



# Practical guidelines to assess fitness for transport of horses

*A stakeholder initiative*



- Guidelines for fitness for transport of adult bovines
- Initiative by UECEBV and Eurogroup for Animals,
- First condition for good transport: good preparation and FIT ANIMALS
- General Aim: getting rid of “black sheep”, win-win result
  - improving animal welfare
  - avoiding distortion of competition
- Means: producing practical guidelines, easy to use, easy to understand by all stakeholders
- Prepared by a small group of representative stakeholders

## Other stakeholders



- ANIMALS ANGELS
- ELT (European Livestock Transporters)
- FVE (Federation of Veterinarians of Europe)
- INSTITUT DE L'ELEVAGE
- IRU (International Road Transport Union)

- Establishment of TORs (June 2009)
- Choice of a template ( French “Guide de Non transportabilité des bovins à l’abattoir” )
- Designation of a secretariat
- Working groups ( 6 meetings) → drafts
- Drafts open to comments
- Final draft endorsed officially by stakeholders
- **COPA-COGECA**, eventually decided in December 2010 not to endorse it due to lack of consensus within their members
- IDE gave its technical support but decided there was no need to approve it, just to have its input acknowledged

- For all operators and inspection/control staff
- To help everyone to decide if an adult bovine is fit for transport
- To better understand requirements of 1/2005
- Practical and user friendly: photographs, coding system
  
- NOT A LEGAL DOCUMENT
- Not to be used to make a diagnosis
- Does not replace legal obligations
- Tool at European level , national legislation to consider

- Introduction: *definitions, warnings, coding signs*
- Part I: Summary of European legislation
- Part II: Animal conditions prohibiting transport
- Part III: Animal conditions where further assessment is needed before transport
- **Annexes:** *Regulatory references, measures to take when animal unfit, example of generic contingency plan, example of specific contingency plan*

# Guidelines for fitness of transport of horses

- Builds on the bovine guidelines for fitness
- Equine guidelines identified as key need by FVE/BEVA Equine Transport Conference 2010
- Stakeholder initiative: veterinary profession, racing & sport horse, leisure horse, transport industry, meat industry, welfare groups
- Funded by FEEVA and World Horse Welfare
- Secretariat support provided by WHW
- Working group to be convened in Q1 2013
- Work stream duration 18 months



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