



Notification Number: 2000/508/F

## Order on conditions governing the introduction of domestic carnivorous animals into France from third countries

Date received : 25/08/2000

End of Standstill : 27/11/2000 ( 27/08/2001)

Postponement : Yes

### Message

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Représentation Permanente de l'Irlande  
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Représentation Permanente du Royaume-Uni  
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Message 002



Communication from the Commission - SG(2000) D/51914  
Directive 98/34/EC  
Translation of the message 001  
Notification: 2000/508/F

(MSG: 200001914.EN)

**1. Structured Information Line**

MSG 002 IND 2000 0508 F EN 25-08-2000 F NOTIF

**2. Member State**

FRANCE

**3. Department Responsible**

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**3. Originating Department**

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Ministère de l'Economie, des Finances et de l'Industrie  
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**4. Notification Number**

2000/508/F

**5. Title**

Order on conditions governing the introduction of domestic carnivorous animals into France from third countries

**6. Products Concerned**

dogs, cats and ferrets intended for importation into France, whatever the type of importation



## 7. Notification Under Another Act

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## 8. Main Content

The proposed order specifies the health policy conditions for the importation of domestic carnivorous animals into France from third countries, whether or not they are intended for sale and whether or not they originated from France in the first place. These conditions are based on the requirement for the animals to be identified and to be vaccinated against diseases common in dogs and cats, and on the specific requirements for the prevention of rabies. As regards the latter, the conditions vary according to the status of the third country the animals come from: for a third country not free of rabies the immunological condition of the animal must be tested by means of a serological test carried out more than three months and less than twelve months prior to departure. In the case of a third country of origin which is rabies-free, this requirement is replaced by a certificate to the effect that the animal has been resident in this country for more than six months (or since birth). Moreover, cats and dogs imported from third countries for commercial purposes (intended for animal experimentation or for breeding or commercial establishments must meet additional conditions relating to their original rearing and to the destination establishment in France (quarantine kennels, licensing, etc.).

## 9. Brief Statement of Grounds

Patterns of trade involving pets, and more particularly dogs and cats, are becoming ever more intensive both between Community countries and from third countries towards the European Union. Similarly, travellers, including those from third countries are increasingly accompanied by their family pets. At the same time, France, thanks to its long-standing policy of combating rabies, and thanks to schemes to vaccinate foxes against rabies, is in a position to confirm the total eradication of this disease on its territory, and hopes in the near future to be able to claim rabies-free status. In this context, the measures formerly laid down in the 1990 Recommendation to Importers must be updated to include additional requirements for animals from countries not free of rabies.

## 10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

Rural Code, particularly Articles L. 923-14, L. 936-1 and L. 936-2  
Decree No 91-823 of 28 August 1991  
Decree No 96-656 of 27 June 1996, on combating rabies

## 11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

Yes

## 12. Grounds for the Emergency

France is going to progress towards rabies-free status and must establish a reliable system capable of a fast response to the patterns of trade and travellers entering France.

## 13. Confidentiality

No

## 14. Fiscal measures

No



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
GROWTH DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

**Single Market for goods**  
Prevention of Technical Barriers

David O'Sullivan  
General Secretary  
European Commission