Organisation of veterinary checks (amend. direct. 71/118, 72/462, 85/73, 91/67, 91/492, 91/493, 92/45, 92/188/EEC)

1996/0110(CNS) - 19/02/1997

The rapporteur was in favour of harmonising the rules for veterinary checks on animal imports from third countries in order to improve the fight against fraud. He also expressed his concern about certain diseases linked to the import of batches of animal feed: this was the case with soya cakes which could contain salmonella. It was essential to extend veterinary checks to certain vegetable products for animals, imported by the European Union, in order to combat these risks. Acknowledging that, since the single market had come into force in 1993, it had become essential to lay down effective rules for veterinary checks on imports from third countries, Commissioner Fischler stressed that the system should be improved based on experience gained. As for harmonising rules on imports, the Commissioner said that the Commission was prepared to allow the Member States greater flexibility.