chicken cholera and fowl plague;

shall only be issued, in respect of susceptible animals, if the above-mentioned diseases have not occurred in the commune of origin or neighbouring communes: in the case of diseases under letter (a) for at least one year; under letter (b) for at least forty days; under letter (c) for at least thirty days.

In the case of cattle intended for breeding and productive purposes, the certificate shall testify:

(a) That they were found to be free from tuberculosis, immediately before despatch, by a subcutaneous injection of tuberculin;
(b) That they were obtained direct from a cattle farm free from epizootic abortion, or that a blood test has been carried out in a State laboratory, no trace of the infection having been found.

In the case of cows not intended for slaughter, the certificate shall also testify that they have been bred and kept on a farm free from streptococcic mammitis or that their milk has been tested at a State laboratory, no trace of the disease having been found.

The provision concerning epizootic abortion likewise applies to mares.

In the case of the importation of sheep and goats for breeding and productive purposes, the certificate must testify that undulant fever is not present either in the commune of origin or in neighbouring communes.

In the case of equines and bovines, individual certificates are required. In the case of sheep, goats, pigs and also poultry, collective certificates are accepted; but a single certificate may only cover animals of the same kind coming from the same farm, loaded in the same wagon and despatched to the same consignee.

The period of validity of the certificates is fixed at ten days. If this period expires during the journey, the validity of the certificate may be extended for the same period after the animals have been examined by a veterinary surgeon. The result of the inspection and the reason for the extension of validity shall be mentioned on the certificate. If this period of validity expires during transport over the territory of a third State, the period shall be extended until the arrival of the animals at the frontier of the State of destination.

Before conveyance by rail or boat, the animals shall be examined by the veterinary surgeon who issues or endorses the certificate.

The certificates in question shall be made out in accordance with Model I annexed to the present Convention.

Article 3.

In order to be admitted on import, slaughtered animals, fresh meat and meat preserved by a refrigerating process, fats, lard and all meat products intended for food, must be accompanied by a certificate of origin and health, issued or endorsed by a veterinary surgeon, and testifying that the animals from which they were obtained were examined by a veterinary surgeon before and after slaughter and that the meat was found to be wholesome and fit for consumption.

In the case of meat products the certificate must also testify that they contain no substance, the use of which is prohibited by the regulations of the country of destination.
The provisions of the present Convention do not apply to horseflesh.
Meat whether fresh or preserved by a refrigerating process shall on importation be submitted for veterinary inspection under the following conditions:

(a) Beef: whole carcases, whether flayed or not, or cut into halves or quarters;
(b) Veal, mutton and goat: whole carcases, whether flayed or not, or cut into halves;
(c) Pork: whole carcases, or cut into halves, with or without the fat, which may be imported separately.

Cleaning (excision of any part or scraping off the serous membranes) or the removal of the glands in whole or in part, shall involve sending back, destruction or conditional permission to use carcases.
Meat whether fresh or preserved by a refrigerating process shall bear a stamp affixed by a veterinary surgeon, guaranteeing that the meat has been found wholesome and entirely fit for consumption.
The certificates shall be made out in accordance with Model II annexed to the present Convention.

Article 4.

Raw substances and products of animal origin, in order to be admitted on import, must be accompanied by a certificate of origin and health to enable them to be identified and containing a declaration by a veterinary surgeon to the effect that they have been obtained from native-bred animals free from infectious diseases. The certificate shall also contain a statement to the effect that these substances and products may be exported without risk of the transmission of infectious diseases.
This certificate is not required for native substances and products of animal origin which have undergone a treatment (drying, cooking, strong salting, arsenical treatment, treatment with lime, industrial scouring, disinfection) which is regarded as affording an adequate guarantee from the point of view of veterinary prophylaxis.
The certificates shall be made out in accordance with Model II annexed to the present Convention.

Article 5.

