

N° 1884.

**ITALIE
ET ROYAUME DES SERBES,
CROATES ET SLOVÈNES**

Convention contre les épizooties,
avec protocole final. Signés à Bel-
grade, le 12 août 1924.

**ITALY AND
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS,
CROATS AND SLOVENES**

Convention for the Prevention of
Infectious Diseases of Animals,
with Final Protocol. Signed at
Belgrade, August 12, 1924.

¹ TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

No. 1884. — CONVENTION² BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF ITALY AND THE KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES FOR THE PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES OF ANIMALS. CONCLUDED AT BELGRADE, AUGUST 12, 1924.

French official text communicated by the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Permanent Delegate of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes accredited to the League of Nations. The registration of this Convention took place December 19, 1928.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF ITALY and HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES, being desirous of facilitating the trade in animals, hides and skins and other raw animal products between their respective territories by eliminating, as far as possible, the risk of infectious diseases of animals, which are prevalent or which may hereafter break out in either of their territories, being introduced into the other as a result of the movements of animals and of the traffic in the said animal products, have resolved to conclude a Convention for this purpose, and have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries :

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF ITALY :

His Excellency General Alessandro BODRERO, Grand Cross of the Italian Order of the Crown, Officer of the Order of Saints Maurice and Lazarus, Grand Cross of the Order of St. Sava and Commander of the White Eagle with Swords, His Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary accredited to His Majesty the King of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes;

M. Lodovico LUCIOLLI, Grand Cross of the Order of Saints Maurice and Lazarus and of the Italian Order of the Crown, Grand Cross of the Order of St. Sava, Counsellor of State ; and

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES :

His Excellency Dr Otokar RYBÁR, Grand Cross of the Italian Order of the Crown, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary ;

M. Sava KOUKITCH, Grand Officer of the Order of St. Sava and Grand Officer of the Italian Order of the Crown, former Director-General of Customs ;

Who, having communicated their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following Articles ;

Article 1.

The importation of animals (equines, ruminants and pigs), poultry, raw animal products and commodities which might carry infection from the territories of the one Contracting Party to the

¹ Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations, à titre d'information.

¹ Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations, for information.

² The exchange of ratifications took place at Rome, November 14, 1928.

territories of the other, may be restricted to frontier stations and maritime ports specially designated, and the animals and commodities may there be subjected to veterinary inspection by the State into whose territories they are to be imported.

Article 2.

Animals, poultry, raw animal products and the commodities mentioned in Article 1 may not be imported from the territories of the one Contracting Party into those of the other, or transported across the latter, unless accompanied by a certificate of origin and health.

The certificate for animals must be issued by the local authority, and must state the number of animals, their distinguishing marks and the place of their destination ; it must contain a statement by a veterinary surgeon in the service of the Government or specially authorised for this purpose by the Government, testifying that the animals specified in the certificate are healthy. The said certificate must attest that for 40 days preceding the despatch of the consignment no case occurred in the commune of provenance of an infectious animal disease which is compulsorily notifiable in the country of origin and is communicable to animals of the same species as that for which the certificate had been issued.

Sporadic cases of anthrax, symptomatic anthrax, swine fever, rabies, and vesicular exanthema among equines and horned cattle occurring in the commune of origin shall not preclude the issue of the certificate, but must be mentioned therein.

In the case of horses, asses, mules and cattle such certificates must be issued for each animal individually ; sheep, goats and pigs may be included in a single collective certificate.

The certificate of origin and health for poultry, raw animal products and commodities which might carry infection shall be issued :

In Italy, by the local authority. The attestation regarding the state of health of the poultry or products covered by the certificate shall be made by a veterinary surgeon in the service of the Government, or authorised for this purpose by the Government ;

In the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, by a veterinary surgeon in the service of the Government or authorised for this purpose by the Government.

The certificate of origin and health for poultry shall also testify that no infectious disease among poultry is prevalent in the commune whence the poultry is to be despatched, and that for the preceding 14 days there have been no cases of infectious disease among fowls.

In the case of transport by rail or by boat the animals shall, at the time of their shipment, be subjected to inspection by a veterinary surgeon in the service of the Government or specially authorised for this purpose by the Government. The result of the inspection shall be recorded on the certificate, which shall also attest that the animals have not been exposed directly or indirectly to any risk of infection whilst proceeding to the place of despatch.

Article 3.

The following shall, however, be admitted on importation and for transit without a certificate of origin or health, and shall not be subjected to any restrictions on veterinary grounds :

- (a) Dairy produce (cheese, butter, etc.) ;
- (b) Eggs ;
- (c) Preserved foodstuffs in air-tight receptacles ;
- (d) Melted fat and suet ;
- (e) Wool, washed in industrial establishments and packed in closed sacks ;
- (f) Dried or salted guts in closed boxes or barrels.

