COMMISSION DECISION

of 14 October 1997

concerning the animal health conditions and veterinary certification for imports of fresh meat and meat products from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and amending Decisions 81/547/EEC and 97/222/EC

(Text with EEA relevance)

(97/737/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, and fresh meat or meat products from third countries [1], as last amended by Directive 96/91/EC [2], and in particular Articles 14, 16, 21 (a) and 22 thereof,

Having regard to Council Directive 92/118/EEC of 17 December 1992 laying down animal health and public health requirements governing trade in and imports into the Community of products not subject to the said requirements laid down in specific Community rules referred to in Annex A (1) to Directive 89/662/EEC and, as regards pathogens, to Directive 90/425/EEC [3], as last amended by Directive 96/90/EC [4] and, in particular point (c) of Article 10 (2), read in conjunction with Annex I (Chapter 10) thereof,

Whereas following the partition of Yugoslavia, it is necessary to lay down specific animal health conditions and veterinary certification for imports of fresh meat from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and to amend existing legislation accordingly; whereas it is necessary to lay down similar requirements for imports of fresh meat from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia by amending Commission Decision 81/547/EEC [5], as last amended by Decision 92/453/EEC [6];

Whereas, following a Community veterinary mission, it appears that the animal health situation in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia compares favourably with that in Community countries particularly as regards disease transmissible through meat;

Whereas, in addition, the responsible veterinary authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia have confirmed that that country has, for at least 12 months, been free from rinderpest, African swine fever, swine vesicular disease, and contagious porcine paralysis (Teschen disease);

Whereas vaccinations against the above disease have not taken place for at least 12 months; whereas vaccination against classical swine fever is carried out in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia; whereas classical swine fever breaks out there from time to time; whereas, therefore, imports of fresh meat of the porcine species from this country should not be authorized execept for uses other than human consumption;

Whereas outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease have occurred in 1996 in part of the territory, the region of Kosovo and Metohija, but no vaccination was carried out; whereas therefore imports of fresh meat of bovine, ovine and caprine species from this region should not be authorized for the time being;

Whereas the responsible authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia have undertaken 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;

Whereas animal health conditions and veterinary certification must be adapted according to the animal health conditions of the non-member country concerned;

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 Commission Decision 89/18/EEC [7], which deals with the importation of fresh meat for purposes other than human consumption;

Whereas the importation of glands and organs authorized by the country of destination is subject to the provisions of Directive 92/118/EEC;

Whereas Commission Decision 97/222/EC [8], which lays down the list of third countries authorized to use the specimen animal health certificates in respect of meat products imported from third countries, should therefore be amended accordingly;

[1] OJ L 302, 31. 12. 1972, p. 28.
[2] OJ L 13, 16. 1. 1997, p. 26.
[3] OJ L 62, 15. 3. 1993, p. 49.
[4] OJ L 13, 16. 1. 1997, p. 24.
[5] OJ L 206, 27. 7. 1981, p. 15.
[6] OJ L 250, 29. 8. 1992, p. 46.
[7] OJ L 8, 11. 1. 1989, p. 17.
[8] OJ L 89, 4. 4. 1997, p. 39.

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 authorize the importation of the following categories of fresh meat from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia except the region of Kosovo and Metohija:

(a) fresh meat of domestic animals of the bovine, ovine or caprine species, conforming to the guarantees laid down in the animal health certificate in accordance with Annex A, which must accompany the consignment;

(b) fresh meat of domestic solipeds, conforming to the guarantees laid down in the animal health certificate in accordance with Annex B, which must accompany the consignment.

2. Member States shall authorize the importation of fresh pigmeat from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia except the region of Kosovo and Metohija for purposes other than human consumption. Member States shall ensure that such imports meet the conditions of Decision 89/18/EEC and Directive 92/118/EEC and conform to the guarantees laid down in the animal health certificate in accordance with Annex C, which must accompany each consignment.

After arriving in the territory of the Community and during manufacture, the raw material shall be sterilized in hermetically sealed containers in such a way as to achieve a minimum F° value of 3; a veterinary check shall be made to ensure that the finished product has actually achieved that value.

Article 2

In Decision 81/547/EEC the words 'Yugoslav Republics of Serbia, Montenegro and Macedonia' and 'Yugoslavia' are replaced throughout the text by the words 'Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.'

Article 3

Decision 97/222/EC is amended as follows:

1. In Part I of the Annex, the following lines are inserted in accordance with the alphabetic order of the ISO code:

'FY	Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	FY 1	97/1	The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia excluding the region of Kosovo and Metohija;
FY	Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	FY 2	97/1	The region of Kosovo and Metohija'.

2. In Part II of the Annex, the following lines are inserted in accordance with the alphabetic order of the ISO code:

'FY	Federal Republic of Yugoslavia — FY 1	A A D A D A A D — A — —
FY	Federal Republic of Yugoslavia — FY 2	C C C A D A C C — A — — '.

Article 4

This Decision shall apply from 1 November 1997.

Article 5

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 14 October 1997.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

ANNEX A

ANIMAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE

for fresh meat (1) of domestic animals of the bovine, ovine and caprine species, intended for consignment to the European Community

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 (2): .....

Exporting country: Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (3)

Ministry: .....

Department: .....

Reference: .....

I. Identification of meat

Meat of: .....
(Animal species)

Nature of cuts: .....

Nature of packaging: .....

