

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH & CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Directorate G – Veterinary and International Affairs
Director

Brussels
SANCO G2/HK/lp (2014) 3768613

Dear Chief Veterinary Officer,

Colleagues,

Subject: Non-commercial movement and import of dogs, cats and ferrets into the EU – new legislation applying as from 29 December 2014

The European Parliament and the Council adopted Regulation (EU) No 576/2013ⁱ (“new Pet Regulation”) and Directive 2013/31/EUⁱⁱ, amending Directive 92/65/EECⁱⁱⁱ governing imports into the 28 Member States of the European Union of dogs, cats and ferrets, which will be applicable as of 29 December 2014.

In that context I wish to inform you that the following Commission acts will be equally applicable as of 29 December 2014:

- Implementing Regulation (EU) No 577/2013^{iv} laying down *inter alia* the model of animal health certificate for the non-commercial movement of dogs, cats or ferrets, accompanying their owner, from third countries into one of the 28 Member States of the European Union; and
- Implementing Decision 2013/519/EU^v laying down the list of territories or third countries that are authorised for imports into one of the 28 Member States of the European Union of dogs, cats and ferrets and the model of health certificate to be used for such imports. This list of countries and the model of health certificate also apply to non-commercial movements into one of the 28 Member States of the European Union of more than five pet dogs, cats or ferrets which do not fall under the derogations provided for in Article 5 of the new Pet Regulation.

To the Chief Veterinary Officer of:

AFGHANISTAN, ALBANIA, ALGERIA, ANGOLA, ARGENTINA, ARMENIA, AUSTRALIA, AZERBAIJAN, BANGLADESH, BARBADOS, BELARUS, BENIN, BOLIVIA, BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA, BOTSWANA, BRAZIL, BURKINA-FASO, BURMA-MYANMAR, BURUNDI, CAMBODIA, CAMEROON, CANADA, CAPE VERDE, CENTRAL-AFRICAN REPUBLIC, CHAD, CHILE, CHINA, COLOMBIA, REP. CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE, DEMOCRATIC REP. CONGO, COSTA RICA, CUBA, DJIBOUTI, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, ECUADOR, EGYPT, EL-SALVADOR, ERITREA, ETHIOPIA, REPUBLIC OF FIJI, FYROM, GABON, GAMBIA, GEORGIA, GHANA, GUATEMALA, GUINEA REPUBLIC, GUINEA-BISSAU, GUYANA, HAITI, HONDURAS, HONG KONG, INDIA, INDONESIA, IRAQ, ISRAEL, IVORY-COAST, JAMAICA, JAPAN, JORDAN, KAZAKHSTAN, KENYA, KOREA, KOSOVO, KYRGYZSTAN, LAOS, LEBANON, LESOTHO, LIBERIA, LIBYA, MADAGASCAR, MALASYA, MALAWI, MALI, MAURITANIA, MAURITIUS, MEXICO, MOLDOVA, MONTENEGRO, MOROCCO, MOZAMBIQUE, NAMIBIA, NEPAL, NEW ZEALAND, NICARAGUA, NIGER, NIGERIA, PAKISTAN, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, PARAGUAY, PERU, PHILIPPINES, RWANDA REPUBLIC, RUSSIA FEDERATION, SAUDI ARABIA, SENEGAL, SERBIA, SIERRA LEONE, SINGAPORE, SOMALIA, SOLOMON ISLANDS, SOUTH-AFRICA, SOUTH SUDAN, SRI-LANKA, SUDAN, SWAZILAND, SYRIA, TAIWAN, TAJIKISTAN, TANZANIA, THAILAND, TIMOR-LESTE, TOGO, TRINIDAD-TOBAGO, TUNISIA, TURKEY, UAE, UGANDA, UKRAINE, URUGUAY, USA, UZBEKISTAN, VANUATU, VENEZUELA, VIETNAM, YEMEN, ZAMBIA, ZIMBABWE

I wish to remind you, that an official veterinary certificate drawn up in accordance with the model set out in Regulation (EU) No 577/2013 attesting a valid anti-rabies vaccination applied to a properly identified animal remains the sole requirement for the vast majority of pet dogs, cats and ferrets entering one of the 28 Member States of the European Union from territories or third countries.

However, to verify the effectiveness of the vaccination, a rabies antibody titration test performed in an approved rabies serology laboratory^{vi} on a blood sample taken by an authorised veterinarian will continue to be required for animals coming from territories and third countries not listed in Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) No 577/2013.

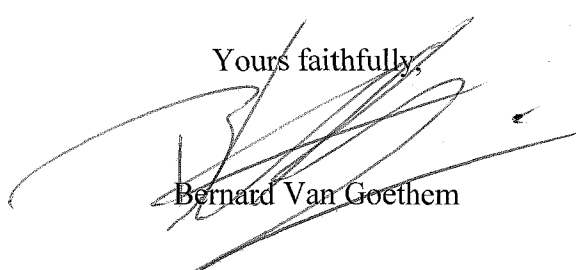
In addition, a pre-movement anti-parasite ("*echinococcus*") treatment for dogs is required for dogs destined to Finland, Ireland, Malta and the United Kingdom in accordance with Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1152/2011.

The new Pet Regulation also requires that pet dogs, cats and ferrets coming from territories or third countries other than those listed in Part 1 of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) No 577/2013 are passed through one of the designated travellers' points of entry^{vii} in order to be presented for identity and documentary checks.

The animal health requirements governing imports of dogs, cats and ferrets include a pre-movement clinical examination in the country of dispatch, which must be a territory or third country listed in Annex I to Decision 2004/211/EC^{viii}, Part 1 of Annex II to Regulation (EU) No 206/2010^{ix} or Annex II to Regulation (EU) No 577/2013. The arrival of a consignment of dogs, cats or ferrets in one of the 28 Member States of the European Union shall be notified in advance to the approved border inspection post^x where they shall undergo the required veterinary checks. Those conditions also apply to non-commercial movements into one of the 28 Member States of the European Union of more than five pet dogs, cats or ferrets which do not fall under the derogations provided for in Article 5 of the new Pet Regulation.

I count on you to convey this message to your services.

Yours faithfully,



Bernard Van Goethem

C.c: CVOs of all Member States + CVOs of Norway, Iceland and Switzerland

ⁱ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1406537635645&uri=CELEX:32013R0576>

ⁱⁱ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1406537823990&uri=CELEX:32013L0031>

ⁱⁱⁱ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1413467585916&uri=CELEX:01992L0065-20130718>

^{iv} <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1406537903555&uri=CELEX:32013R0577>

^v <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32013D0519&qid=1413380019106>

^{vi} http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/liveanimals/pets/approval_en.htm

^{vii} http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/liveanimals/pets/pointentry_en.htm

^{viii} <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1413383102440&uri=CELEX:02004D0211-20140806>

^{ix} <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1413382141910&uri=CELEX:02010R0206-20131115>

^x <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:02009D0821-20140405>