Article 4.

Slaughtered cattle and poultry, fresh or prepared meat, fresh and curdled milk, dried and salted skins and hides and other raw animal products shall be admitted on importation and for transit, provided that it is established at the frontier station on entry by means of a certificate issued by a veterinary surgeon in the service of the Government or specially authorised for this purpose by the Government that these articles and substances are derived from animals in a healthy condition and that in the commune whence they came there is no case of infectious disease which is compulsorily notifiable and might, under certain circumstances, be regarded as a danger.

Meat, whether fresh or preserved by a refrigerating process, shall be submitted for veterinary inspection under the following conditions :

- (a) Beef : whole carcasses, whether flayed or not, or cut into halves and quarters.
- (b) Mutton and goat meat : whole carcasses whether flayed or not, or cut into halves.
- (c) Pork : whole carcasses or cut into halves, with or without the fat, which may, however, be submitted separately.

Article 5.

Where certificates of origin and health are not drawn up in the language of the country of destination, a translation, certified to be correct by the veterinary surgeon, shall be appended thereto.

In the case of larger animals one copy shall suffice for all animals in one and the same wagon or in one and the same vessel.

Article 6.

Consignments which do not satisfy the foregoing requirements, or animals which the veterinary surgeon discovers to be suffering or suspected to be suffering from an infectious disease on their crossing the frontier, or animals which have in any way been in contact with animals suffering or suspected to be suffering from an infectious disease may be sent back. At the request of the importer, and subject to the regulation in force in the country of destination, such animals may nevertheless be admitted, on condition that they be immediately slaughtered at the frontier station or at the place of disembarkation, or, should this not be feasible, in a place to be appointed by the veterinary authorities. As regards the use made of the meat and products of the animals so slaughtered the treatment in force in respect of animals of the country which are suffering or suspected to be suffering from infectious diseases shall be applicable. The veterinary surgeon at the frontier shall enter on the certificate the reason for the return, or, as the case may be, the slaughter of the animals, and shall testify thereto by his signature.

Should the presence of an infectious disease among the imported animals be detected only after their importation into the country of destination, a statement to this effect shall be drawn up in the presence of a veterinary surgeon in the service of the Government or specially authorised for this purpose by the Government. A copy of this statement shall immediately be forwarded to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the other High Contracting Party.

Article 7.

In the event of an outbreak of cattle plague in the territories of the one High Contracting Party, the other Party shall be entitled to prohibit or restrict, for so long as the danger of infection persists, the importation of ruminants, pigs and raw animal products and of commodities which might carry infection.

Should a dangerous outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease likely to spread and assume a malignant form with a high mortality rate occur in the territory of one High Contracting Party, that Party undertakes to prohibit forthwith exportation into the territory of the other Party of animals belonging to species liable to this disease from the whole area of the infected district and the areas of adjoining districts. In the event of this form of foot-and-mouth disease also spreading to adjoining districts, the districts adjoining shall similarly be debarred from exportation, and so forth.

The exportation of the animals in question shall be resumed when the epizootic disease is no longer of the exceptionally serious nature described above.

Article 8.

If, in consequence of the traffic in animals, an infectious disease, which is compulsorily notifiable, has been introduced from the territories of the one High Contracting Party into those of the other the latter shall be entitled, for so long as the danger of infection persists, to restrict or prohibit the importation of all species of animals liable to the disease.

The said import restrictions and prohibitions may be extended in the case of glanders, anthrax symptomatic anthrax, and mange among equines and ruminants to the commune of provenance of the animals which introduced the disease, and to adjoining communes, and, in the case of other infectious animal diseases, to the district (*circondario*) of provenance of the animals which introduced the disease.

Traffic in livestock may not be prohibited in the event of an outbreak or the introduction of tuberculosis.

The foregoing regulations also apply to animal products and to commodities capable of conveying infection.

Article 9.

Each of the High Contracting Parties shall provide for the periodic publication, at least once a fortnight, of bulletins recording the position with regard to infectious diseases of animals. These bulletins shall be forwarded direct to the other Contracting Party.

The said bulletins shall, as far as possible, be drafted uniformly with a view to showing the position with regard to infectious diseases of animals both in the administrative districts of the first instance and in the communes.

Should cattle plague break out in the territory of either High Contracting Party, direct notice of its outbreak and of its extension shall be given to the other Party by telegraph.

Direct notice shall similarly be given in the event of an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease of the description indicated in Article 7.

Article 10.

Should a dispute arise between the High Contracting Parties concerning the application of the present Convention, the matter shall, at the request of either High Contracting Party, be submitted to a Mixed Commission for an opinion. The said opinion shall be given due weight in the decision taken.

