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# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(77) 289 final.

Brussels, July 6, 1977

Proposal for a

## COUNCIL DIRECTIVE

establishing Community criteria for the national plans for the  
acceleration of eradication of brucellosis, tuberculosis and  
enzootic bovine leukosis in cattle

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(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

### Explanatory Note

By the directive of 17 May 1977<sup>1</sup> the Council has adopted the basic principles for Community intervention in the eradication of brucellosis, tuberculosis and leukosis. This initiative is part of the proposals aiming to establish a balance in the milk market.

In the said directive the Council decided to establish, on a proposal from the Commission and before 1 August, the minimum criteria which the national plans for the eradication of the abovementioned diseases should meet, in order to qualify for financial contribution by the Community.

The annexed draft established these criteria, the first one being the acceleration of national programmes for the eradication of the three aforementioned diseases. Furthermore, it lays down technical norms concerning the conditions in which slaughter, isolation, cleaning and disinfection should take place, and the use which should be made of certain animal products. In order to avoid the risk of reinfection, it is moreover proposed on the one hand to practise strict control of movements of animals, especially between herds not having the same health status, and on the other to make those movements conditional on certain tests.

Finally, as the financing by the Community is essentially justified by the acceleration, it is suggested that it should be exclusively devoted to this acceleration.

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<sup>1</sup>Council Directive 77/391/EEC. OJ No L 145, 13.6.77, p.44.

Draft  
COUNCIL DIRECTIVE

of  
establishing Community criteria for  
national plans for the accelerated  
eradication of brucellosis, tuberculosis  
and enzootic leukosis in cattle

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Having regard to Council Directive 77/391/EEC of 17 May 1977 introducing  
Community measures for the eradication of brucellosis, tuberculosis and  
leukosis in cattle<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 13 thereof;

Whereas when laying down, in its Directive of 17 May 1977, the basic  
principles for Community intervention for the eradication of brucellosis,  
tuberculosis and leukosis, the Council decided to establish subsequently the  
minimum criteria which the national plans for the eradication of the above-  
mentioned diseases should meet in order to qualify for financial contribution  
by the Community;

Whereas the first of these criteria relates to the acceleration of national  
plans, so that the campaign undertaken to eradicate the diseases in question  
in the Member States in which they still prevail may be carried to a successful  
conclusion as rapidly as possible; whereas to this end measures concerning,  
in particular, checks on livestock, the functioning of laboratories and the  
compensation paid for animals slaughtered under the eradication plans should be  
taken or strengthened;

Whereas it is moreover necessary, depending on the diseases in question, to  
lay down the conditions in which slaughter, isolation, cleaning and disinfection  
should take place and the use which should be made of certain animal products;

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<sup>1</sup>OJ No L 145 , 13.6.1977, p.44.

Whereas it is also essential, in order to avoid the risk of reinfection, to practise strict control of movements of animals, especially between herds not having the same health status, and to make those movements conditional on certain tests; whereas, as regards intradermal tuberculin testing more particularly, pending the adaptation of existing Directives transitional provisions should be adopted under a procedure whereby the Commission works in close collaboration with the Member States;

Whereas, lastly, provision should be made for a six-monthly report to be transmitted by the Member States to the Commission so that a regular assessment may be made of progress in the campaign against the diseases in question;

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

#### Chapter I: General Provisions

##### Article 1

In order to qualify for financial contribution by the Community within the meaning of Council Directive 77/391/EEC, each national eradication plan referred to in Articles 2, 3 and 4 thereof shall satisfy the following criteria in respect of all herds to which it applies.

##### Article 2

The national plans for the accelerated eradication of brucellosis and tuberculosis in cattle shall provide for the following:

- the proportion of national cattle populations which is the subject of eradication and preventive measures to be so increased that a check on the greater part of the cattle population or of the total cattle population can be carried out as soon as possible;
- compensation for animals slaughtered on official orders to be so adjusted that the cattle owner is appropriately compensated;
- the number of laboratory staff to be increased and the conditions for carrying out diagnoses in the laboratory to be improved - insofar as this still remains to be done - so that a sufficient level is reached to make possible the preventive measures referred to in the first indent;

- the measures introduced in the fight against epizootic diseases to be systematically applied.

### Article 3

1. Brucellosis of cattle, swine, sheep and goats, bovine tuberculosis and enzootic bovine leukosis shall be compulsory notifiable diseases; any person noticing or suspecting the clinical occurrence of the above diseases shall inform the competent authorities of the Member State concerned.
2. Animals which are infected or have reacted to any of the tests for brucellosis or tuberculosis, or which are reasonably considered to be so infected, shall be slaughtered as soon as possible, and within the periods specified in Chapters II and III.
3. Official control measures shall be introduced so as to prevent infections from being reintroduced into cattle from infective reservoirs in other animal species.

