COMMISSION DECISION

of 18 April 1977

amending the Commission Decision of 30 March 1977 on certain measures to prevent the spread of classical swine fever

(77/293/EEC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to the Council Directive of 26 June 1964 on animal health problems affecting intra-Community trade in bovine animals and swine (1), as last amended by the Council Directive of 21 December 1976 (2), and in particular Article 9 (4) thereof,

Having regard to the Council Directive of 12 December 1972 on health problems affecting intra-Community trade in fresh meat (3), as last amended by the Council Directive of 21 December 1976 (2), and in particular Article 8 (4) thereof,

Whereas, by its Decision of 30 March 1977 (4), the Commission adopted measures requiring the Member States to prohibit the introduction into their territory of live pigs originating in the Netherlands, owing to the outbreak of an epidemic of classical swine fever in that country; and that this measure has been prolonged until 18 April 1977 by the Commission Decision of 6 April 1977 (5);

Whereas, although outbreaks of swine fever are still appearing, they are situated largely in a well delimited zone which is subject to animal health measures prohibiting the exit of live pigs to all other parts of Netherlands territory; whereas, moreover, these measures include the prohibition on the introduction into intra-Community trade of fresh meat obtained from pigs originating in this zone, which, by reason of the severe official dispositions applied by the Netherlands authorities, must not be considered as excluding the commercialization in intra-Community trade of fresh meat obtained in certain abattoirs in the aforesaid zone, but from live pigs originating in free zones; whereas in consequence easing of conditions for intra-Community trade in fresh meat, as was provided for by the previous Commission Decisions, must be fundamentally confirmed;

Whereas the evolution of the health situation in the Netherlands also permits under analogous conditions to provide for the lifting of the prohibition measures for pigs for slaughter; whereas in contrast it is premature to lift these measures as far as animals for rearing and fattening are concerned;

Whereas it is suitable to permit Member States to have a necessary delay to proceed with the necessary adaptation of their regulations to conform to the present Decision as far as animals for slaughter are concerned;

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

The date of 18 April 1977, indicated in the first Article of the Commission Decision of 6 April 1977, modifying the Decision of 30 March 1977 in relation to certain protective measures against classical swine fever, is replaced by 19 April 1977.

Article 2

The text of the first Article of the Decision of 30 March 1977 is replaced by the following:

'1. Member States prohibit until 3 May 1977 the introduction into their territory of pigs for rearing and fattening from the Netherlands.

2. From 31 March 1977 the Netherlands may only send to the other Member States fresh meat of pigs not originating:

(a) — from the coastal region of the North Sea delimited by the following waters: Haringvliet — Hollandsch Diep — Amer — Bergsche Maas — Maas — Maas/Waalkanaal — Waal-Pannerdenkanaal — IJssel — Ketelmeer — Vossemeer — Drontenmeer — Veluwemeer — Eemmeer — Gooimeer — IJmeer — IJ — Noordzeekanaal,

— from regions which are subject to prohibition measures laid down by the Netherlands authorities;

(1) OJ No 121, 29. 7. 1964, p. 1977/64.
(2) OJ No L 26, 31. 1. 1977, p. 81.
(3) OJ No L 302, 31. 12. 1972, p. 24.
(4) OJ No L 87, 5. 4. 1977, p. 34.
(5) OJ No L 93, 15. 4. 1977, p. 17.

(b) slaughtered after 30 March 1977 in abattoirs situated outside the aforementioned regions, or, as an exception and from 7 April 1977, in abattoirs situated in the interior of the aforesaid regions on the condition that the Netherlands authorities ensure in particular that a period of at least 24 hours elapses after cleaning and disinfection before the exclusive slaughter of these pigs.

3. The Netherlands may only send to other Member States from 20 April 1977 pigs for slaughter which do not originate from the regions indicated in the previous paragraph.'

Article 3

The following is added to Article 2 of the Decision of 30 March 1977 :

'The health certificate provided for by the Council Directive of 26 June 1964, accompanying pigs for slaughter dispatched from the Netherlands must be completed by the following :

— animals in conformity with the Commission Decision of 18 April 1977.'

Article 4

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 18 April 1977.

For the Commission

Finn GUNDELACH

Vice-President