



Notification Number: 1997/866/UK

## The Specified Risk Material Order 1997

Date received : 16/12/1997

End of Standstill :

### Message

MINISTERE DE L'INDUSTRIE ET DE LA RECHERCHE  
ATT. M. SERRIS

INSTITUT BELGE DE NORMALISATION,  
ATT. M. CROON

SERVICE DE L'ENERGIE DE L'ETAT, LUXEMBOURG  
ATT. M. J.P. HOFFMANN

MINISTERE DE L'INDUSTRIE  
ATT. M. CAVANNA

DEPT. OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, QUALITY AND EDUCATION DIVISION,  
ATT. MRS. B. O'GRADY

GOVERNMENT SERVICE OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE, NSAI  
ATT. MR. O. BYRNE

MINISTERIE VAN ECONOMISCHE ZAKEN, (DEPT OR),  
ATT. MR. VAN DER HEIDE

ERHVERVSFREMME STYRELSEN  
INDUSTRIMINISTERIET  
ATT. MR. KELD DYBKJAER

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, ENERGY & TECHNOLOGY  
ATT. MR. Z.P. MAVROUKAS

HELLINIKOS ORG. TYPOPOSEOS  
ATT. MR. MELAGRAKIS

BUNDESMINISTERIUM FUER WIRTSCHAFT (BMWI)  
ATT. DR. WINKEL

BUNDESMINISTERIUM FUER WIRTSCHAFTLICHE ANGELEGENHEITEN  
ATT. ABT I/A/4 FRAU GREGORICH / FRAU HASLINGER-FENZEL

MIN PARA RELACIONES CON LA COMUNIDA



ATT M. LUIS ANTONIO RICO URIOS

INSTITUTO PORTUGUES DA QUALIDADE  
ATT MR. CANDIDO DOS SANTOS, PORTUGAL

KOMMERSKOLLEGIUM  
ATT. MS. KERSTIN CARLSSON

MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY  
ATT. MS. NIEMINEN

DGS INTERNATIONAL BELGIUM

REP PERMANENTE ROYAUME UNI

REP PERMANENTE IRLANDE

REP PERMANENTE GRECE

EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION SURVEILLANCE AUTHORITY

EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION  
ATT. MS. BAKKE-D'ALOYA

TELEX 001

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION - SG (97) D/53535  
DIRECTIVES 83/189/EEC, 88/182/EEC AND 94/10/EC

NOTIFIKATION - NOTIFIZIERUNG - NOTIFICATION - NOTIFICACION  
NOTIFICATION - NOTIFICA - KENNISGEVING - NOTIFICACAO - ILMOITUS  
ANMÄLAN : 97/0866/UK.

FRISTERNE INDLEDES IKKE -KEIN FRISTBEGINN - DOES NOT OPEN THE  
DELAYS - NO ABRE EL PLAZO - N'OUVRE PAS DE DELAIS - NON FA  
DECORRERE LA MORA - GEEN TERMIJNBEGIN - NAO INICIA O PRAZO  
MÄÄRÄAIKA EI ALA TÄSTÄ - INLEDER INGEN FRIST.

- 3B1 : 9703535.EN

**1. Structured Information Line**

TLX 001 IND- 97 0866 UK- EN ----- 971216 --- ---

**2. Member State**

United Kingdom

**3. Department Responsible**

Department of Trade and Industry: Standards and Technical  
Regulations Directorate



### 3. Originating Department

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food  
Animal Health (BSE&International Trade) Division

### 4. Notification Number

97/0866/UK

### 5. Title

The Specified Risk Material Order 1997

### 6. Products Concerned

Specified Risk Material (SRM), as defined in Commission Decision 97/534/EC.

### 7. Notification Under Another Act

-

### 8. Main Content

A. This legislation will introduce in Great Britain controls on the import of specified risk material (SRM) and certain food products and feeding stuffs containing SRM. It will also re-makes, with some changes (in particular the extension of controls to a wider range of offals from UK slaughtered sheep and goats), provisions formerly contained in the Specified Bovine Material Order 1997 (which came into force on 28 March 1997) and the Heads of Sheep and Goats Order 1996 (which came into force on 15 September 1996).

The controls on the import of specified risk materials, and certain imported food and feeding stuffs containing them, will include a requirement for certification by the veterinary authorities in the place from which they were despatched to Great Britain. The certificate would confirm the absence of SRM. Materials from animals which died or were slaughtered outside the UK before 1 January and those from animals born, reared and slaughtered in Australia and New Zealand would not be affected.

The Order will prohibit the sale of specified risk material from animals slaughtered in the United Kingdom, and products derived therefrom, for use in the manufacture of cosmetic, pharmaceutical and medical products and the use of all specified risk material in feeding stuffs for any creature, subject to an exemption for research purposes. It will also provides for the approval of premises as suitable to process specified risk material in a manufacturing process not producing any food, feeding stuff, cosmetic, pharmaceutical or medical product or any product likely to come into



contact with any of them.

The Order will contain provisions on storage and transport and will make provision for the recall and disposal of specified risk material and feeding stuffs containing specified risk material imported, produced or sold in contravention of the Order.

The Department of Agriculture in Northern Ireland (DANI) are to introduce similar legislation. This will be notified in due course.

B. The United Kingdom would like to be kept informed by other Member States of their own standards or regulations offering an equivalent level of safety and security.

#### **9. Brief Statement of Grounds**

The introduction of this legislation follows a recommendation earlier this year by the UK Government's independent scientific advisors (the Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee (SEAC)), that early action be taken to introduce tighter controls on use of SRM (ie those parts of cattle, sheep and goats which are considered to pose a significant risk of infection by a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy), preferably on an EU-wide basis. Commission Decision 97/534/EC was adopted in July 1997. It is due to be applied on 1 January 1998 but introduction of controls may be deferred following failure to agree on a new proposal designed to overcome a number of problems identified since July. (These concerned the effect of the decision on trade with third countries in pharmaceutical and cosmetic products, its effect on certain industries using SRM in processes posing no risk to public health, and the fact that it may cause shortages of essential pharmaceutical products.) The UK considers that, pending the implementation of any replacement Decision, it is necessary for health reasons to implement controls on the lines of the original Decision (though taking into account the Commission's more recent proposals) by the prescribed date. This is partially achieved in this Order.

#### **10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts**

- i. A copy of the draft Statutory Instrument is attached.
- ii. -

#### **11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure**

Yes

#### **12. Grounds for the Emergency**

This measure has been introduced under the emergency procedure in the interest of public health.



**13. Confidentiality**

No

**14. Fiscal measures**

-

C. TROJAN  
COMEUR  
NNNN