

No. 6136

**BELGIUM
and
YUGOSLAVIA**

**Veterinary Convention. Signed at Brussels, on 31 October
1961**

Official text: French.

Registered by Belgium on 4 May 1962.

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et
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Texte officiel français.

Enregistrée par la Belgique le 4 mai 1962.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 6136. VETERINARY CONVENTION¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA. SIGNED AT BRUSSELS, ON 31 OCTOBER 1961

In order to facilitate traffic in live-stock and animal products in both directions between the two countries so far as possible, with due regard for their vital interests, particularly public health, the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium and the Government of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia have agreed as follows :

Article 1

1. Traffic in live-stock, raw materials of animal origin and, in general, all products capable of transmitting epizootic diseases, as well as in meat, all meat food products and fish, between the two Contracting Parties may take place only at frontier posts, ports and airports designated by name, for the purpose of being subjected to veterinary control by the State into the territory of which they are to be imported.

2. The competent authority of each Party shall decide at which frontier posts, ports and airports, on what days and between what hours veterinary inspection shall be available, and shall notify the other Contracting Party thereof within three months from the entry into force of this Convention.

Any amendments to the list thus established shall be communicated forthwith to the other Contracting Party.

Article 2

Domestic animals of Belgian origin, with the exception of poultry, shall be accompanied by a certificate of origin and health issued by a veterinarian approved by the Government.

Domestic animals of Yugoslav origin, with the exception of poultry, shall be accompanied by certificates of origin, health and ownership and by a sanitary certificate issued by a State veterinarian.

Poultry shall be accompanied by a sanitary certificate issued by a State veterinarian or by a veterinarian approved by the State.

¹ Came into force on 6 March 1962, the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification which took place at Belgrade, in accordance with the terms of article 22.

The sanitary certificates for meat and other products of animal origin shall be issued by a State veterinarian or by a veterinarian duly authorized by the State of one of the Contracting Parties.

If the certificates are not written in the language of the country of destination, a French translation shall be added to them.

Article 3

1. The documents provided for in article 2 must certify :

(a) that the animals were raised on the territory of the exporting country ;

(b) that at the time of loading they were inspected and found to be healthy and free from any symptoms of communicable disease ;

(c) that the commune of origin, the adjoining communes and the territory through which they passed in order to reach the place of loading are free from diseases legally held to be communicable.

2. Collective certificates may be issued except in the case of solid-hoofed animals (intended for slaughter or otherwise) and cattle not sent directly to the slaughter-house.

Each certificate shall relate solely to animals of one species, conveyed in the same vehicle to the same consignee.

3. Certificates shall be valid for a period of ten days from the date of issue. If a certificate expires in course of transit through the territory of a third State, such certificate shall remain valid until the animals arrive at the frontier of the country of destination.

Article 4

1. Certificates required for the export of domestic animals shall be issued, in the case of live-stock of the species liable to infection, only on the express condition that there has not been reported :

(a) throughout the country and during the previous six months, any case of rinderpest, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, horse sickness or sheep's catarrhal fever ;

(b) in the commune of origin and the adjoining communes during the previous three months, any case of dourine, glanders or pernicious anaemia ;

(c) in the commune of origin and the adjoining communes during the previous forty days, any case of foot-and-mouth disease, swine fever, fowl pest or pseudo-pest, sheep-pox, sheep-scab or scab of solid-hoofed animals.

2. Certificates accompanying pigs must also state that no case of trichinosis has been observed during the preceding year, either in the commune where the animals were reared or in the adjoining communes.

3. Ruminants and pigs to be exported for breeding or for yield purposes shall be vaccinated against foot-and-mouth disease ; such vaccination shall have been effected with a trivalent aluminium hydroxide base vaccine, at least fifteen days and at most three months before the date of issue of the certificate.

Pigs exported for breeding or for yield purposes shall also be required to have been vaccinated against swine fever at least fifteen days and at most three months before the date of issue of the certificate.

