

**No. 8980**

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**BULGARIA  
and  
UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC**

**Veterinary Agreement. Signed at Sofia, on 29 August 1966**

*Official text: English.*

*Registered by Bulgaria on 14 February 1968.*

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**BULGARIE  
et  
RÉPUBLIQUE ARABE UNIE**

**Accord vétérinaire. Signé à Sofia, le 29 août 1966**

*Texte officiel anglais.*

*Enregistré par la Bulgarie le 14 février 1968.*

No. 8980. VETERINARY AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA AND THE UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC. SIGNED AT SOFIA, ON 29 AUGUST 1966

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The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Government of the United Arab Republic with a view to ensuring a good status of public health in both countries, to facilitating the exchange of animals and animal products as well as to developing cooperation in the field of veterinary medicine, have concluded the following Veterinary and Sanitary Agreement.

*Article 1*

The competent State veterinary authorities of both countries shall work out, upon mutual agreement, the rules establishing veterinary and sanitary conditions for import of live animals and animal products from the territory of one of the Contracting Parties to the territory of the other Party.

*Article 2*

For the purposes of this Agreement:

“animals”, in the context of this Agreement, means:

- solidungular animals (horses, donkeys, mules);
- cloven-hoofed domestic and wild animals (cattle, buffaloes, camels, sheep, goats and pigs);
- domestic and wild rodents;
- poultry (chicken, turkeys, geese, ducks, guinea-fowls);
- birds of luxury (pheasants, partridges, blackcocks etc.);
- domestic and wild animals of luxury;
- exotic animals and birds;
- bees;
- fish, crabs, snails, tortoises, frogs, snakes;

“animal products”, in the context of this Agreement, means:

- animal raw materials — all parts of the animal body, unprocessed, regardless of their designation;

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 1 November 1967 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification, in accordance with article 33.

- animal products — all parts of the animal body, fresh or processed, destined for human consumption as well as eggs, milk, dairy products and honey;
- animal offals — component parts of the animal body, not used for human consumption.

Live animals and animal products not stipulated in this Agreement shall be treated in accordance with the regulations of either Contracting Party.

#### *Article 3*

Frontier Examination Posts, charged with the veterinary and sanitary control of animals and products stipulated in the Agreement, shall be established by either Contracting Party.

#### *Article 4*

Animals and animal products, while imported, exported or in transit, shall be accompanied by the following documents:

1. Animals:

- a) A veterinary certificate of health and origin issued by a state veterinarian or by a person authorized by the State;
- b) A certificate of ownership (for large animals).

2. Animal products:

- a) A veterinary certificate of health and origin issued by a state veterinarian or by a person authorized by the State;
- b) Experts' report — issued in conformity with the regulations of the Contracting Parties and in accordance with the requirements of the importing countries.

The texts of the veterinary documents shall be drawn up in the language of the exporting country and in English or French.

#### *Article 5*

The veterinary certificate of health and origin for animals should contain: the name of the owner, the place, district or region of origin, the kind, number, description and characteristic features of the animals. It should make evident the fact that the animals have been bred on the territory of the exporting country.

The certificate should contain data bearing out that, before the expedition, the animals have remained for 21 days without interruption in the place of origin. The state veterinarian should confirm in the veterinary certificate that, at the moment, in the place of origin of the animals, in the territory of the People's Councils and

Municipalities through which they have passed on the way to the station of loading, contagious diseases subject to announcement and which could infect the transported animals, have not been found. He should also certify that the animals have been examined and found healthy before being loaded.

The veterinary certificate of health and origin for animals shall be valid for a period of 15 days after the issuing. In case the said period has expired before the animals' arrival at the frontier post of the exporting country, it could be prolonged by the state veterinarian for another 10 days, unless the examination of the animals has proved the presence of infectious diseases. The examination results should be entered in the veterinary certificate.

For small animals, chickens and large animals destined for slaughter, general veterinary certificates shall be permitted when the animals and the chickens are of one and the same kind, when they originate from the same farm and are transported in the same vehicle and have the same designation.