Consignments which do not satisfy the foregoing requirements and animals which the veterinary surgeon, on examining them at the frontier, finds to be suffering or suspects to be suffering from or to have been in contact with an infectious disease which is compulsorily notifiable, may be sent back.
The veterinary inspector at the frontier shall enter on the certificate the reason for the sending back and shall sign his declaration. Should it be impossible to send them back, the admission of the animals shall be compulsory. They shall then, at the expense of the person concerned, be either slaughtered on the spot or in a specified slaughter-house, or subjected to suitable sanitary measures. In the last-mentioned case, the owner shall be allowed to have all or some of the animals slaughtered. The use made of the meat and raw substances obtained from the slaughtered animals shall be governed by the regulations of the importing country applicable to animals of that country.
In any case a statement of the facts discovered and of the measures adopted shall be drawn up by the veterinary surgeon and communicated by him to the central authority of his country, who shall give direct notice thereof to the veterinary authority of the country of origin. The certificate which accompanied the animals shall be attached to this document, except in cases where the animals are sent back.
Consignments of all kinds of substances and product of animal origin, the return of which was not allowed by the State through which they passed in transit, shall also be admitted. These consignments shall be treated in accordance with the veterinary regulations in force in the importing country.
Should the presence of an infectious disease be discovered after the animals have entered the territory of the country of destination, a statement to this effect shall be drawn up by a veterinary surgeon; the text of this statement shall be communicated direct by the competent authority to the veterinary authority of the country of origin.

Article 6.

In the event of an outbreak of cattle plague in the territory of one of the High Contracting Parties, the other Party shall be entitled to prohibit or restrict for so long as the danger of infection subsists the importation and transit of ruminants, pigs, the skins and products of such animals, and in general of all articles likely to carry infection.

Article 7.

If in consequence of the traffic in animals, a compulsorily notifiable epizootic disease has been carried from the territory of one of the High Contracting Parties into the territory of the other or if a dangerous outbreak of such a disease should occur in the territory of one of the Parties, the other Party shall have the right to restrict or prohibit for so long as the danger subsists, the importation and transit of susceptible animals coming from the infected or threatened territories and also of the skins and products of such animals liable to carry infection.

This provision may be applied in every case on the appearance of contagious pleuro-pneumonia of cattle and of dourine.

In the case of malignant anthrax, symptomatic anthrax, haemorrhagic septicaemia, rabies, swine fever, tuberculosis, mange and vesicular exanthema, importation may not be prohibited.

Article 8.

Each of the High Contracting Parties undertakes to publish on the first and fifteenth day of each month a veterinary health bulletin. As soon as it has been published, this bulletin shall be sent direct to the veterinary service of the other Contracting Party; it shall be drawn up in accordance with the instructions given by the International Office for Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Article 9.

Should an outbreak of cattle plague, pleuro-pneumonia of cattle, dourine or foot-and-mouth disease in a malignant form, with a high death rate, be discovered in the territory of either of the High Contracting Parties, direct notice of the origin and extension of the disease shall at once be given by telegraph to the central veterinary authority of the other Contracting Party.

Article 10.

The disinfection of trucks used for the transport of animals, boats, quays, gangways, etc., effected in accordance with the regulations in force in the territory of one of the High Contracting Parties shall be regarded as properly carried out by the other Party.

Article 11.

The present Convention shall come into force one month after the exchange of ratifications which shall take place in Paris; it shall remain in force for the same period as the existing Commercial Convention between the French Republic and the Czechoslovak Republic.
In faith whereof the Plenipotentiaries, duly qualified for this purpose, have signed the present Convention and have thereto affixed their seals.

Done at Paris, in duplicate, October 3, 1930.

(L. S.) IBL.
(L. S.) M. LESAGE.
(L. S.) E. LECLAINCHE.

MODEL I.

Country of origin ........................................................................................................... Animals
Station or port of shipment .............................................................................................
Date of shipment ..............................................................................................................
Stamp of the station or port ............................................................................................
Serial number of certificate .............................................................................................

CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN AND HEALTH.

Period of validity: 10 days.

Individual certificates are required for animals of the equine and bovine species, collective certificates being accepted for other species.

1. Species and number of animals ..............................................................................
2. Sex ² ............................................................................................................................
3. Full description ...........................................................................................................
4. Special marks .............................................................................................................
   (Metal buttons, branding or other marks).
5. Commune of origin ........................................... Department Province.
6. Arrondissement ........................................................................................................
   District
7. Last place of stay .....................................................................................................
   (Stable or shed, pasturage, market, dealer’s stable or shed).
8. Surname, Christian name and address of consignor ..............................................
9. Surname, Christian name and address of consignee ..............................................
10. Means of transport ...................................................................................................

The present certificate, issued in accordance with Article 2 of the Franco-Czechoslovak Veterinary Convention, attests that all the conditions required by that Convention have been completely fulfilled (See overleaf).

Done at .................................................., on ........................................... 193...

Stamp of the Veterinary Official: Government Veterinary Official or Veterinary Surgeon authorised by the Government:

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¹ Cross out words which do not apply.
² In the case of collective certificates, the number of animals of each sex must be stated separately.

