

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/EEC/111
8 February 2001

(01-0616)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: European Commission, General Directorate for Health and Consumer Protection
3.	Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable). Specified pathogen free (SPF) embryonated eggs to be used as a diagnostic aid in laboratories, for vaccine production – testing, research and pharmaceutical purposes. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: EC member States and countries exporting to the European Communities
4.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Draft Commission Decision laying down animal health conditions and veterinary certification for the import of specified pathogen free eggs from third countries and drawing up a list of third countries from which member States authorize imports of such eggs.
5.	Description of content: The objective of this draft Decision is to draw up an animal health certificate for specified pathogen free eggs and to lay down a third country list from which member States may authorize the importation of such eggs. Furthermore special provisions have to be applied for SPF-eggs after importation by member States. These particular characteristics should prevent the introduction of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, Newcastle Disease and other relevant poultry diseases into the European Communities.
6.	Objective and rationale: [] food safety, [X] animal health, [] plant protection, [] protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, [] protect territory from other damage from pests
7.	An international standard, guideline or recommendation does not exist [x]. If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations: SPF eggs must fulfill the specifications and should be clinically examined as established by the European Pharmacopoeia (3 rd edition, Council of Europe, 1997). The requirements established are stricter than those of the International Animal Health Code of the OIE, Chapter 2.1.14 and 2.1.15 because of the EC country's policy of not vaccinating.
8.	Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: European Commission Document SANCO/4006/2000 Rev. 5 (Available in all EC languages)
9.	Proposed date of adoption: Around 30 March 2001

10.	Proposed date of entry into force: 30 April 2001
11.	Final date for comments: 30 February 2001 Agency or authority designated to handle comments: [] National notification authority, [] EC enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:
12.	Texts available from: [] National notification authority, [X] EC enquiry point or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: