COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION
of 12 April 1999
concerning the animal health conditions and veterinary certification for imports
of fresh meat from certain African countries
(notified under document number C(1999) 873)
(Text with EEA relevance)

(1999/283/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 72/462/EEC of 12 December 1972 on health and veterinary inspection problems upon importation of bovine, ovine and caprine animals and swine, fresh meat or meat products from third countries (1), as last amended by Directive 97/ 79/EC (2), and in particular Articles 14, 15 and 16,

(1) Whereas the animal health conditions and veterinary certification for imports of fresh meat from Botswana, Madagascar, Morocco, Namibia, Swaziland, South Africa and Zimbabwe were established by Commission Decisions 92/22/EEC (3), 90/156/EEC (4), 84/295/EEC (5), 92/24/EEC (6), 92/23/EEC (7), 92/21/EEC (8) and 92/25/EEC (9);

(2) Whereas, with a view to the internal market, numerous health measures have been established in the framework of trade inside the Community; whereas the realisation of this objective necessitates, in parallel, an adaptation of the health conditions required for importation of fresh meat from third countries particularly from certain African countries;

(3) Whereas this adaptation must take into account the different epidemiological situations in the African countries concerned, and indeed in the different parts of their territories; whereas, given the existence of identical health situations between the various parts of those different countries, it is necessary to take account of this fact in establishing a new system of health guarantees;

(4) Whereas, as a result, it is appropriate to establish different health certificates in accordance with the conditions required for the importation of fresh meat from those different categories of countries or parts of countries;

(5) Whereas outbreaks of African swine fever are reported from time to time in these countries and therefore imports into the European Community of pigmeat cannot be authorised;

(6) Whereas as an interim step prior to an in depth analysis concerning the possibility to authorise bone-in meat from certain OIE free regions and, in order to clarify and simplify the Community legislation, it is necessary to group together the health conditions required for imports of fresh meat from the African countries concerned and to repeal the decisions in force for those countries;

(3) OJ L 10, 16.1.1992, p. 34.
(7) Whereas stricter health conditions have been established for offal destined for human consumption; whereas, moreover, the health conditions established apply without prejudice to the health conditions established by Council Directive 92/118/EEC (1), as last amended by Directive 97/79/EC, and Commission Decision 89/18/EEC of 22 December 1988 concerning importations from third countries of fresh meat destined for purposes other than human consumption (2);

(8) Whereas having regard to the epidemiological features of foot-and-mouth disease of the ovine and caprines, special guarantees must be required as regards imports of meat of those species;

(9) Whereas, in addition, the responsible veterinary authorities of the concerned countries must confirm that their countries or regions have for at least 12 months been free from rinderpest, and foot-and-mouth disease;

(10) Whereas the responsible authorities of the concerned countries must undertake to notify the Commission and the Member States within 24 hours, by fax, telex or telegram of the confirmation of the occurrence of any of the abovementioned diseases or an alteration in the vaccination policy against them;

(11) Whereas other health conditions must be established for meat not intended for human consumption in accordance with the provisions of Directive 92/118/EEC and Decision 89/18/EEC;

(12) Whereas animal health conditions and veterinary certification must be adapted according to the animal health situation of the third country or part of third country concerned;

(13) Whereas Council Directive 96/93/EC (3) lays down standards of certification which are necessary for valid certification and to prevent fraud. Whereas it is appropriate to ensure that the rules and principles applied by third-country certifying officers provide guarantees which are at least equivalent to those laid down in this Directive;

(14) Whereas Council Directive 93/119/EEC (4) requires that the veterinary health certificate accompanying meat to be imported from third countries to the European Community must be supplemented by an attestation certifying that the animals have been slaughtered under conditions which offer guarantees of humane treatment at least equivalent to the relevant provisions in the Directive;

(15) Whereas considering that a new certification regime is hereby established, a period of time should be provided for its implementation;

(16) Whereas the measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Veterinary Committee,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

For the purposes of this Decision the following definitions shall be used:

(a) ‘fresh meat’: as defined in Article 2(a) of Council Directive 64/433/EEC (5);

(b) ‘de-boned fresh meat’: meat as described in paragraph (a) of this Article, together with diaphragms but excluding offal, from which the bone and the main accessible lymphatic glands have been removed.

Article 2

1. Member States shall authorise the importation of the categories of fresh meat set out in Annex II and coming from the territories laid down in Annex I, if they comply with the guarantees laid down in the health certificate, drawn up in conformity with Annex III.

2. Member States shall authorise the introduction onto their territory of fresh meat from the country of origin subject to the supplementary guarantees required in Annex II and described in Annex IV. These supplementary guarantees must be provided by the exporting country in Section V of each model of certificate laid down in Annex III.

3. In the case of imports of fresh meat described in Article 1 and intended for purposes other than human consumption, Member States shall ensure that the following requirements are complied with:
   — the conditions set out in paragraph 1,
   — the conditions established by Directive 92/118/EEC,
   — the conditions established by Decision 89/18/EEC.

Article 3

This Decision will be reassessed as required by the changing animal health situation in the Community and in the concerned African countries from which the imports are permitted.

Article 4
This Decision shall come into effect from 1 June 1999.

Article 5


Article 6
This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 12 April 1999.

For the Commission
Franz FISCHLER
Member of the Commission
## ANNEX I

### DESCRIPTION OF TERRITORIES OF CERTAIN AFRICAN COUNTRIES ESTABLISHED FOR ANIMAL HEALTH CERTIFICATION PURPOSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Code of territory</th>
<th>Version</th>
<th>Description of territory</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOTSWANA</td>
<td>BW</td>
<td>01/99</td>
<td>The whole country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BW-01</td>
<td>01/99</td>
<td>Veterinary disease control zones 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOROCCO</td>
<td>MA</td>
<td>01/99</td>
<td>The whole country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MADAGASCAR</td>
<td>MG</td>
<td>01/99</td>
<td>The whole country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAMIBIA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>01/99</td>
<td>The whole country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NA-01</td>
<td>01/99</td>
<td>North of the cordon fences which extend from Palgrave Point in the west to Gam in the east</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWAZILAND</td>
<td>SZ</td>
<td>01/99</td>
<td>The whole country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SZ-01</td>
<td>01/99</td>
<td>Area west of the ‘red line’ fences which extend northwards from the river Usutu to the frontier with South Africa west of Nkalashane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH AFRICA</td>
<td>ZA</td>
<td>01/99</td>
<td>The whole country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ZA-01</td>
<td>01/99</td>
<td>Republic of South Africa (excluding that part of the food-and-mouth disease control area situated in the veterinary region Northern and Eastern Transvaal, in the district of Ingwavuma of the veterinary region of Natal and in the border area with Botswana east of longitude 28°)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZIMBABWE</td>
<td>ZW</td>
<td>01/99</td>
<td>The whole country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ZW-01</td>
<td>01/99</td>
<td>Veterinary regions of Mashonaland West province, Mashonaland East province (including Chikomba district), Mashonaland Central province, Manicaland province (including only Makoni district), Midlands province (including only the Gweru, Kwekwe, Shurugwi, Chirimanzu and Zvishavane districts), Masvingo province (including only the districts of Gutu and Masvingo), Matabeleland South province (including only the Insiza, Bulirimaramwengu, Umzingwamange, Gwanda and West Nicholson districts) and Matabeleland north province (including only the districts of Bubi and Umugasa)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**ANNEX II**

MODELS OF ANIMAL HEALTH CERTIFICATES TO BE REQUESTED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Fresh meat for human consumption</th>
<th>Fresh meat intended for purposes other than human consumption</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bovine</td>
<td>Swine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>MC (1)</td>
<td>SG (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOTSWANA</td>
<td>BW</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BW-01</td>
<td>A a</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOROCCO</td>
<td>MA</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MADAGASCAR</td>
<td>MG</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAMIBIA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NA-01</td>
<td>A a</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWAZILAND</td>
<td>SZ</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SZ-01</td>
<td>A a</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH AFRICA</td>
<td>ZA</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ZA-01</td>
<td>A a</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZIMBABWE</td>
<td>ZW</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ZW-01</td>
<td>A a, c</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) MC: model of certificate to be fulfilled: the letters (A, B, C, D, etc.) appearing in the tables are referring to the models of animal health guarantees as described in Annex III to Commission Decision 1999/283/EC, to be applied for each product and origin in accordance with Article 2 of this Decision. A dash (‘—’) indicates that imports are not authorised.