No. 2846
EXTRACT FROM ARTICLE 2 OF THE CONVENTION.

Animals, in order to be admitted on importation, must be accompanied by a certificate of origin and health.

This certificate must contain a declaration by a veterinary surgeon testifying to the healthy condition of the animals and to the fact that the commune of origin and the territory through which the animals passed while proceeding to the place at which they were loaded on to a wagon or boat are free from compulsorily notifiable infectious diseases, communicable to the animals covered by the certificate, with the exception of the special cases enumerated in the Final Protocol.

Certificates for the exportation of animals liable to contract:

(a) Cattle plague and pleuro-pneumonia of cattle;
(b) Dourine, swine plague, contagious pleuro-pneumonia of pigs and sheep-pox;
(c) Foot-and-mouth disease, chicken cholera and fowl plague;

Shall only be issued, in respect of susceptible animals, if the above-mentioned diseases have not occurred in the commune of origin or neighbouring communes; in the case of diseases under letter (a) for at least one year; under letter (b) for at least forty days; under letter (c) for at least thirty days.

In the case of cattle intended for breeding and productive purposes the certificate shall testify:

(a) That they were found to be free from tuberculosis immediately before despatch, by a subcutaneous injection of tuberculin;
(b) That they were obtained direct from a cattle farm free from epizootic abortion or that a blood test has been carried out in a State laboratory, no trace of infection having been found.

In the case of cows not intended for slaughter, the certificate shall also testify that they have been bred and kept on a farm free from streptococcal mastitis or that their milk has been tested at a State laboratory, no trace of the disease having been found.

The provision concerning epizootic abortion likewise applies to mares.

In the case of the importation of sheep and goats for breeding and productive purposes, the certificate must testify that undulant fever is not prevalent either in the commune of origin or in neighbouring communes.

In the case of sheep, goats, pigs and also poultry, collective certificates are accepted, but a single certificate may only cover animals of the same kind, coming from the same farm, loaded in the same wagon and despatched to the same consignee.
MODEL II.

Country of origin .................................................................
Station or port of shipment .................................................
Date of shipment ..............................................................
Stamp of station or port .....................................................

CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN AND HEALTH

for meat or other substances and products of animal origin.

1. Nature of goods : 2. Number of packages : 3. Total gross weight :
.................................................................................. ........................................................
.................................................................................. ........................................................
.................................................................................. ........................................................
4. Special marks, lead seals, etc. ................................................
5. Origin of the goods 1 ...........................................................
6. Arrondissement ...............................................................
District
7. Surname, Christian name, and address of consignor ..............
8. Surname, Christian name and address of consignee ..............
..............................................................................................
9. Means of transport ...........................................................

Attestation by the veterinary official : 2

(a) In the case of meat and meat products :

Stamp affixed to fresh meat or meat preserved
by a refrigerating process :

Stamp :

(b) In the case of substances and products
of animal origin :

Done at ........................................ on ........................................ 193...

Stamp of Veterinary Official : Government Veterinary Official or Veterinary Surgeon
authorised by the Government :

1 The following are to be regarded as the place of origin :

(a) In the case of meat and meat products, the slaughter-house or industrial establishment
from which they come.

b) In the case of other substances, the places from which they were obtained.

2 Cross out words which do not apply.
PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE.

On proceeding to sign the Veterinary Sanitary Convention dated this day, the undersigned Plenipotentiaries, being desirous of defining and supplementing its provisions, have agreed as follows:

1. Import from the territory of either of the High Contracting Parties to the territory of the other shall not be subject, from the veterinary health standpoint, to any special permit.

The exceptions to this rule are specified below.

(a) A veterinary permit shall be required beforehand for the importation of the following goods of non-European origin: animals, meat, raw substances and products of animal origin.

However, the importation of rabbits, hares, wild carnivora, crayfish, fish, pigeons, wild fowl, wild birds, pet birds kept in cages (with the exception of the psittacidae) shall be allowed, irrespective of their origin, without a veterinary permit or certificate of origin and health, subject to such regulations as may be issued on the subject, which regulations shall be communicated to the other Contracting Party.

(b) A veterinary permit may be required beforehand for the importation of bees, honey, wax and part-used bee-keeping instruments.

However, a veterinary permit and a certificate of origin and health are not required for samples of honey not exceeding 350 gr. gross weight, samples of beeswax not exceeding 500 gr. in weight, and consignments of honey weighing up to 5 kg. for the consignee's private consumption.

