

N° 3472.

ESTONIE ET LETTONIE

Convention vétérinaire, et protocole
final. Signés à Riga, le 17 février
1934.

ESTONIA AND LATVIA

Veterinary Convention, and Final
Protocol. Signed at Riga, Feb-
ruary 17th, 1934.

¹ TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

No. 3472. — VETERINARY CONVENTION ² BETWEEN ESTONIA AND LATVIA. SIGNED AT RIGA, FEBRUARY 17TH, 1934.

French official text communicated by the Estonian Minister for Foreign Affairs. The registration of this Convention took place August 17th, 1934.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA and THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA, being convinced that the campaign against contagious diseases of animals can only be successfully prosecuted by concerted and close co-operation between the countries concerned ;

Recognising unanimously, moreover, that in any action intended to facilitate international trade in live-stock and animal products the first item in the programme must be the improvement of veterinary health conditions by every possible means, including closer co-operation ;

Have decided to conclude the present Convention, and to that effect have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries :

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA :

His Excellency Monsieur Julius SELJAMAA, Minister for Foreign Affairs ;

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA :

His Excellency Monsieur Voldemars SALNAIS, Minister for Foreign Affairs ;

Who, having communicated their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed as follows :

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

Article I.

The High Contracting Parties undertake to enact all necessary legislation and take all necessary administrative measures for ensuring concerted, close and effective action in connection with the campaign against contagious diseases among animals, and undertake accordingly :

(1) To organise on a uniform basis veterinary health supervision of all institutions and establishments of general concern in connection with the campaign against animal diseases, with a view to general health inspection of products of animal origin and with a view to the production of, and trade in, sera and microbe cultures ;

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 Came into force August 15th, 1934.

(2) To co-ordinate the administrative legislation on veterinary matters in force in the two countries on a common basis, establishing common principles for the diagnosis of contagious diseases of animals, for the determination of the areas of animal diseases and quarantine stations, for the suppression and prevention of animal diseases, and for the transport of animals and products of animal origin.

Article 2.

The High Contracting Parties undertake reciprocally to maintain Government veterinary institutions, organised in conformity with the recommendations of the Economic Committee of the League of Nations and the International Office for Contagious Diseases of Animals, the object of which shall be to organise and direct :

(1) The general health supervision of animals, and in particular the campaign against contagious diseases of animals in practice ;

(2) The health supervision of animal products and, in the event of the export of the latter, the issue of certificates of veterinary health and origin in conformity with international regulations ;

(3) The activities of establishments, institutions and laboratories dealing with animal hygiene and public hygiene in so far as the latter falls within the competence of veterinary surgeons.

Article 3.

The High Contracting Parties undertake to publish regularly monthly veterinary health reports in accordance with the rules laid down by the International Office for Contagious Diseases of Animals and in the form adopted by that Office. The bulletins shall contain a summary of the movement of the following diseases : cattle plague (*pestis bovum*), foot-and-mouth disease (*aphthæ epizooticæ*), contagious peripneumonia (*pleuro-pneumonia bovum contagiosa*), anthrax fever (*anthrax*), sheep-pox (*variola ovium*), rabies (*rabies vel lyssa*), glanders (*malleus*), dourine (*exanthema coitale paralyticum*), swine fever (*pestis suum*). In addition to the above-mentioned diseases, the High Contracting Parties may also give statistical or other information regarding other diseases in their bulletins, if they so desire.

The central veterinary authorities of the two countries shall exchange their respective bulletins directly.

Article 4.

When an outbreak of cattle-plague, swine fever or fowl plague (*pestis bovum, pestis suum, and pestis avium*), foot-and-mouth disease (*aphthæ epizooticæ*), sheep-pox (*variola ovium*), contagious peripneumonia (*pleuro-pneumonia bovum contagiosa*) or dourine (*exanthema coitale paralyticum*) is first detected in the territory of one of the High Contracting Parties, the central veterinary authority of that country shall inform the central veterinary authority of the other High Contracting Party of the fact by telegraph.

Similarly, it shall be the duty of the Government veterinary officials at the frontiers to inform the veterinary officials of the other High Contracting Party directly of the appearance and movements of the above-mentioned diseases.

Article 5.

The High Contracting Parties undertake to facilitate the admission to each other's veterinary health institutions of veterinary officials on official missions, as also students or professors of the

veterinary faculties of the other country who may be desirous of studying on the spot the work of the institutions or the working of the veterinary health regulations of that country.

Article 6.

Each High Contracting Party undertakes to inform the central veterinary authority of the other Party of any difficulties which may arise as a result of veterinary police measures liable to prevent the mutual exchange of animals and animal products.

II. TRANSIT.

Article 7.

The High Contracting Parties shall allow the transit without special previous authorisation of horses, asses and cross-breeds of the two, bovines, sheep, goats, pigs, dogs, cats, poultry and animal products across the frontier at points of passage to be determined by joint agreement. For imports, a permit from the importing country will be required for the above-mentioned species of animals other than dogs and cats.

Article 8.

The consignments of the animals or animal products to which Article 7 relates shall be subjected at the frontier to veterinary inspection. They must be accompanied by certificates of origin and veterinary health issued by Government veterinary officials or veterinary surgeons approved by the State for the purpose. The central veterinary authorities of the High Contracting Parties shall notify each other as to the names and signatures of the veterinary officials entitled to issue the said certificates. The certificates shall not require consular legalisation.