(2) SG: supplementary guarantees. The letters (a, b, c, d, etc.) appearing in the tables are referring to the supplementary guarantees to be provided by the exporting country as described in Annex IV. These supplementary guarantees must be inserted by the exporting country in Section V of each model of certificate laid down in Annex III.
ANNEX III

MODEL A

ANIMAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE

for fresh meat of domestic animals of the bovine species(*) intended for consignment to the European Community

Coded number (*)

Note to the importer: This certificate is for veterinary purposes only and must accompany the consignment until it reaches the border inspection point.

Country of destination:................................................................................................................................................

Reference number of the public health certificate:..............................................................................................................

Exporting country:................................................................................................................................................

Ministry: ......................................................................................................................................................

Competent issuing authority:........................................................................................................................................

Reference (optional):........................................................................................................................................

I. Identification and origin of meat

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot No</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Nature of cuts</th>
<th>Nature of packaging</th>
<th>Net weight (kg)</th>
<th>Approval No of the slaughterhouse</th>
<th>Approval No of the cutting plant</th>
<th>Approval No of the cold store</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

II. Origin of meat

Address(es) of place(s) of loading: ..........................................................................................................................

Name and address of consignor: .....................................................................................................................................

III. Destination of meat

Name and address of consignee: ........................................................................................................................................

The meat will be sent to (country and place of destination): ............................................................................................

by the following means of transport (?): .........................................................................................................................

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Railway wagon</th>
<th>Lorry</th>
<th>Aircraft</th>
<th>Ship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

(*) Fresh meat means all parts fit for human consumption from domestic animals of the bovine species which have not undergone any preserving process; however, chilled and frozen meat shall be considered as fresh meat.

(?) Issued by the competent authority.

(?) For railway wagons or lorries, the registration number should be given, where known; for bulk containers the number of the container. The number of the seal must be indicated.
IV. Attestation of health

I, the undersigned, official veterinarian, certify that:

1. the territory described in Annex I to Commission Decision 1999/283/EC with code . . ., version No . . ., has been free for 12 months from rinderpest and foot-and-mouth disease and during the same period, no vaccinations against these diseases have taken place;

2. the fresh meat described above is obtained from bovine animals:
   — which have remained in the territory as described under IV.1 for at least three months before being slaughtered or since birth in the case of animals less than three months old,
   — which come from holdings in which there has been no outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in the previous 30 days, and around which within a radius of 10 km there has been no case of foot-and-mouth disease for 30 days,
   — which have been transported from their holdings of origin to the approved slaughterhouse concerned without contact with animals which do not comply with the conditions required for export of their meat to the Community, and, if conveyed in a means of transport, that the latter has been cleaned and disinfected before loading,
   — which have passed the ante mortem health inspection referred to in Council Directive 72/462/EEC at the slaughterhouse during the 24 hours before slaughter and, in particular, have shown no evidence of foot-and-mouth disease;

3. the fresh meat described above is obtained from an establishment or establishments in which, after a case of foot-and-mouth disease has been diagnosed, further preparation of meat for export to the Community has been authorised only after slaughter of all animals present, removal of all meat, and the total cleaning and disinfection of the establishments under the control of an official veterinarian.

V. Supplementary guarantees

(Supplementary guarantees when required in Annex II and described in Annex IV to Commission Decision 1999/283/EC) (delete if not required).

VI. Attestation on protection of animals

I, the undersigned official veterinarian, hereby declare that:

1. I have read and understood Council Directive 93/119/EC;

2. the meat is derived from animals which have been treated in the slaughterhouse before and at the time of slaughter or killing in accordance with the relevant provisions of Council Directive 93/119/EC.

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

(Place) (Date)

Seal (*)

______________________________
(Signature of official veterinarian) (*)

______________________________
(Name in capital letters, qualification and title)

(*) The signature and the seal must be in a colour different to that of the printing.
ANIMAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE
for fresh meat for human consumption of domestic animals of the porcine species (*) intended for consignment to the European Community

NOT APPLICABLE
ANIMAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE
for fresh meat of domestic animals of the ovine and caprine species (1), intended for consignment to the European Community

Coded number ()

Note to the importer: This certificate is for veterinary purposes only and must accompany the consignment until it reaches the border inspection point.