#### Article 6

The veterinary certificate of health and origin for animals designated for exportation shall certify expressly that on the territory of the exporting country the following diseases have not existed:

a) cattle-plague and infectious pleuro-pneumonia, horse-plague — during the last 12 months;

b) foot-and-mouth disease (cloven-hoofed animals) — during the last 6 months and within a 30 km radius from the place of origin of the animals; tuberculosis, brucellosis, leucaemia, trichomoniasis and vibriosis — during the last 12 months and within a 15 km radius from the place of origin of the animals;

c) Dourine glanders, infectious anaemia, contagious encephalomyelitis, catarrhal fever (solidungular animals) during the last 12 months and within a 30 km radius from the place of origin of the animals;

d) pleuro-pneumonia (goats) — during the last 6 months, on the territory of the exporting country;

e) African plague (pigs) — during the last 12 months, on the territory of the exporting country;

f) classic pest, atrophic rhinitis and teshen disease (pigs), measles (sheep and goats) — during the last three months and within a 30 km radius from the place of origin of the animals;

g) plague, pseudoplague and cholera (fowl) — during the last three months and within 30 km radius from the farm;

h) chronic micoplasmosis, leucaemia, infectious bronchitis, ornithosis-psittacosis — during the last 12 months in the farm of origin of the fowl;

*i*) rabies — during the last 6 months in the regions (districts) of origin of cats and dogs;

*j*) for game, animals with valuable furs, rabbits and hares that the region or the district of origin have not been infected by contagious or virus diseases for the respective kinds susceptible to those diseases, within the last 12 months;

*k*) for exotic animals — that they have been compulsory under quarantine or in the zoological garden within the last two months;

*l*) for bees — that no infectious diseases have existed, subject to announcement, within a 10 km radius from the bee-garden of origin during the last 12 months;

*m*) for fish and caviar destined for breeding fish artificially in internal waters — that there have been no cases of infectious or parasitic diseases in the nurseponds or waters of origin.

The veterinary certificate must also certify:

A. That the animals have been subject to the following diagnostic examinations:

*a*) solidungular animals — 15 days before their expedition the eye mallein test and the serological examinations for glanders have given negative results;

*b*) breeding mares and stud-horses — that they have been examined serologically for dourine three times at an interval of three weeks and the results have been negative. The last examination has been effected not later than 21 days before the expedition of the animals;

*c*) breeding cattle — 20 days before their expedition the hypodermic tuberculin test has given negative results;

*d*) breeding cattle, sheep, goats — that the farms they originate from have not been infected by brucellosis which fact has been doubly ascertained through two serological examinations at intervals of 20 days, the last has been effected 14 days before their expedition, in a state laboratory;

*e*) small breeding animals (sheep, goats, rams and billy-goats) — that they have been serologically examined for infectious epididymitis and virous miscarriage not later than 15 days before their expedition and the results have been negative;

B. That the animals have been vaccinated:

*a*) cattle, sheep and goats — against foot-and-mouth disease with a vaccine approved by the veterinary service of the importing country, at least 15 days and not more than 4 months before expedition;

- b) solidungular animals, cattle, sheep, goats for breeding at least 30 days before their loading — against anthrax;
- c) pigs of over 2 months — at least 20 days before their loading — against plague, with crystalviolet vaccine;
- d) dogs and cats — not later than 30 days and not earlier than 12 months before their expedition — against rabies.

#### Article 7

Temporary imports shall be permitted for horses designated to take part in horse races or sports competitions, if they are accompanied by a certificate issued by a state veterinarian or by a person authorized by the State.

Besides the name and domicile of the owner, the exact denomination of the animals, their origin and destination, the certificate shall certify that the farm of origin is not infected by contagious diseases and that the animals are in good health. Every temporary import shall be preceded by a written permit from the official veterinary service of the importing country.

