Animal health requirements: non commercial movement of pet animals

2000/0221(COD) - 04/12/2002 - Commission opinion on Parliament's position at 2nd reading

The Commission accepts two of the amendments made by the European Parliament: - the recognition of electronic identification only after eight years; - the introduction of the codecision procedure for possibly adopting an extension of the special status of the United Kingdom, Ireland and Sweden on expiry of the five-year transitional period. The remaining amendments were rejected. These include: - the removal of the exemption from rabies vaccination for young animals. The risk represented by movements of non-vaccinated young animals between continental Member states was regarded as negligible during discussions at the council, and the Commission concurs with that approach; - the establishment of a number of animals to distinguish non-commercial movements from commercial movements; - basing classification of third countries solely on recognition as rabies-free, when the mechanism adopted at EU level is based on minimum acceptable risk. - the institutional amendments on the Commission's powers and on comitology are also rejected.