### Article 4

1. When brucellosis occurs or is suspected, aborted fetuses, still-born calves, infected calves or placentæ shall, unless required for investigation, be safely disposed of immediately. Straw which has come into contact with the cow, the calf or the placenta shall immediately be disposed of by burning or burying in the ground after soaking in disinfectant.
2. Milk from cows in herds which contain animals suspected of, reacting to or infected with any of the three diseases may not be fed to animals of other herds until such time as it is rendered safe. The containers used for such milk shall be adequately disinfected.
3. Member States shall ensure that meat from infected animals is effectively treated in such a way that it cannot infect other animals. Official regulations for the control of premises such as carcass disposal plants shall ensure that material produced and intended for animal feeding is safe.
4. After the removal for compulsory slaughter of reacting or infective animals or animals reasonably considered to be infected, cattle sheds and other herd quarters, and all containers, equipment and other objects used for cattle shall be cleaned and adequately disinfected under official supervision, in accordance with instructions given by the official veterinarian.

5. When brucellosis or tuberculosis occurs or is suspected, cattle manure from sheds or other quarters shall be packed in a place inaccessible to animals, soaked in adequate disinfectant and stored for at least three weeks. The soaking in disinfectant shall not be necessary if the manure is covered with a layer of uninfected manure or earth. Urine and other liquid waste from cattle sheds or other quarters shall be separated from other susceptible animals or disinfected.
6. All vehicles, ships, containers and equipment used for the transport of reacting, suspected or infective animals or of products from such animals or of materials or substances which have been in contact with such animals, shall thereafter be cleaned and adequately disinfected. Loading areas for such animals shall be cleaned and adequately disinfected before being used for other animals.
7. The disinfectant to be used and its concentrations shall be approved by the competent authority of the Member State concerned.
8. Premises where infected cattle have been kept shall be disinfected before being restocked with other animals. In the case of pastures, sixty days must be allowed to elapse after disinfection.

#### Article 5

1. The Member States shall practise an official control system for movements of cattle, together with a system of marking and identification which ensures that all cattle can be traced back to their herd of origin.
2. An official up-to-date record of cattle herds shall be kept, the herds being classified according to their status as regards brucellosis, tuberculosis and enzootic leukosis.
3. Cattle reasonably considered to be infected with any of the three diseases concerned may not be used for restocking a herd under a national accelerated disease eradication plan.
4. All movements of cattle into and within areas subject to eradication measures for brucellosis and tuberculosis shall be under official control. In addition, before cattle are introduced from herds of a lower status to herds of a higher status, they shall pass an official test within thirty days prior to movement, and be accompanied by a veterinary certificate. After movement they shall be isolated for a minimum period of sixty days before joining the herd, and, in the case of cattle over six months of age, pass a further official test before joining the herd. The above rules on movement



control shall be without prejudice to existing Community measures concerning movement into and out of free and officially free herds.

## Chapter II: Specific Provisions relating to Brucellosis

### Article 6

For the purpose of this Directive, the following definitions of herd types shall apply:

Type B<sub>1</sub> herds are herds in which the vaccination and serological status of one or more of the animals is unknown and the herd itself has not been subject to routine brucella testing.

Type B<sub>2</sub> herds are herds in which the vaccination and serological status is known and in which routine monitoring tests are carried out in accordance with national rules to maintain the status of these herds.

Type B<sub>3</sub> herds are brucellosis free herds in accordance with Council Directive 64/432/EEC.

Type B<sub>4</sub> herds are officially brucellosis free herds in accordance with Council Directive 64/432/EEC.

### Article 7

The following anti-brucellosis measures shall be applied to herds included in an existing national programme and to herds scheduled for inclusion in the accelerated plan for the eradication of brucellosis:

- if practised, anti-brucellosis vaccination shall be carried out under official control but shall be terminated as soon as possible, so that official brucellosis freedom may be achieved. Therapeutic treatment of brucellosis shall be prohibited;
- officially supervised serological testing shall be carried out in type B<sub>1</sub> and type B<sub>2</sub> herds until they reach the status of type B<sub>3</sub> herds and finally type B<sub>4</sub> herds;
- all serological reactors, infective animals and those reasonably considered to be infected shall without delay, and under official control, be individually marked and isolated. They shall be slaughtered under official supervision as soon as possible and in any event within thirty days of the results of the tests being known;

- after removal of the animals referred to in the preceding indent, no animal may be moved into or out of the herd for at least thirty days, during which period disinfection shall take place. Excepted are cattle for immediate slaughter, which shall be accompanied by a certificate issued by the competent authority. Prior to the movement into or out of such a herd all remaining cattle in the herd over 12 months of age shall have passed an officially approved serological test;
- an animal originating from a type B<sub>1</sub> herd shall pass an officially approved serological test within thirty days prior to movement into another type B<sub>1</sub> herd;
- movement of animals may occur between type B<sub>2</sub> herds; all female animals and bulls shall pass an officially approved serological test within thirty days prior to movement and be accompanied by a veterinary certificate signed by an official veterinarian and they may not come into contact with animals originating in herds of an inferior status;
- all female animals and bulls coming from type B<sub>1</sub> herds and destined for type B<sub>2</sub> herds shall have passed an officially approved serological test within thirty days prior to movement and be accompanied by a veterinary certificate signed by an official veterinarian to this effect. After arrival the animal shall be isolated for a minimum period of sixty days and again pass an official test before admission to the herd;
- animals under suspicion, that is to say either inconclusive serological reactors or suspicious cases, shall be isolated from all other animals in the herd until such time as their status is established.

