COMMISSION DECISION

of 31 October 2001

amending Decision 93/402/EEC concerning animal health conditions and veterinary certification for imports of fresh meat from South American countries to take account of the animal health situation in Uruguay

(notified under document number C(2001) 3388)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2001/767/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 Regulation (EC) No 1452/2001 [2], and in particular Articles 14 and 22 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) The animal health conditions and veterinary certification for imports of fresh meat from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Paraguay and Uruguay are laid down by Commission Decision 93/402/EEC of 10 June 1993 concerning animal health conditions and veterinary certification for imports of fresh meat from South American countries [3], as last amended by Decision 2001/538/EC [4].

(2) Outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease were confirmed in Uruguay starting on 23 April 2001 and a program of vaccination of bovines against foot and mouth disease has been introduced.

(3) The Commission suspended the importation into the Community of all categories of fresh meat from those species susceptible to foot-and-mouth disease by Commission Decision 2001/388/EC [5].

(4) A Commission mission took place, from 25 to 29 June 2001, in order to examine the epidemiological situation regarding foot-and-mouth disease and the control measures in place.

(5) The competent veterinary authorities of Uruguay have addressed the concerns arising from this mission and the disease situation has stabilised. It is therefore appropriate to lift the suspension of imports into the Community of de-boned fresh meat produced from animals of the bovine, ovine and caprine species for human consumption and on certain meat and offal intended for treatment for pet food.

(6) Notwithstanding the above, fresh meat produced according to the conditions laid in Article 2(1)(a) and (b) of Decision 2001/388/EC shall still be authorised according to the Community requirements in force at the time of slaughter of the animals from which the meat was derived.

(7) Decision 93/402/EEC should therefore be amended accordingly.

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

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Annex II to Decision 93/402/EEC is replaced by the text in the Annex to this Decision.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 31 October 2001.

For the Commission

David BYRNE

Member of the Commission

[1] OJ L 302, 31.12.1972, p. 28.
[2] OJ L 198, 21.7.2001, p. 11.
[3] OJ L 179, 22.7.1993, p. 11.
[4] OJ L 193, 17.7.2001, p. 31.
[5] OJ L 137, 19.5.2001, p. 33.

ANNEX

'ANNEX II

ANIMAL HEALTH GUARANTEES REQUESTED ON CERTIFICATION (1)

Country	Territory	Model certificate for fresh meat				Model certificate for offal							Model certificate for de-boned fresh meat (not to be used for offal)			
		Species				of bovine animals						of ovines	Species			
		Bovine	Ovine-caprine	Porcine	Soliped	HC	MP				PF	PF	Bovine	Ovine-Caprine	Porcine	Soliped
							1	2	3	4						
Argentina	AR	—	—	—	D	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	D
Brazil	BR	—	—	—	D	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	D
	BR-1	—	—	—	D	—	—	—	—	—	F	—	A	—	—	D
Chile	CL	B	B	H	D	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A	C	H	D
Colombia	CO	—	—	—	D	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	D
	CO-1	—	—	—	D	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	A	—	—	D
	CO-2	—	—	—	D	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	D
	CO-3	—	—	—	D	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	A	—	—	D
Paraguay	PY	—	—	—	D	—	—	—	—	—	F	—	A	—	—	D
Uruguay	UY	B (2)	B (2)	—	D	B (2)	B (3)	B (3)	B (3)	B (3)	F B (3)	F B (3)	A (4)	C (4)	—	D

(1) The letter (A, B, C, D, E, F, G and H) appearing on the table, are referring to the models of animal health guarantees as described in Annex III Part 2 of this Decision, 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) Only to be used for meat from animals slaughtered before 23 March 2001.
(3) Only to be used for offal from animals before 23 April 2001.
(4) Only to be used for de-boned meat from animals slaughtered before 23 April 2001 and/or after 1 November 2001.

HC: Human consumption.
MP: Destined for heat-treated meat products industry:
1 = hearts.
2 = livers.
3 = masseter muscles.
4 = tongues
PF: Destined for the pet food industry'.