#### Article 8

The veterinary certificates of health and origin, accompanying animal products, as well as the articles which could be carriers of contagion, shall certify, that:

- a) the products have been derived from animals which do not suffer from infectious and parasitic diseases carried by animals and people;
- b) they originate from settlements where infectious diseases and parasitic animal diseases have not been found;
- c) the fresh processed meat (salted, smoked, dried, inbrine or cooked) as well as the meat products, have been derived from animals which, before and after being slaughtered, have been examined by a state veterinarian or by a person authorized by the State and that they have been produced in a slaughter house legalized for export or in meat-processing factories under permanent state veterinary and sanitary control;
- d) the meat and the meat products are fit for consumption;
- e) the results obtained from the examination of pork, for trichinosis and cysticercosis, have been negative.

#### Article 9

To the judgement of the frontier veterinarians, at the exportation and transit of milk, dairy products and eggs, the shipments shall not be subject to veterinary control if it is evident from the veterinary certificate that they have been produced

in factories under the control of the state veterinary service and if they are accompanied by a Protocol of analysis.

The shipments containing eggs for hatching shall be accompanied by a veterinary certificate of health and origin certifying that the eggs originate from farms not infected by fowl contagious diseases, particularly plague and pseudoplague, pulorosis, typhus, chronic micoplasmosis, cholera, tuberculosis, leucaemia, ornithosis-psittacosis, infectious bronchitis, etc.

*Article 10*

Exports of meat, animal products from cattle, solidungular animals, sheep, pigs, and poultry shall be effected only if they have been obtained or processed in slaughter-houses or factories approved by the competent authorities of the exporting country.

Every slaughter-house or factory, approved for export, shall have a number which shall be put on all packings, labels and documents.

*Article 11*

Each Contracting Party shall communicate with the other Party, within a three months' period from the entering into force of this Agreement, the list and the number of the slaughter-houses and factories approved for export.

The other Party shall be immediately informed about any change in these lists.

*Article 12*

Each shipment shall be accompanied by a veterinary certificate issued by a state veterinarian of the exporting country or by a person authorized by the State.

*Article 13*

Employees and workers at slaughter-houses and processing factories, suffering from infectious diseases or carriers of contagions which might infect meat and the products shall not be admitted to work.

They shall be subjected to medical examination each year.

*Article 14*

The slaughter-houses approved for export shall consist of the following compartments:

- a compartment for slaughtering cattle and sheep;
- a compartment for slaughtering sheep;

- a compartment for slaughtering pigs;
- a special compartment for slaughtering sick animals of such under suspicion of being sick;
- a stomachs and casings processing compartment;
- refrigeration installations.

The slaughter-house approved for export should be furnished, if possible, with such equipment as would make possible the execution of manipulations on hanging slaughtered animals.

#### *Article 15*

The carcasses of the slaughtered animals, pigs not included, shall be skinned.

The removal of the serous membranes and of the lymphatic glands shall not be permitted.

No cuttings, except those stipulated in the export examination, shall be allowed.

In no case should meat from animals whose fattening has been stimulated by estrogene, hormone, antibiotic and thyroestatic substances be subject to exportation.

#### *Article 16*

The shipment of fresh, frozen or unfrozen meat shall be effected only in the following way:

- cattle: in halves, quarters;
- calves: in halves, quarters;
- pigs: in halves, legs, shoulders and front parts;
- horses: in halves, quarters;
- lambs: whole carcasses;
- sheep: whole carcasses, halves, legs and shoulders;
- heads, tails: whole and with bones;
- tongues, hearts, livers, kidneys, brains, thyroid glands — to be intact;
  
- stomachs, ruminants' stomachs, plucks and casings: to be intact, cleaned and blanched.

#### *Article 17*

Every quarter piece shall bear at least two seals of the export examination.

Lambs' carcasses and carcasses of sheep shall have at least two seals on each half.



Each piece of meat shall bear at least one seal.

Every package containing pieces of meat or entrails shall bear a label of the slaughter-house where they have been processed. The label shall bear the seal of the expert examination. Each shipment shall be accompanied by the second copy of the label.

*Article 18*

The veterinary certificate shall bear out that the meat has been derived from animals which have been found healthy before the slaughter, that the meat is fit for consumption and has not been derived from animals slaughtered of necessity.

