Working Document

Personal imports of meat and dairy products in Member States 2008-2011

Health and Consumers
1. Executive Summary

In accordance with Commission Regulation (EC) No 206/2009, Member States are required to submit to the Commission, on a yearly basis, reports summarising the measures taken to advertise and enforce the rules on the introduction of personal consignments of meat and dairy products. Reports for 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011 were received from all Member States plus Norway and Switzerland.

The data collected from the reports received form the basis of this document. Overall the report shows that the posters, as laid down by the Regulation, were used to raise traveller's awareness of their responsibilities as regards the introduction of personal consignments of meat and dairy products, but that little information is provided to the travellers by international passenger transport operators.

Mechanisms used to identify illegal personal consignments of meat and dairy products included mainly randomised searches, targeted customs searches and scanning equipment but also in some Member States, detector dogs were used. The total number of illegal consignments of meat and dairy products found in personal luggage at Community entry points in 2008 was approximately 69,286. This figure rose to 70,924 in 2009 and again, to 81,397 in 2010 while in 2011 the figure is approximately 67,003. In 2008 a total of 413 tons of meat and dairy products were confiscated while in 2011 this figure reduced to 280 tons. The largest amounts of meat and dairy products were confiscated and/or destroyed in Spain, UK and Germany. The five third countries from which passengers were most regularly found to be carrying illegal meat and dairy products consignments were Turkey, Russia, Ukraine, China and Brazil.

Mechanisms used to identify illegal meat and milk in personal postal consignments included mainly randomised searches, targeted customs searches and scanning equipment but also in some Member States, detector dogs were used. The total number of illegal consignments of meat and milk found in personal postal consignments in 2010 was 974 and this figure rose to 2,223 in 2011. In 2010 a total of 2.4 tons of meat and dairy products were confiscated while in 2011 this figure increased to 4.3 tons. The largest amounts of meat and dairy products were confiscated and/or destroyed in Spain, UK and Germany. The five third countries from where personal postal consignments were most regularly found to be containing illegal meat and meat products and milk and milk products were China, USA, Thailand, South Korea and Turkey.
2. **Introduction and legal basis**

In accordance with Commission Regulation (EC) No 206/2009 laying down measures with regards to the introduction into the community of personal consignments of products of animal origin, Member States are required to submit to the Commission on an annual basis, reports summarising the relevant information on the measures taken to advertise and enforce the rules on personal imports of meat and dairy products of the Regulation, and the results thereof.

3. **Numbers of European Community entry points**

The total number of European Community entry points reported by Member States was approximately 1361 in 2008, 1295 in 2009, 1351 in 2010 and 1374 in 2011. There was a large difference in the numbers of Community entry points specified by each Member State (see Figure 1) with Italy reporting the highest number of entry points (387). This large disparity seems to be due to a different interpretation by Member States of what constitutes a Community entry point. The term may, therefore, require further clarification.

(No figure has been provided by France for the period 2008-2011).

![Figure 1: Number of European Community Entry Points (plus Norway & Switzerland)](image-url)
4. Mechanisms used to raise awareness of animal health conditions regarding personal imports

The data submitted showed that all Member States, which completed the question in the form, raised awareness of animal health conditions regarding the introduction of personal consignment of products of animal origin, through the use of the posters laid down in Annex V of the Regulation. Other methods of raising passengers' awareness were through the use of websites, leaflets, public announcements, adverts, press releases and videos. In addition, some Member States provided training for staff at entry points and some also provided information to international passenger transport operators (see Figures 2, 3, 4 & 5).

The following countries did not provide data on the mechanisms used to raise awareness of animal health conditions regarding personal imports for the following years:

2009  Latvia and Poland

2010  Greece

![Figure 2: Awareness raising mechanisms used in MS in 2008](image)
Figure 3: Awareness raising mechanisms used in MS in 2009

Figure 4: Awareness raising mechanisms used in MS in 2010
5. **Enforcement of the rules on point of entry into the Community**

(a) **Mechanisms used to identify illegal meat and dairy products consignments**

In 2008 targeted customs searches was the predominant mechanism used while randomised customs searches and scanning equipment were also extensively used. Only five Member States used detection dogs. (See Figure 6).

![Figure 5: Awareness raising mechanisms used in MS in 2011](image)

![Figure 6: Mechanisms used to identify illegal meat and dairy products consignments in 2008](image)
In 2009 randomised customs searches and targeted customs searches were used in all Member States while scanning equipment was also extensively used. Detection dogs were used by nine Member States (see figure 7).

![Figure 7: Mechanisms used to identify illegal meat and dairy products consignments in 2009](image)

In 2010 randomised customs searches/targeted customs searches and scanning equipment was used in all Member States while only seven Member States used detection dogs (see figure 8).

![Figure 8: Mechanisms used to identify illegal meat and dairy products consignments in 2010](image)
In 2011 randomised customs searches were used in all Member States while targeted customs searches and scanning equipment were extensively used. Only nine Member States used detection dogs (see figure 9).

Figure 9: Mechanisms used to identify illegal meat and dairy products consignments in 2011
(b) Number of illegal consignments of meat and dairy products in personal luggage at Community entry points.

The total number of illegal consignments of meat and dairy products found in personal luggage at Community entry points was, approximately, 69,286 in 2008, 70,924 in 2009, 81,397 in 2010 and 67,003 in 2011 (see Figure 10).