Country of destination: ..............................................................................................................................................
Reference number of the public health certificate: .....................................................................................................
Exporting country: .................................................. Code of territory: .................................................................
Ministry: .................................................................................................................................................................
Competent issuing authority: ....................................................................................................................................
Reference (optional): ..............................................................................................................................................

I. Identification and origin of meat

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot No</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Nature of cuts</th>
<th>Nature of packaging</th>
<th>Net weight (kg)</th>
<th>Approval No of the slaughterhouse</th>
<th>Approval No of the cutting plant</th>
<th>Approval No of the cold store</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

II. Origin of meat

Address(es) of place(s) of loading: ............................................................................................................................
Name and address of consignor: .....................................................................................................................................

III. Destination of meat

Name and address of consignee: ......................................................................................................................................
The meat will be sent to (country and place of destination): ..........................................................................................
by the following means of transport (2):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Railway wagon</th>
<th>Lorry</th>
<th>Aircraft</th>
<th>Ship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

(1) Fresh meat means all parts fit for human consumption from domestic animals of the ovine and caprine species which have not undergone any preserving process; however, chilled and frozen meat shall be considered as fresh meat.
(2) Issued by the competent authority.
(3) For railway wagons or lorries, the registration number should be given, where known for bulk containers the number of the container. The number of the seal must be indicated.
IV. Attestation of health

I, the undersigned, official veterinarian, certify that:

1. the territory described in Annex I of Commission Decision 1999/283/EC with code ..., version No. ... has been free for 12 months from rinderpest and foot-and-mouth disease and during the same period, no vaccinations against these diseases have taken place;

2. the fresh meat described above is obtained from ovine and caprine animals:
   — which have remained in the territory as described under IV.1 for at least three months before being slaughtered or since birth in the case of animals less than three months old,
   — which come from holdings in which there has been no outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in the previous 30 days, and around which within a radius of 10 km there has been no case of foot-and-mouth disease for 30 days,
   — which have been transported from their holdings of origin to the approved slaughterhouse concerned without contact with animals which do not comply with the conditions required for export of their meat to the Community, and, if conveyed in a means of transport, that the latter has been cleaned and disinfected before loading,
   — which have passed the ante-mortem health inspection referred to in Directive 72/462/EEC at the slaughterhouse during the 24 hours before slaughter and, in particular, have showed no evidence of foot-and-mouth disease,
   — which have not come from a holding which for health reasons is subject to prohibition as a result of an outbreak of ovine or caprine brucellosis during the previous six weeks;

3. the fresh meat described above is obtained from an establishment or establishments in which, after a case of foot-and-mouth disease has been diagnosed, further preparation of meat for export to the Community has been authorised only after slaughter of all animals present, removal of all meat, and the total cleaning and disinfection of the establishments under the control of an official veterinarian.

V. Supplementary guarantees:

(Supplementary guarantees when required in Annex II and described in Annex IV of Commission Decision 1999/283/EC) (delete if not required).

VI. Attestation on protection of animals

I, the undersigned official veterinarian, hereby declare that:

1. I have read and understood Council Directive 93/119/EC;

2. the meat is derived from animals which have been treated in the slaughterhouse before and at the time of slaughter or killing in accordance with the relevant provisions of Council Directive 93/119/EC.

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

(Place) (Date)

Seal (*)

.................................................................

(Signature of official veterinarian) (*)

.................................................................

(Name in capital letters, qualification and title)

(* The signature and the seal must be in a colour different to that of the printing.)
ANIMAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE
for fresh meat of domestic solipeds (1), intended for consignment to the European Community

Coded number (2)

Note to the importer: This certificate is for veterinary purposes only and must accompany the consignment until it reaches the border inspection point.

Country of destination: .............................................................................................................................................
Reference number of the public health certificate: .............................................................................................................
Exporting country: ...................................................... Code of territory: ..............................................................
Ministry: .............................................................................................................................................................................
Competent issuing authority: .............................................................................................................................................
Reference (optional): ..........................................................................................................................................................

