

Revision of Directive 93/119EC on the protection of animals at the time of slaughter or killing and animal transport.

After an initial presentation with some pictures of bad treatment of two cows, given from an animal welfare organisation, the discussion was dominated by the fact that “at a number of slaughterhouses” animals are not treated well. My impression is that the Commission wants to follow the proposals of this animal welfare organisation (or surpass the proposals) even if the findings of bad treatment which were presented were not quantified, and not referred to a source.

Let's hope that the Commission's DG SANCO in this case will not follow again “feelings” and “impressions” to create a far-reaching Regulation.

- Journey times should be shorter
- Transport of Downers: the Directive should be respected and implemented
- Sanctions and penalties have been fixed only in DE, AT, ES, IT
- The estimated weight of the animals should be changed to the exact weight
- Minimum temperature of 0 Celsius has to be respected

The Commission proposes a navigation system to track transport times and temperatures.

The Commission proposes a certificate of competences for drivers.

The Commission proposes to switch the responsibility for animal welfare from the competent authorities to the transport and slaughterhouse operator. This principle was introduced in the food hygiene package in 2006.

The Commission intends to propose a Regulation not a Directive.

http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/welfare/slaughter/slaughter_directive_en.htm