Number of cuts or packages: .....

Net weight: .....

II. Origin of meat

Address(es) and veterinary approval number(s) of the approved slaughterhouse(s) (2): .....

.....

Address(es) and veterinary approval number(s) of the approved cutting plant(s) (2): .....

.....

Address(es) and veterinary approval number(s) of the approved cold store(s) (2): .....

.....

III. Destination of meat

The meat will be sent from: .....
(place of loading)

to: .....
(country and place of destination)

by the following means of transport (4): .....

Name and address of consignor: .....

.....

Name and address of consignee: .....

.....

(1) Fresh meat means all parts fit for human consumption from domestic animals of the bovine, ovine and caprine species which have not undergone any preserving process; however, chilled and frozen meat shall be considered as fresh meat.
(2) Optional when the country of destination authorizes the importation of fresh meat for uses other than human consumption in application of Article 19 (a) of Directive 72/462/EEC.
(3) Excluding the region of Kosovo and Metohija.
(4) For railway wagons or lorries, the registration number should be given, for bulk containers the number of the container, and the number of the seal of the container.

IV. **Attestation of health**

I, the undersigned official veterinarian, certify that:

(1) the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (1) has been free for 12 months from rinderpest and foot-and-mouth disease;

(2) the fresh meat described above is obtained from:

— animals which have remained in the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (1), for at least three months before being slaughtered or since birth in the case of animals less than three months old,

— animals 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,

— animals 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,

— animals 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 have showed no evidence of foot-and-mouth disease,

— in the case of fresh meat from sheep and goats, animals 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 authorized 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.

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

(place) (date)

Seal (2)

.....

(signature of the official veterinarian) (2)

.....

(name in capital letters, qualification and title) (2)

(1) Excluding the region of Kosovo and Metohija.

(2) The signature and the seal must be in a colour different to that of the printing.

ANNEX B

ANIMAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE

for fresh meat (1) of domestic solipeds intended for consignment to the European Community

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 (2): .....

Exporting country: Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

Ministry: .....

Department: .....

Reference: .....

I. **Identification of meat**

Meat of domestic solipeds

Nature of cuts: .....

Nature of packaging: .....

Number of cuts or packages: .....

Net weight: .....

II. **Origin of meat**

Address(es) and veterinary approval number(s) of the approved slaughterhouse(s) (2): .....

.....

Address(es) and veterinary approval number(s) of the approved cutting plant(s) (2): .....

.....

Address(es) and veterinary approval number(s) of the approved cold store(s) (2): .....

.....

III. **Destination of meat**

The meat will be sent from: .....
(place of loading)

to: .....
(country and place of destination)

by the following means of transport (3): .....

Name and address of consignor: .....

.....

Name and address of consignee: .....

.....

(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) Optional when the country of destination authorizes the importation of fresh meat for uses other than human consumption in application of Article 19 (a) of Directive 72/462/EEC.

(3) For railway wagons or lorries, the registration number should be given, for bulk containers the number of the container and the number of the seal of the container.

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 of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for at least three months before being slaughtered or since birth in the case of animals less than three months old.

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

Seal (1)

.....
(signature of the official veterinarian) (1)

.....
(name in capital letters, qualification and title) (1)

(1) The signature and the seal must be in a colour different to that of the printing.

ANNEX C

ANIMAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE

for fresh meat of domestic animals of the porcine species intended for purposes other than human consumption as referred to in Article 1 (2) of Commission Decision 97/737/EC and intended for consignment to the European Community

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 (1): .....

Exporting country: Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (2)

Ministry: .....

Department: .....

Reference: .....

I. Identification of meat

Meat of domestic animals of the porcine species

Nature of cuts: .....

Nature of packaging: .....

Number of cuts or packages: .....

Net weight: .....

II. Origin of meat

Address(es) and veterinary approval number(s) of the approved slaughterhouse(s) (1): .....

.....

Address(es) and veterinary approval number(s) of the approved cutting plant(s) (1): .....

.....

Address(es) and veterinary approval number(s) of the approved cold store(s) (1): .....

.....

III. Destination of meat

The meat will be sent from: .....
(place of loading)

to: .....
(country and place of destination)

by the following means of transport (3): .....

Name and address of consignor: .....

.....

Name and address of consignee: .....

.....

(1) Optional.
(2) Excluding the region of Kosovo and Metohija.
(3) For railway wagons or lorries, the registration number should be given, for bulk containers the number of the container and the number of the seal of the container.

IV. **Attestation of health**

I, the undersigned official veterinarian, certify that:

(1) the fresh pigmeat described above is obtained from:

— animals which have remained in the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (1), for at least three months before being slaughtered or since birth in the case of animals less than three months old,

— animals which come from holdings in which there has been no outbreak of foot-and-mouth or swine vesicular disease in the previous 30 days or swine fever in the previous 40 days, and around which within a radius of 10 km there has been no case of foot-and-mouth disease for 30 days,

— animals 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,

— animals 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 have showed no evidence of foot-and-mouth disease,

— animals which have not come from a holding which for health reasons is subject to prohibition as a result of an outbreak of porcine brucellosis during the previous six weeks;

(2) 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 authorized 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.

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

Seal (2)

.....
(signature of the official veterinarian) (2)

.....
(name in capital letters, qualification and title) (2)

(1) Excluding the region of Kosovo and Metohija.
(2) The signature and the seal must be in a colour different to that of the printing.