### Chapter III: Specific Provisions relating to Tuberculosis

#### Article 8

For the purposes of this Directive the following definitions of herd types shall apply:

Type T<sub>1</sub> herds are herds in which the tuberculin reactivity of one or more of the animals over six weeks of age is unknown and the herd itself has not been subject to routine tuberculinisation.

Type T<sub>2</sub> herds are herds in which all animals over six weeks of age have passed a tuberculin test and subsequently the herd has been subjected to routine monitoring tuberculinisation.

Type T<sub>3</sub> herds are officially tuberculosis free herds in accordance with Council Directive 64/432/EEC.

Article 9

The following anti-tuberculosis measures shall be applied to herds included in an existing national programme and to herds scheduled for inclusion in the accelerated plan for the eradication of tuberculosis:

- anti-tuberculosis vaccination or therapeutic treatment or desensitization with tuberculin shall be prohibited;
- officially supervised intradermal tuberculin testing shall be carried out on all animals over six weeks of age at least every six months in type T<sub>1</sub> and type T<sub>2</sub> herds until they reach the status of type T<sub>3</sub> herds. Until the end of 1978 the tuberculins to be used for purposes of the following indents, and the relevant testing methods, shall be adopted under the procedure laid down in Article 12;
- all reactors to the intradermal tuberculin test and all infective animals shall without delay and under official control be individually marked and isolated. They shall be slaughtered under official supervision as soon as possible and in any event within thirty days of the results of the tests being known;
- after removal of the animals referred to in the preceding indent, no animal may be moved into or out of the herd for at least sixty days, during which period disinfection shall take place. Excepted are cattle for immediate slaughter, which shall be accompanied by a certificate issued by the competent authority. Prior to movement into or out of such a herd, all remaining cattle in the herd over 6 weeks of age shall have passed an intradermal tuberculin test;
- an animal originating in a type T<sub>1</sub> herd shall pass an intradermal tuberculin test within thirty days prior to movement into another type T<sub>1</sub> herd;
- movement of animals may occur between type T<sub>2</sub> herds; they shall pass a tuberculin test within thirty days prior to movement and be accompanied by a veterinary certificate issued by an official veterinarian and they shall not come into contact with animals originating in herds of an inferior status;
- all animals coming from type T<sub>1</sub> herds and destined for type T<sub>2</sub> herd shall have passed an intradermal tuberculin test within thirty days prior to movement and be accompanied by a veterinary certificate issued by an official veterinarian to this effect. After arrival the animal shall be isolated for a minimum period of sixty days and again pass an official intradermal tuberculin test before admission to the herd;

- animals under suspicion, that is to say either inconclusive reactors or suspicious cases, shall be isolated and separately housed from all other animals in the herd until such time as their status is established.

#### Chapter IV: Specific Provisions relating to Enzootic Leukosis

##### Article 10

1. If in a herd any animal is found to be infected with enzootic leukosis after testing in accordance with Article 4(3) of Directive 77/391/EEC, all animals within that herd shall be slaughtered.
2. The herd may be restocked only with animals originating in herds considered not to be infected with enzootic leukosis in accordance with the criteria laid down by the Directive mentioned in paragraph 1.

#### Chapter V: Final Provisions

##### Article 11

Each Member State shall make a six-monthly report to the Commission concerning the progress of the anti-brucellosis, anti-tuberculosis and anti-leukosis schemes; the detailed provisions relating to this report shall be adopted under the procedure laid down in Article 12.

##### Article 12

1. Where the procedure laid down in this Article is to be used, matters shall without delay be referred by the Chairman, either on his own initiative or at the request of a Member State, to the Standing Veterinary Committee (hereinafter called the "Committee") set up by the Council Decision of 15 October 1968.
2. Within the Committee the votes of Member States shall be weighted as provided in Article 148(2) of the Treaty. The Chairman shall not vote.
3. The representative of the Commission shall submit a draft of the measures to be adopted. The Committee shall deliver its opinion on such measures within a time limit set by the Chairman according to the urgency of the matters concerned. Opinions shall be delivered by a majority of 41 votes.
4. The Commission shall adopt the measures and shall apply them immediately where they are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee. Where they are not in accordance with the opinion of the Committee or if no opinion is

delivered, the Commission shall without delay propose to the Council the measures to be adopted.

The Council shall adopt the measures by a qualified majority.

If, within three months from the date on which the proposal was submitted to it, the Council has not adopted any measures, the Commission shall adopt the proposed measures and apply them immediately.

#### Article 13

Article 12 shall apply until 21 June 1981.

#### Article 14

Where applicable the Member States shall by 1 January 1978 bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive and shall forthwith inform the Commission.

#### Article 15

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels

For the Council

The President