The seal of the expert examination on the meat and the labels shall be present on the veterinary certificate as well.

*Article 19*

The meat-processing factories shall be organized in a way making it possible to perform work under best hygienic conditions. They shall contain:

- a compartment with refrigeration installations for storing meat (the primary materials);
- a compartment for cutting meat into pieces;
- a compartment for preparations;
- a cooking compartment;
- a separate compartment for trying out fats;
- a compartment for smoking;
- a compartment for drying;
- a compartment for packing;
- a refrigeration compartment for storing and expedition.

*Article 20*

Only meat coming from slaughter-houses approved for export shall be processed in the above mentioned factories.

No use of antibiotics, antioxidants or other substances for preservation of products shall be permitted.

*Article 21*

Each packing shall bear the seal of the factory approved for export where it has been prepared.

Each packing shall bear a label pointing to the factory it has been prepared in; the second copy of the label should be put inside it.

*Article 22*

The veterinary certificate shall bear out that the utilized primary materials (meat) derive from animals whose health status has been good before slaughtering and that the meat is fully fit for consumption; the certificate shall also make it evident that the product does not contain antibiotics, antioxidants or preservation substances and that it has been prepared according to the food hygiene prescriptions.

The importation of meat derived from animals which have been subject to the effect of estrogene or thyroestatic substances shall be forbidden.

*Article 23*

The chickens shall be plucked — the head not included and cleaned in conformity with the veterinary requirements of the importing country.

The cut chicken, cooled or frozen, shall be wrapped in waterproof packings.

Each shipment shall be accompanied by a veterinary certificate.

*Article 24*

The killed game shall be delivered according to the veterinary requirements of the importing country.

Each shipment shall be accompanied by a veterinary certificate making it evident that the game originates from regions not infected by contagious diseases.

*Article 25*

1. The importation of animal by-products such as hides and skins, bristles, hair, furs, wool, feathers, horns, hooves, bones manure and fodder (in case the fodder consists wholly or partially of meal derived from meat, bones, blood or fish) shall require these products to be accompanied by a veterinary certificate issued by a state veterinarian or by a person authorized by the state, permitting the identification of the products and certifying that they have been subject to disinfection and sterilization and that undoubtedly they neither carry nor contain salmonella or other pathogenic micro-organisms.

2. The official veterinary service of each Contracting Party shall inform the other Party of the technological methods applied in connection with the disinfection or sterilization of animal products before their exportation.

3. The transit of the animal products mentioned hereunder shall not be subject to veterinary control when:

- the wool, hair, down and feathers have been washed in an industrial way and are packed in sewnup bags;
- dried or salted casings, gullets, stomachs and bladders, tallow from cattle, sheep and goats are placed in waterproof cases, boxes or casks;
  
- dried, salted or preserved in brine hides, skins and games-skins, processed or not, skin wastes are transported in vehicles with waterproof floors;
  
- dried hooves, fatless bones and horns cleaned from the soft parts are transported in closed vehicles;
- the canned meat and meat products are in airtight tins;
  
- the exporting country is obliged to send a veterinary certificate together with the above products.

*Article 26*

1. When in a shipment of animals, designated for importation, the veterinary control body finds animals infected or under suspicion of being infected by contagious diseases, it shall treat them, according to the nature of the disease. In such a way as has been stipulated in the regulations of the importing countries for similar cases.

According to the nature of the disease, this measure could be applied to all animals of the same kind or from the same shipment.

The meat of the products of the slaughtered animals shall be treated in conformity with the enclosed rules of the importing country.

2. However, in so far as the authorities of the transit country shall not oppose, the animals which have not been admitted for import could be returned to the country of origin upon demand on the part of the owner or the exporter.

3. The measures described in paragraphs 1 and 2 above shall be applied when transporting animals designated for export which do not answer the provisions of this Agreement.

4. The veterinary control body of the importing country shall mention in the certificate or in a separate document the reason for returning or slaughtering the animals.