Article 5

1. Certificates of origin and health must further certify :

(a) in the case of cattle not sent directly to the slaughter-house, that they come from farms which are certified to be free from tuberculosis and brucellosis ;

(b) in the case of pigs not sent directly to the slaughter-house, that they come from farms which are free from tuberculosis, brucellosis, ozena and virus broncho-pneumonia ;

(c) in the case of sheep and goats, that they are free from brucellosis ;

(d) in the case of solid-hoofed animals, that they are not suffering from glanders, dourine, pernicious anaemia, communicable encephalitis or leptospirosis ;

(e) in the case of poultry intended for breeding purposes, day-old chicks and eggs for incubation, that the farm of origin is under veterinary inspection and is free from pullorum disease.

2. The official veterinary services of the Contracting Parties shall jointly determine the methods and biological and other tests to be used in their respective countries in order to guarantee a satisfactory state of health as required under paragraph 1 of this article.

Article 6

The animals hereinafter specified may be transferred from the territory of one Contracting Party to that of the other Party only on presentation of a certificate issued by a State veterinarian or by a veterinarian approved by the State, certifying :

(a) in the case of dogs and cats, either that the country has been free from rabies for at least six months, or that the animals have been vaccinated at least fifteen days and at most six months beforehand with a vaccine approved by both Parties ;

(b) in the case of hares and fur-bearing animals, that the country, in the case of Belgium, or the territory of the People's Republic of origin, in the case of Yugoslavia, has been free from tularemia for at least one year ;

(c) in the case of rabbits, that the territory, as defined in sub-paragraph (b) above, has been free from myxomatosis for at least one year ;

(d) in the case of psittacidae, that the country has been free from psittacosis for at least one year ;

(e) in the case of wild or exotic ruminants, that they have remained for at least two months in a zoological garden or quarantine park and that they are free from any kind of illness ;

(f) in the case of winged game, that the commune of origin and the adjoining communes have been free from fowl pest or pseudo-pest for at least forty days.

Article 7

Horses to be entered in races, competitions or sporting events may be imported temporarily for a maximum period of three months, if they are accompanied by a certificate issued by a State veterinarian or by a veterinarian approved by the State.

In addition to stating the owner's name and address, the exact nature of the animal or animals, and their origin and destination, such certificate shall certify that the establishment of origin is free from communicable diseases and that the animals are in good health.

Before any temporary import is effected, the owner of the animal or animals concerned shall submit a written application to the official veterinary service of the country into which import is requested.

Article 8

1. In the case of imports of materials of animal origin such as hides, bristles, horsehair and other hair, wool, feathers, horns, claws, bones, manure, fertilizer and cattle fodder (in so far as the fertilizer and cattle fodder consist entirely or partly of meal made from meat scraps, bones, blood or fish), it may be required that such materials be accompanied by a certificate issued by a State veterinarian, or by a veterinarian approved by the State, identifying the materials and certifying that they have undergone disinfecting or sterilizing treatment and are not suspected of conveying or containing salmonellae or other pathological germs.

2. The official veterinary service of each Contracting Party shall make known to the other service the technical processes used for disinfecting or sterilizing materials of animal origin prior to their export.

Article 9

1. No fresh, frozen or otherwise preserved meat of animals of the equine, bovine, ovine, caprine or porcine species, and no fat, lard or meat food product of any kind, shall be imported unless they are accompanied by a certificate issued by a State veterinarian or by a veterinarian approved by the State, certifying that the animals from which they were prepared underwent veterinary inspection before and after slaughtering and that the meat was found to be healthy and unreservedly fit for consumption.

2. In the case of meat preparations, the certificate must further certify that they have been prepared under the supervision of the veterinary service and that they contain no substance the use of which is prohibited by the regulations of the country of destination.

The official veterinary service of each Contracting Party shall make known to the other service the list of the substances which may be incorporated in meat preparations under regulations in force in its own country.

3. In the case of fat and lard, the certificate must certify that they contain no regenerated fat or any other substance the use of which is prohibited by the regulations of the country of destination.

The official veterinary service of each Contracting Party shall make known to the other service the list of substances which may be incorporated in fat and lard under the regulations in force in its own country.

4. The containers in which meat products are packed, and the corresponding markings, must conform to the regulations of the country of destination.