The total number of Member States who provided data with regard to Section (b) was as follows: 2008 - 23, 2009 - 25, 2010 - 24, 2011 – 22.

Figure 10: Number of illegal consignments of meat and dairy products in personal luggage at Community entry points
(c) Amount of meat and dairy products confiscated and/or destroyed from personal luggage as a result of checks implemented at Community entry points

There was a substantial decrease in 2009 to 273 tons compared to 413 tons in 2008. In 2010 this reduced further to 212 tons but rose to 280 tons in 2011. (see Figures 11 & 12)

For the period 2008-2011, the largest amounts of meat and dairy products were confiscated and/or destroyed in Spain, UK and Germany.

The total number of Member States who provided data with regard to Section (c) was as follows: 2008 – 25, 2009 – 26, 2010 – 26, 2011 – 27.

Figure 11: Amount of meat confiscated and/or destroyed from personal luggage as a result of checks implemented at Community entry points in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011.
Figure 12: Amount of dairy products confiscated and/or destroyed from personal luggage as a result of checks implemented at Community entry points in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011.

(d) Top five Third Countries from which passengers were most regularly found to be carrying illegal meat and dairy products consignments

These third countries included countries in Asia, Eastern Europe, South America, and Africa and the Middle East.

The top five countries for the period 2008-2011 were as follows:

2008  Turkey, Russia, Ukraine, China and Nigeria
2009  Turkey, Russia, Ukraine, China and Brazil
2010  China, Turkey, Russia, Ukraine and Brazil.
2011  China, Turkey, Russia, Ukraine and Israel

All Member States provided data with regard to Section (d).
Figure 13: Top five Third Countries in 2008 from which passengers were most regularly found to be carrying illegal meat and dairy products consignments

Figure 14: Top five Third Countries in 2009 from which passengers were most regularly found to be carrying illegal meat and dairy products consignments
Figure 15: Top five Third Countries in 2010 from which passengers were most regularly found to be carrying illegal meat and dairy products consignments

Figure 16: Top five Third Countries in 2011 from which passengers were most regularly found to be carrying illegal meat and dairy products consignments
6. Enforcement of the rules on small consignments sent to private persons or ordered remotely (for example, by mail, by telephone or via the internet) and delivered to the consumer

The request for data relating to this type of consignment only applies from 2010 (as per Commission Regulation (EC) No 206/2009).

(a) Mechanisms used to identify illegal meat and dairy products consignments sent to private persons or ordered remotely and delivered to the consumer

All Member States who responded to the questionnaire used randomised searches while the majority of them also used targeted customs and scanning equipment to identify illegal meat and dairy products consignments. Only two Member State used detection dogs (see figures 17 & 18).

Figure 17: Mechanisms used to identify illegal meat and dairy products consignments in 2010 sent to private persons or ordered remotely and delivered to the consumer
Figure 18: Mechanisms used to identify illegal meat and dairy products consignments in 2011 sent to private persons or ordered remotely and delivered to the consumer

(b) Number of illegal consignments of meat and dairy products sent to private persons or ordered remotely and delivered to the consumer.

The total number of illegal consignments of meat and dairy products found in personal luggage at Community entry points was, approximately, 974 in 2010 and 2223 in 2011. Only 12 Member States provided data for 2010 while 20 Member States provided data for 2011.

Figure 19: Number of illegal consignments of meat and dairy products sent to private persons or ordered remotely and delivered to the consumer.
(c) Amount of meat and dairy products confiscated and/or destroyed which was sent to private persons or ordered remotely and delivered to the consumer.

In 2010 the figure for the total amount of meat confiscated and/or destroyed which was sent to private persons or ordered remotely was 1.8 and this rose to 3 tons in 2011 (see figure 20). The total amount of dairy products confiscated and/or destroyed which was sent to private persons or ordered remotely was 0.6 tons in 2010 and this to 1.2 tons in 2011 (see figure 21). For the period 2010-2011, the largest amounts of meat and dairy products were confiscated and/or destroyed in Spain, Germany and Denmark.

Only 12 Member States provided data for 2010 while 22 Member States provided data for 2011.

Figure 20: Amount of meat confiscated and/or destroyed which was sent to private persons or ordered remotely and delivered to the consumer for the period 2010-2011.
Figure 21: Amount of dairy products confiscated and/or destroyed which were sent to private persons or ordered remotely and delivered to the consumer for the period 2010-2011.

(d) Top five Third Countries from where such personal consignments were most regularly found to be containing illegal meat and meat products and milk and milk products during the reporting period

These third countries included countries in Asia, North and South America and Africa.

The top five countries for the period 2010-2011 were as follow:

2010 China, USA, Thailand, S. Korea, Turkey and Turkey
2011 China, USA, Thailand, South Korea, and Brazil

The total number of Member States who provided data with regard to Section (d) was as follows:
2010 7 Member States
2011 13 Member States
Figure 22: Top five Third Countries in 2010 from personal consignments were most regularly found to be containing illegal meat and meat products and milk and milk products which were sent to private persons or ordered remotely and delivered to the consumer.

Figure 23: Top five Third Countries in 2011 from personal consignments were most regularly found to be containing illegal meat and meat products and milk and milk products which were sent to private persons or ordered remotely and delivered to the consumer.