COMMISSION DECISION

of 10 August 1999

amending for the second time Commission Decision 1999/212/EC on certain measures to prevent the transmission of foot-and-mouth disease virus from Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia to the territory of the European Community

(notified under document number C(1999) 2623)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(1999/560/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 97/78/EC of 18 December 1997 laying down the principles governing the organisation of veterinary checks on products entering the Community from third countries [1] and in particular Article 22(6) thereof,

(1) Whereas foot and mouth disease has been confirmed to be present in the livestock in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia; whereas therefore the Commission has adopted Decision 1999/212/EC [2] on certain measures to prevent the transmission of foot-and-mouth disease virus from Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia to the territory for the European Community, as last amended by Decision 1999/292/EC [3];

(2) Whereas in accordance with Article 4 of that Decision, the measures must be reviewed in the light of the disease evolution;

(3) Whereas foot-and-mouth disease appears to be well controlled by the veterinary services of Tunisia and Morocco and no outbreaks have been reported since April respective May 1999; whereas however a final report on the results of a serological survey has not been presented that would allow to evaluate the extent to which small ruminants are inflicted in the epidemiology of the disease;

(4) Whereas, the last informal report on foot-and-mouth disease outbreaks in Algeria dates from 22 June 1999 and does not allow withdrawing the measures laid down by Decision 1999/212/EC for the third country concerned;

(5) Whereas as a matter of extra safeguard the period these measures are in force should be extended for three months;

(6) 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

In Article 4 of Decision 1999/212/EC the date '31 July 1999' is replaced by '31 October 1999'.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 10 August 1999.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

[1] OJ L 24, 31.1.1998, p. 9.
[2] OJ L 74, 19.3.1999, p. 29.
[3] OJ L 114, 1.5.1999, p. 54.