2. A certificate of origin and health may only be issued for animals which have remained in the territory of either of the High Contracting Parties for at least three months in the case of ruminants and pigs, and for at least one month in the case of equines.

The farm from which the animal comes shall be regarded as the place of origin.

In the case of animals coming from a market or a dealer’s stable, exact particulars must be given under head 7 of the certificate, the place and date on which the market was held or the name and address of the dealer being stated.

In the case of the importation of dogs and cats, a certificate of origin and health shall be submitted, to the effect that the animal is healthy, that it has remained in the commune of origin for at least three months and that no case of rabies was discovered during that time, either in the place of origin or neighbouring communes, or that it has been vaccinated against rabies during the last three months, as a purely preventive measure and by a process approved by the State.

3. The term “meat products” is understood to mean prepared meat such as ham, pork butchers’ wares, foie gras, preserves, etc.

4. The certificates or statements referred to in the present Convention may only be validly issued or endorsed by a Government veterinary official or a veterinary surgeon duly authorised by the Government.

5. The Customs Offices open for veterinary inspection and the days and hours of inspection shall be fixed by the competent authority of the importing country and communicated to the other Contracting Party. The list of such Offices and the conditions of their opening may be modified, if necessary, under the same conditions. The veterinary service shall be organised in such a way as to meet all the commercial requirements of the two countries.

Before the entry into force of the Convention, the two High Contracting Parties shall communicate to each other the list of Customs Offices selected for the traffic in animals, raw substances and products of animal origin, and the days and hours of inspection.

No. 2846
6. It is understood that the goods covered by the Convention shall be subject on importation into the territory of one of the High Contracting Parties to all the provisions of the regulations which are or may hereafter be in force in that territory.

7. The discovery of rabies among dogs in the place of origin shall not preclude the issue for animals of other species of the certificate of origin and health provided for in Article 2.

Similarly, the discovery of sporadic cases of malignant anthrax, symptomatic anthrax, swine fever, or haemorrhagic septicæmia, shall not, except as regards animals from farms declared to be infected, preclude the issue of the certificate; but the latter must mention the cases discovered.

The discovery of scab among sheep and goats shall not preclude the issue of the certificate for equines and vice versa.

The discovery of tuberculosis shall not preclude the issue for animals other than those affected of the certificate of origin and health, under the conditions laid down in Article 2, paragraph 4 of the Convention.

8. Animals imported for slaughter must be consigned direct to authorised public slaughter-houses or to internal markets also authorised for the purpose. The list of these establishments shall be communicated before the entry into force of the Convention and notice shall be given of any subsequent additions or deletions.

Animals entering the slaughter-houses shall be slaughtered within the time-limits laid down by the internal regulations.

Animals for breeding and productive purposes must be conveyed direct to the farms of destination.

Animals imported for purposes other than slaughter may, at the expense of the person concerned, be subjected at the frontier or place of destination to the sanitary measures and diagnostic examinations provided for in the regulations of the country of destination.

These provisions do not apply to animals in transit.

9. The High Contracting Parties shall communicate to each other a list of products (antiseptics, colouring matter and other substances) the use of which is prohibited for the treatment or preservation of meat and meat products.

10. In accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 4 of the Convention, the certificate shall not be required for the transport of the following raw animal substances and products, of whatever origin:

- Dead fish;
- Dead poultry;
- Animal fats unfit for food and intended solely for industrial purposes;
- Meat, dead poultry and meat products imported by travellers for their personal consumption during the journey;
- Meat products not exceeding 10 kg. in weight, for the private consumption of the consignee;
- Postal consignments of raw animal substances and products, dried or preserved;
- Dried skins of wild animals, rabbits and hares;
- Hare and rabbit hair;
- Leather waste, limed;
- Bones scoured in boiling water, compressed horns;
- Horns and hoofs (dried and without soft parts);
- Horse-hair, hog's bristles and hair (boiled or limed);
- Wool for tawing; wool scoured industrially or limed, in bags, wool waste in bags;
- Feathers of all kinds;
- Milk, milk products and by-products, eggs and in general all articles such as hay, straw, chaff, etc.