5. Fresh and frozen meat must, on import, be presented for veterinary inspection, as follows :

(a) meat of bovine cattle, except veal : flayed carcasses, halved or quartered ;

(b) veal, mutton, goat flesh and pork : flayed carcasses (except for pork), whole or halved ;

(c) horse flesh : whole, halved or quartered carcasses.

6. Each whole, half or quartered carcass shall, like the sanitary certificate, be identically stamped by the meat inspection service at the place of slaughtering.

7. Cleaning (by the excision of any part whatsoever, or by the scraping of the serous membranes) or removal of ganglia shall result in refusal of clearance in all cases.

8. The import of fresh or frozen meat without attached organs, of raw fat and of individual organs shall be permitted, provided that they come from animals which were slaughtered in a slaughter-house approved by the sanitary authorities of the exporting country. The official veterinary service of each Contracting Party shall make known to the other service the list of slaughter-houses approved for export purposes, as well as its regulations regarding the inspection of meat.

9. In the case of pork or pork preparations, the certificate shall state that no case of trichinosis has been found for at least one year, either in the commune of origin or in the adjoining communes. No such statement shall be required for cooked meat.

Article 10

1. Fresh-killed or frozen poultry must be accompanied by a certificate issued by a State veterinarian or by a veterinarian approved by the State, certifying that the said poultry comes from a farm free of diseases legally held to be communicable.
2. The poultry shall have been slaughtered in a specially equipped slaughter-house and, when submitted for import, must be in a plucked state and, except in the case of geese and ducks, without intestines.

Article 11

1. Milk products and eggs may be imported free of veterinary health control restrictions, except in the case of eggs for hatching, which must be accompanied by a certificate issued by a State veterinarian or by a veterinarian approved by the State, certifying that the farm of origin is free from pullorum disease.
2. The import of shell-less eggs and their ingredients shall be subject to a certificate issued by a State veterinarian or by a veterinarian approved by the State, certifying that such products are free from salmonellae or pathogenic germs.

Article 12

1. Fish and other fishery food products may be imported without a sanitary certificate.
2. Fresh fish and frozen fish must be submitted whole. However, the official veterinary services of the Contracting Parties shall determine the cases and conditions in which fish may be accepted without the head, fins and tail, cleaned or filleted.
3. Fish and other fishery food products preserved in cans or other airtight containers may be imported provided that they have undergone an effective sterilization or preservation process and contain no substance the use of which is prohibited by the regulations of the country of destination. Furthermore, the containers must conform with the regulations of the country of destination.

Article 13

1. If the veterinary inspector finds that certain animals of a consignment for import are, at the frontier, suffering or suspected of suffering from a communicable disease, such animals shall automatically be slaughtered, at the expense of the owner or exporter, at the nearest slaughter-house designated by the veterinary authority of the country of destination.

This measure may, according to the nature of the disease, be applied to all live-stock having the same origin or forming part of the same consignment.

Meat and products derived from the slaughtered live-stock shall be dealt with according to the regulations applicable to animals of domestic origin.

2. However, live-stock for which clearance is refused may be returned to the country of origin at the request of the owner or exporter, provided that the authorities of any country to be traversed *en route* do not object.

3. The measures provided for in paragraphs 1 and 2 above may be applied to consignments of live-stock for import which do not fulfil the requirements of this Convention.

4. The veterinary inspector of the importing country shall enter on the certificate a signed statement certifying the grounds for refusing clearance or for slaughtering.

5. When a communicable disease is found in imported live-stock only after it has entered the country of destination, a report on the case shall be drawn up by a State veterinarian or by a veterinarian approved by the State.

6. Whenever sanitary measures are taken, in accordance with the above-stated provisions, with respect to live-stock for import, the official veterinary service of the importing country shall immediately notify the official veterinary service of the exporting country by cable, specifying *inter alia* the number of animals to which the measures have been applied, the symptoms or kind of disease involved, and the nature of the measures taken. The cable shall subsequently be confirmed in a more detailed report.

Article 14

1. Such sanitary precautions as each Contracting Party may see fit to take in respect of live-stock found to be healthy on crossing the frontier shall be kept to the minimum necessary in its own territory.