Each of the High Contracting Parties shall appoint two members to this Commission, which shall have the right to co-opt a fifth member should it be unable to reach an agreement. In the absence of any decision to the contrary, when a mixed commission is set up for the first time, the fifth member shall be chosen from among the nationals of one of the High Contracting Parties; on the second occasion, from among those of the other Party, and so forth, alternately from among the nationals of either Contracting Party. On the first occasion the question as to which of the High Contracting Parties shall appoint the fifth member of the Commission shall be decided by lot.

Article II.

The present Convention, which relates only to animals or products coming from the territories of the High Contracting Parties, shall enter into force simultaneously with the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation¹ concluded between the High Contracting Parties on July 14, 1924, and shall remain in force until the expiry of the said Treaty.

Should neither of the High Contracting Parties avail itself of the right to denounce the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation twelve months prior to its expiry, or should neither of the Parties notify its intention simultaneously to terminate the operation of the present Convention, the latter shall remain in force until the expiry of one year as from the day of its denunciation by either High Contracting Party.

The present Convention shall be ratified and the instruments of ratification exchanged at Belgrade simultaneously with those of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation.

In faith whereof the Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Convention and thereto affixed their seals.

Done at Belgrade, August 12, 1924.

(L. S.) (Signed) BODRERO.

(L. S.) (Signed) DR. RYBÁR.

(L. S.) (Signed) L. LUCIOLLI.

(L. S.) (Signed) S. R. KOUKITCH.

FINAL PROTOCOL

At the moment of signing the Convention for the prevention of infectious diseases of animals concluded this day between the Kingdom of Italy and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, the undersigned Plenipotentiaries have made the following declarations, which shall form an integral part of the said Conventions :

(1) Should animals and raw animal products coming from the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes and intended for importation into Italy require to be transported by a maritime port of any other country, their carriage to the maritime port of the country through which they pass in transit shall be effected by rail and in sealed wagons. On their arrival in the said port such animals and raw animal products shall be loaded directly on to the vessels, or, if there are special stables and warehouses reserved for the exclusive use of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, the animals may be housed in the said stables and the raw animal products deposited in the said warehouses. The detrainment of the animals from their wagons, their conveyance to the stables and the subsequent embarking operations shall be carried out with all the necessary sanitary precautions, so as to preclude all risk of direct or indirect infection.

The certificate of origin and health accompanying the animals, poultry and raw animal products from the country of origin to the port of embarkation shall also bear the visa of the veterinary officer in the service of the Government of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes in the harbour zone reserved to the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.

In the case of collective certificates issued for sheep, goats or pigs, the aforesaid veterinary official shall, where the number of animals shown in the certificate has been reduced owing to the fact that some of the said animals have been despatched to another destination, enter in the certificate the exact number of animals despatched to Italy, together with a

¹ Vol. LXXXII, page 257, of this Series.

statement that the reduction in their number is not due to sanitary reasons. The same shall apply to poultry and animal products.

(2) The sanitary precautions which each of the High Contracting Parties may see fit to adopt within its own territory in regard to animals and live poultry, duly accompanied by documents, and found to be healthy on their passage of the frontier, shall be restricted to the indispensable minimum.

The observation period prescribed for the animals shall not exceed six days as from the day on which the veterinary inspection at the frontier took place.

In the case of transport by sea the six days stipulated shall be reckoned as from the day of embarkation.

For sheep not intended for slaughter at the port of disembarkation the period may be a fortnight.

(3) Fresh meat and meat preparations may be consigned to any place in which they are to be consumed, and in the place of destination they shall be subjected to the statutory regulations to which local meat is subjected.

The transport in transit of fresh or prepared meat and of other raw animal products and skins and hides, accompanied by the certificate provided for in Article 4 of the present Convention, shall be effected without any restriction or limitation on veterinary grounds.

(4) The certificates of origin and health which, in accordance with Articles 2 and 4 of the present Convention, must accompany animals, live or slaughtered poultry, raw animal products, fresh or prepared meat and commodities which might convey infectious diseases, shall be exempt from the consular visa, which shall not be required.

(5) No previous authorisation or permit shall be required in the case of animals consigned direct to slaughter-houses possessing direct connection with the railway lines.

(6) The veterinary inspection at the frontier of animals, raw animal products and poultry shall not give rise to charges higher than those levied at present.

(7) It is agreed that the Governments of the High Contracting Parties shall jointly decide upon the frontier stations, ports or ordinary routes by which the animals, animal products and other commodities specified in Articles 2 and 4 of the present Convention shall cross the frontier.

The present Protocol, which shall be considered as approved and sanctioned by the High Contracting Parties without special ratification, merely in virtue of the exchange of the instruments of ratification appertaining to the Convention of which it forms part, has been drawn up in duplicate at Belgrade on August 12, 1924.

(Signed) BODRERO.

(Signed) L. LUCIOLLI.

(Signed) DR RYBÁR.

(Signed) S. R. KOUKITCH.