I. Identification and origin of meat

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot No</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Nature of cuts</th>
<th>Nature of packaging</th>
<th>Net weight (kg)</th>
<th>Approval No of the slaughterhouse</th>
<th>Approval No of the cutting plant</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. Origin of meat

Address(es) of place(s) of loading: ..............................................................................................................................
Name and address of consignor: ........................................................................................................................................

III. Destination of meat

Name and address of consignee: ........................................................................................................................................
The meat will be sent to (country and place of destination): ............................................................................................
by the following means of transport (?):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Railway wagon</th>
<th>Lorry</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Fresh meat means all parts fit for human consumption from domestic solipeds which have not undergone any preserving process; however, chilled and frozen meat shall be considered as fresh meat.
(2) Issued by the competent authority.
(?) For railway wagons or lorries, the registration number should be given, where known for bulk containers the number of the container. The number of the seal must be indicated.
IV. Attestation of health

I, the undersigned, official veterinarian, certify that the fresh meat described above is obtained from animals which have remained in the territory described in Annex I to Commission Decision 1999/283/EC with code ..., version No ..., for at least three months before being slaughtered or since birth in the case of animals less than three months old.

V. Supplementary guarantees

(Supplementary guarantees when required in Annex II and described in Annex IV of Commission Decision 1999/283/EC) (delete if not required).

VI. Attestation on protection of animals

I, the undersigned official veterinarian, hereby declare that:

1. I have read and understood Council Directive 93/119/EC;
2. the meat is derived from animals which have been treated in the slaughterhouse before and at the time of slaughter or killing in accordance with the relevant provisions of Council Directive 93/119/EC.

Done at ............................................................... on ..............................................................
(place) (date)

.................................................................
(signature of official veterinarian)(*)

.................................................................
(name in capital letters, qualification and title)

(*) The signature and the seal must be in a colour different to that of the printing.
ANIMAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE
for fresh meat of domestic animals of the bovine, porcine, ovine and caprine species and solipeds intended for purposes other than human consumption and intended for consignment to the European Community

NOT APPLICABLE
SUPPLEMENTARY GUARANTEES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE EXPORTING TERRITORY WHEN REQUIRED IN ANNEX II IN APPLICATION OF ARTICLE 2(2)

(a) The meat fulfils the requirements of de-boned fresh meat as described in Article 1(b) of Decision 1999/283/EC and originates from carcases which have matured at a room temperature of more than +2°C for at least 24 hours after slaughter and before the bones were removed; has had the major lymphatic glands removed; has, during all stages of its production, de-boning, and storage been kept strictly separate from meat not conforming to the requirements laid down in the decisions of the European Community currently in force as regards import of meat (with the exception of meat packed in boxes or cartons and kept in special storage areas).

(b) The animals have reacted negatively to an official intra-dermal tuberculosis test carried out in the three months before slaughter in accordance with Annex B to Council Directive 64/432/EEC.

(c) The animals have, in accordance with the Zimbabwean legal provisions, a mark indicating their region of origin, that is for the veterinary region of Mashonaland West province, northern part, brand ‘L’, for Mashonaland West province, southern part, brand ‘HL’, for Mashonaland East province, brand ‘H’ including Chikomba district, brand ‘JJ’, Mashonaland Central province, brand ‘C’, for Manicaland province (including only Makoni district), brand ‘UM’, for Midlands province (including only the districts of Gweru, Kwekwe, Shurugwi and Chirgimanzu), brand ‘J’ and for Midlands province (including only the district of Zvishavane), brand ‘Z’, for Masvingo province the district of Gutu brand ‘T’ and for the district of Masvingo brand ‘inverted T’, for Matebeleland South province (including) only the Insiza, Bullimamagwe, Umzingwamange, Gwanda and West Nicholson districts), brands ‘MY’, ‘Y’, ‘Y-inverted Y’, ‘inverted Y’ or ‘K’ and for Matebeleland North province including only the clear zones of Bubi and Umguza districts, brand ‘E’.

(d) This meat can not be introduced into the EC territory for at least 21 days from . . . (date of slaughter).