5. When the existence of an infectious disease has been found out in animals after their arrival in the country of destination, the case shall be described in a report drawn up by a state veterinarian or by a person authorized by the State.

6. When, according to the present provisions, sanitation measures have been taken against animals destined for importation, the official veterinary service of the importing country shall immediately cable to the veterinary service of the exporting

country and inform it, among others, of the number of animals to which these measures have been applied, the symptoms or the kind of disease which has been ascertained and the nature of the measures taken. Later on the cable shall be confirmed by a detailed report.

*Article 27*

1. The provisions of this Agreement shall be applied to animals originating from the territories of the Contracting Parties, for direct transit through the territory of either Party, provided that the country of destination undertakes not to return the transit animals. In case the transit is effected through other countries, it shall be necessary to obtain a transit permit in advance.

2. Transit transport of fresh, frozen, canned or processed meat, the raw materials transported from the territory of one of the Parties to the territory of the other Party, by rail or road in sealed freight waggons or lorries, or by air, shall be admitted without requiring a permit for admission in advance from countries through which the transit is effected and from the country to which they are destined.

*Article 28*

1. Each Contracting Party undertakes to publish and send to the other Contracting Party a bulletin on the epizootics status, at least once in a month.

Either Contracting Party shall regularly receive from the other Contracting Party legal announcements for every infectious disease, a list of the infected municipalities located in region or provinces indicated by it.

2. When particularly dangerous infectious diseases, such as cattle-plague, infectious pleuro-pneumonia, exotic type of foot-and-mouth disease, horse-plague, etc., are ascertained on the territory of one of the Parties the central veterinary authority of the other Party shall be informed by cable.

In such cases the other Party shall have the right to forbid or restrict the import and transit of animals and animal products and other products and articles which might serve as carriers of contagion, for such a period of time as there will be danger of spreading the diseases, by taking into consideration the other provisions of this Agreement.

3. The documents necessary in relation to the application of this Agreement could be exchanged directly between the veterinary authorities of either Contracting Party.

*Article 29*

The Disinfection of the means of transportation of animals or raw animal products shall be effected according to the regulations in force on the territory of one of the Contracting Parties and shall be considered valid by the other Party as well.

*Article 30*

Some particulars concerning the application of this Agreement as well as the amendments which will have to be made to it, shall be arranged in writing between the official authorities of the Contracting Parties for which purpose a Joint Commission shall be established. Each Contracting Party shall be entitled to three representatives in it.

The sessions of the Joint Commission shall be presided over by the head of the delegation of the host country.

Each delegation shall include experts and specialists in the problems to be discussed by the Joint Commission at its sessions.

Tasks of the Joint Commission:

- to study the results of the application of this Agreement and to propose measures to the two Governments to be taken in order to apply efficiently this Agreement and its provisions;
- to submit to the respective Governments all proposals for amendments to some of the provisions of the Agreement;
- to discuss and settle controversial issues regarding the application and interpretation of this Agreement;
- to submit to the two Governments proposals concerning the coordination of the provisions of the Agreement in conformity with the recommendations of competent international organs recognized by the two Parties.

The decisions of the Joint Commission shall be subject to approval by the two Governments.

*Article 31*

The provisions of this Agreement could be extended to other diseases known or unknown until now which represent a danger to the two Contracting Parties, by concluding a supplementary agreement.

*Article 32*

The present Agreement shall be ratified in accordance with the regulations of both Parties.

*Article 33*

The present Agreement shall remain valid for a period of 5 years. It shall be automatically prolonged for another 5-year period unless one of the Contracting Parties has denounced it. Either Party shall have the right to denounce this Agreement through diplomatic channels by giving a notice 6 months in advance.

This Agreement shall enter into force on the day of exchange of the instruments of ratification.

DONE at Sofia this 29th of August 1966 in duplicate, both copies being equally authentic.

For the Government  
of the People's Republic  
of Bulgaria:

Petar TANTCHEV

For the Government  
of the United Arab Republic:

Mohamed Abdel Mohsen ABOU EL NOUR