2. The issue of sanitary permits for the import of live-stock and of animal products shall be subject to no restrictions which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Convention.

Article 15

1. The provisions of this Convention shall apply to live-stock originating in the territory of one Contracting Party for direct transit across the territory of the other Party, provided that the country of destination undertakes not to refuse clearance to any transit consignment of such live-stock. If other countries must be traversed *en route*, a transit permit must be obtained from each such country in advance.

2. The declarations of health provided for in article 5 of this Convention shall not be required in respect of ruminants in transit without transshipment.

3. An advance undertaking by any countries traversed and by the country of destination to grant clearance shall not be required in respect of fresh, frozen, canned or prepared meat or raw materials of animal origin conveyed from the territory of one Contracting Party in transit through the territory of the other Party by rail, in closed and sealed waggons, or by air.

Article 16

1. Each Contracting Party undertakes to publish at least once a month a bulletin on the sanitary situation, which shall be transmitted directly to the other Contracting Party.

In addition, either Contracting Party may at any time obtain from the other Party a list of the communes, in such provinces or People's Republics as it may designate, which are affected by any disease legally held to be communicable.

2. When any unusual communicable disease, such as rinderpest, communicable pleuropneumonia, an exotic variety of foot-and-mouth disease, or horse sickness, is detected in the territory of one Contracting Party, the central veterinary authority of the other Contracting Party shall be so notified by cable.

In such cases, the other Party shall be entitled to prohibit or restrict, for such time as the danger of a spread of the disease persists, the import of live-stock, of products of animal origin and, in general, of all products capable of transmitting the contagion, with due regard to the other provisions of this Convention.

3. Urgent communications concerning the application of this Convention may be exchanged directly between the veterinary authorities of the two Contracting Parties.

Article 17

The disinfection of the means of transporting animals or raw materials of animal origin, carried out in accordance with the regulations in force in the territory of one Contracting Party, shall be recognized as valid by the other Party.

Article 18

The manner of implementing certain provisions of this Convention, such as those of articles 1, 5, 8, 9 and 12, as well as amendments subsequently made to them, shall be determined by letters exchanged between the official veterinary authorities of the Contracting Parties.

Article 19

1. The Contracting Parties shall establish a Mixed Commission. Each Contracting Party shall nominate three members.

The meetings of the Mixed Commission shall be held at the request of either of the Contracting Parties and shall take place, alternately, on the territory of the Kingdom of Belgium and on the territory of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia.

The heads of the two delegations to the Mixed Commission shall act, in turns, as chairman of the sessions.

At the sessions, each delegation may be assisted by such specialists as may be called upon to give their professional opinion on certain questions.

2. The task of the Mixed Commission shall be :

— To consider the results of the application of this Convention in practice and to suggest to both Governments the measures whereby its provisions may be more effectively implemented ;

— To submit to the Governments any proposals for the possible modification or amendment of certain provisions of the Convention ;

— To settle any disputes which may arise concerning the application and interpretation of this Convention ;

— To submit to both Governments proposals for harmonizing the provisions of the Convention with the recommendations of the International Office of Epizootics.

3. The decisions of the Mixed Commission shall be subject to the approval of both Governments.

Article 20

The provisions of this Convention may be extended, by means of supplementary agreements between the two Contracting Parties, so as to cover other known or hitherto unknown diseases, if there is good reason to fear that they may be communicated.

Article 21

This Convention shall be ratified in accordance with the constitutional arrangements of both Contracting Parties.

Article 22

This Convention is concluded for a term of five years.

It shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which shall take place at Belgrade.

If neither of the Contracting Parties has, six months before the date of expiry of the above-mentioned period, given notice of its intention to terminate this Conven-

tion, the validity of the Convention shall be automatically extended for an indefinite period, but either of the Contracting Parties may denounce it through the diplomatic channel at six months' notice.

DONE at Brussels, on 31 October 1961, in two originals, in the French language.

For the Government
of the Kingdom of Belgium :

P. H. SPAAK

For the Government
of the Federal People's Republic
of Yugoslavia :

Vjekoslav PRPIC