Article 9.

Animals in transit must be accompanied by the certificate for which provision is made in Article 8, attesting that the animals specified in the certificate are not suffering from any contagious disease, and have not for the preceding six months suffered from *pestis bovum*, *pleuro-pneumonia bovum contagiosa*, *aphtha epizootica*, *pestis suum*, *septicæmia suum*, *malleus* or *variola ovina*, and that they come from a district in which none of the above-mentioned diseases has been detected for the preceding six months, and further that they have not been in contact with other animals suspected of suffering from the above-mentioned diseases. The above restrictions shall apply, in the case of each disease, only to the species capable of being infected by the same.

The report of sporadic cases of *anthrax*, *gangræna emphysematosa*, *Rhusiopathia suum*, *septicæmia hæmorrhagica bovum* and *lyssa* shall not preclude the issue of a veterinary certificate, except in the case of animals coming from farms in quarantine, provided such certificate complies with the laws and regulations relating to the campaign against contagious diseases of animals.

The veterinary certificate shall contain a description of the animals therein specified making it possible to identify them without fail.

Collective certificates may not be issued except in the case of animals consigned to the same locality and consignee.

Veterinary certificates shall be issued not more than three days before the start of the consignment. The transport of animals must be uninterrupted within the country of transit. Where the transport is held up by unforeseen obstacles, a Government veterinary official of the transit country shall make a note to that effect on the back of the certificate.

Article 10.

Animal products, such as meat and meat preparations, fats, lard, blood or internal organs intended for consumption, must be accompanied in transit by the certificate for which provision is made in Article 8, attesting that they come from animals slaughtered under the supervision of a Government veterinary official in a public slaughter-house or slaughter-house for exports, and that the animals have been examined before and after slaughter and been found healthy.

Meat must be of good quality, suitable for human consumption without qualification, and duly marked with a stamp affixed by the veterinary official. In the case of pork or pork preparations, the certificate shall state that a trichinoscopical examination has been made with negative results. It is forbidden to make excisions, to scrape serous membranes or to remove lymphatic glands normally adhering to the meat.

Fresh meat or meat preserved by some chilling or freezing process must be submitted to veterinary inspection at the frontier in the following conditions :

- (a) Beef : skinned, either the entire animal or half or quarter carcasses ;
- (b) Mutton, goats' flesh and veal : the entire animal, skinned or not skinned, or half carcasses ;
- (c) Pork : the entire animal or half carcasses. The lard may be packed separately.

If the transport of the above-mentioned animal products is effected by boat across territorial waters of the transit country, in closed or sealed wagons, or in boxes closed by the veterinary official of the country of provenance, in solid casks, or in casks of wood or iron, or in casks or boxes of tin hermetically closed, veterinary health certificates shall not be required for the products in question, nor shall such products be subject to veterinary inspection at the frontier.

Article 11.

Consignments of animal products in transit, such as skins and hides and parts of the same, hair, wool, horsehair and pig's bristles, horns, hooves, claws and bones, must be accompanied by a veterinary health certificate of the kind for which provision is made in Article 8, attesting that the consignment does not contain germs of contagious diseases capable of being communicated to man or to other animals.

The veterinary health certificate shall not be required in the case of animal products in the crude state which have undergone chemical or other technical treatment ensuring adequate prophylactic safety.

III. FINAL PROVISIONS.

Article 12.

The central veterinary authorities of the High Contracting Parties shall come to an agreement as to more detailed provisions in execution of this Convention.

Article 13.

The present Convention shall be ratified, and the instruments of ratification shall be exchanged at Tallinn as soon as possible.

The Convention shall come into force the fifteenth day after the exchange of the instruments of ratification, and shall remain in force for a period of two years. If not denounced three months

before the expiry of this period, it shall be prolonged by tacit agreement for an undetermined period. In such case, either Contracting Party shall be entitled to denounce it at any moment at three months' notice.

In faith whereof the Plenipotentiaries of the two High Contracting Parties have signed the present Convention and set their seals thereto.

Done at Riga, in duplicate, February 17th, 1934.

(L. S.) Jul. SELJAMAA.

(L. S.) W. SALNAIS.

FINAL PROTOCOL.

When proceeding to sign the Veterinary Convention between Estonia and Latvia, concluded this day, the Plenipotentiaries of the two High Contracting Parties, being desirous of further defining the provisions of the Convention, have agreed as follows :

(1) The central veterinary authorities of the two Contracting Countries shall be required to get into direct communication with each other on all matters concerning the application and execution of the provisions of Articles 1 and 2 of the Convention.

(2) It is agreed that the provisions of the present Convention may be extended, if necessary, to diseases, whether known or unknown at the present time, other than those mentioned in Article 4 of the Convention.

(3) It is agreed that the certificates of veterinary health and origin provided for in Article 8 of the Convention shall constitute a single certificate showing the origin and state of health of the animal. These certificates shall be drawn up in the form and in the terms agreed upon between the central veterinary authorities of the two countries. As regards veterinary inspection charges, the two Contracting Parties shall grant each other most-favoured-nation treatment.

(4) As regards the provisions of Article 9 of the Convention, it is agreed that the veterinary health certificates for horses, dogs and cats must give a description and mention the age and sex of the animal ; animals of other kinds must be marked in such manner as the central authorities of the two countries may decide.

Done at Riga, in duplicate, February 17th, 1934.

Jul. SELJAMAA.

W. SALNAIS.