# COMMISSION DECISION

## of 18 March 1985

## concerning certain protective measures against African swine fever in Belgium

(85/192/EEC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 64/432/EEC of 26 June 1964 on animal health problems affecting intra-Community trade in bovine animals and swine [1], as last amended by Directive 84/644/EEC [2], and in particular Article 9 thereof,

Having regard to Council Directive 72/461/EEC of 12 December 1972 on health problems affecting intra-Community trade in fresh meat [3], as last amended by Directive 84/643/EEC [4], and in particular Article 8 thereof,

Having regard to Council Directive 80/215/EEC of 22 January 1980 on animal health problems affecting intra-Community trade in meat products [5], as amended by Directive 81/476/EEC [6], and in particular Article 7 thereof,

Whereas an outbreak of African swine fever has occurred in Belgium;

Whereas this outbreak is liable to endanger the herds of other Member States, in view of the trade in live pigs, fresh pigmeat and meat-based pork products;

Whereas certain Member States have taken protective measures in this regard;

Whereas, in consequence, it is necessary that the other Member States adopt appropriate measures for their protection, for the period of time necessary for the eradication of this epidemic;

Whereas, in view of the exceptional gravity of the disease, restrictions should be applied throughout Belgium until the situation becomes clearer;

Whereas, in the light of the stringent measures adopted by the Belgian authorities, the restrictions on trade could be applied on a regional basis, provided the disease is confined to a specific part of the country's territory;

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*

1. Member States shall prohibit the introduction into their territory of live pigs, fresh pigmeat and meat-based pork products, other than those products which have been submitted to the treatment mentioned in Article 4 (1) (a) of Directive 80/215/EEC, coming from Belgium.

2. If no outbreak occurs in the area of Belgium which is defined in the Annex to this Decision, the restrictions referred to in paragraph 1 shall, in respect of that area, be lifted as from 24 March 1985.

*Article 2*

1. From 24 March 1985 the health certificate provided for in Council Directive 64/432/EEC accompanying pigs sent from Belgium must be completed by the following: 'animals in accordance with the Commission Decision of 18 March 1985'.

2. The health certificate provided for in Council Directive 64/433/EEC of 26 June 1964 on health problems affecting intra-Community trade in fresh meat [7], and accompanying pigmeat sent from Belgium must be completed by the following: 'meat in accordance with the Commission Decision of 18 March 1985'.

3. The health certificate provided for in Council Directive 77/99/EEC of 21 December 1976 on health problems affecting intra-Community trade in meat-based products [8] and accompanying pigmeat products mentioned in Article 1 and sent from Belgium must be completed by the following: 'products in accordance with the Commission Decision of 18 March 1985'.

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[1] OJ No 121, 29. 7. 1964, p. 1977/64.
[2] OJ No L 339, 27. 12. 1984, p. 30.
[3] OJ No L 302, 31. 12. 1972, p. 24.
[4] OJ No L 339, 27. 12. 1984, p. 27.
[5] OJ No L 47, 21. 2. 1980, p. 4.
[6] OJ No L 186, 8. 7. 1981, p. 20.
[7] OJ No 121, 29. 7. 1964, p. 2012/64.
[8] OJ No L 26, 31. 1. 1977, p. 85.

*Article 3*

The Member States shall amend the measures which they apply to trade so as to bring them into compliance with this Decision. They shall immediately inform the Commission thereof.

*Article 4*

The Commission will follow developments in the situation. This Decision may be amended in the light of such developments.

*Article 5*

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 18 March 1985.

*For the Commission*

Frans ANDRIESSEN

*Vice-President*

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*ANNEX*

The whole of Belgium, with the exception of the area to the west of the line formed by the Terneuzen-Gent canal, the Scheldt, to the Espierre canal and the Espierre canal to the French border.