11. The provisions of the Convention shall apply to animals coming from the territories of the High Contracting Parties for transit through the territory of either Party, provided that the
animals fulfil the import conditions laid down and that the country of destination undertakes in no case to send back the animals passing through its territory in transit. If other countries have to be passed through in transit, permission must be obtained beforehand from the countries concerned. The transit of fresh or preserved meat or meat products and raw materials of animal origin transported from the territory of either Contracting Party through the territory of the other Party by rail, in closed or sealed trucks or by boat, shall be allowed under the same conditions as importation and without a previous undertaking as to acceptance being required from the countries passed through and the country of destination.

12. The import restrictions and prohibitions laid down in Article 7 of the Convention may only apply to territories infected with or threatened by disease and to the neighbouring territories; they shall only remain in force for so long as the risk of infection subsists.

The measures provided for in the said Article may be extended if the infection spreads over a wider area and assumes a malignant form.

The period for which the risk of infection subsists, and during which time the issue of the certificate in respect of the diseases mentioned in Article 2, paragraph 3, is prohibited, shall be restricted to the time-limit laid down in that Article. It shall be reckoned from the date of the official declaration stating that the disease has disappeared.

The term "territory" employed in Article 7 of the Convention shall apply in France to the arrondissement and in Czechoslovakia to the administrative district.

13. The sending back by the veterinary inspector at the frontier of animals which are suffering or suspected to be suffering from disease or which have been exposed to infection, as provided for in Article 5 of the Convention, shall be confined to animals which have been in direct or indirect contact with an animal suffering or suspected to be suffering from disease. The following, in particular, shall be regarded as suspected of infection: animals which have been transported in the same wagon or boat as sick or suspected animals; those which have been in contact with sick or suspected animals during loading, transport or unloading; those which have been indirectly exposed to infection by passing through premises, over quays, or gangways, etc., which have not been disinfected.

14. Racehorses and horses for shows or competitions may be imported if, in lieu of the certificate stipulated in the Convention, they are accompanied by a certificate issued by the presidents of the horse-show associations, of which a list has been communicated by each of the High Contracting Parties to the other Party. This certificate must bear the stamp and endorsement of the club or association, the name and address of the owner, full particulars of the animal, the name of the place from which it has come and of the place to which it is being sent, as well as the certificate of a veterinary surgeon attesting that the animal is healthy and that the establishment from which it has come has been free from infectious disease for at least forty days.

15. If the principal information given in the certificate of origin and the certificate made out by the veterinary surgeon is not in the French language, it shall be accompanied by a French translation.

The passport compulsorily required in Czechoslovakia for the circulation of live-stock may be substituted for the model certificate inserted in the Convention, provided that all the requisite particulars and certificate are reproduced therein.

16. It is understood that, if necessary, the provisions of the Convention may be extended, by a further agreement between the High Contracting Parties, to other diseases, known or unknown at the present time, which it is legitimately feared may spread among animals.

17. Urgent communications relating to the application of the Convention may be exchanged direct by the veterinary health authorities of each of the High Contracting Parties, a copy thereof being transmitted through diplomatic channels.

IBL.
LESAGE.
LECLAIMCHE.
EXCHANGE OF NOTES.

I.

LEGATION
OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK REPUBLIC,
PARIS.

The Legation has been instructed by its Government to propose to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs that the text of Section 7, paragraph 2, of the Protocol of Signature attached to the Veterinary Sanitary Convention of October 3, 1930, should be amended as follows:

"Similarly the discovery of malignant anthrax, symptomatic anthrax, swine fever or haemorrhagic septicaemia shall not, except as regards animals from farms declared to be infected, preclude the issue of the certificate, but the latter must mention the cases discovered."

If the Ministry for Foreign Affairs agrees to the text amended as above, the Legation would be glad to have its confirmation, so that the notes exchanged may be attached to the original copies of the Convention and ratified at the same time as the latter.

PARIS, October 7, 1930.

Ministry for Foreign Affairs,
Commercial Relations,
Paris.

II.

MINISTRY
FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.
COMMERCIAL RELATIONS.

PARIS, October 7, 1930.

As instructed by its Government, the Czechoslovak Legation was good enough to propose to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs that the text of Section 7, paragraph 2, of the Protocol of Signature attached to the Veterinary Sanitary Convention of October 3, 1930, should be amended as follows:

"Similarly the discovery of malignant anthrax, symptomatic anthrax, swine fever or haemorrhagic septicaemia shall not, except as regards animals from farms declared to be infected, preclude the issue of the certificate, but the latter must mention the cases discovered."

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs has the honour to inform the Czechoslovak Legation that the French Government accepts the above amendment.

Czechoslovak Legation,
Paris.