



International movement of pet animals

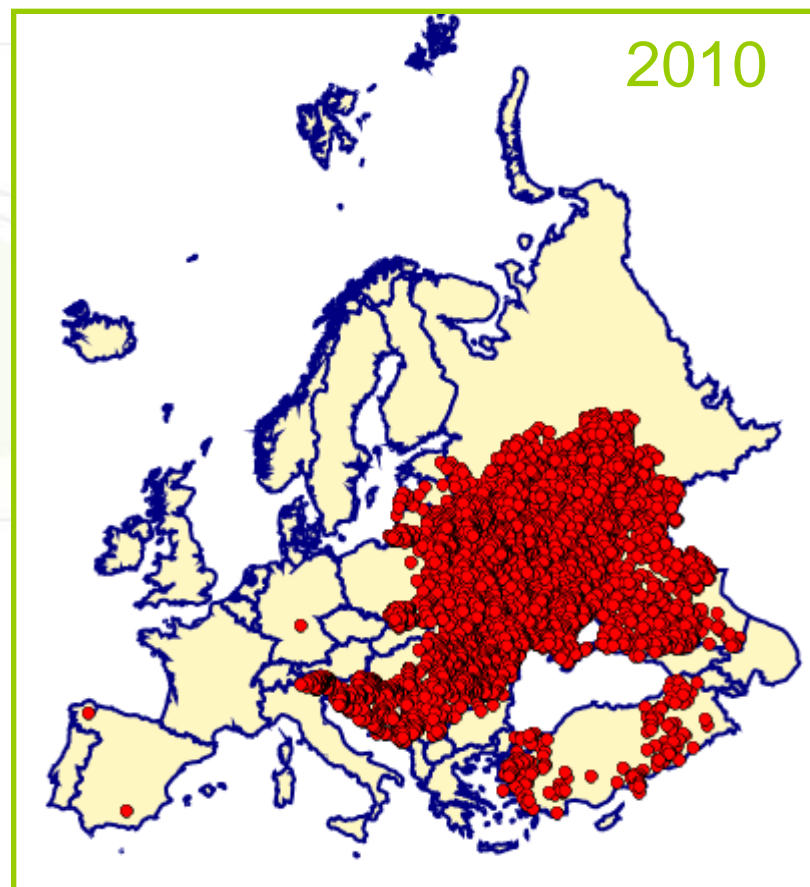
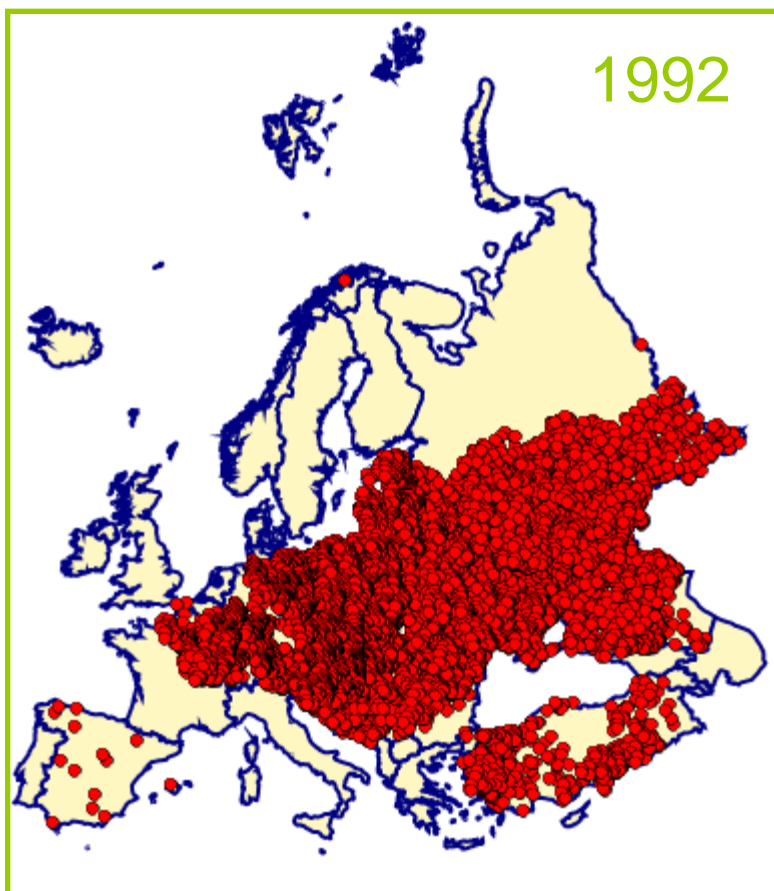
H. Klein/P. Demetriou

European Commission, Health and Consumers DG

Global Conference on Rabies Control
Towards Sustainable Prevention at the Source
Incheon-Seoul (Republic of Korea), 7-9 September 2011

Evolution of the rabies situation in the EU

Constant reduction of the incidence of rabies



EU financial support on rabies eradication

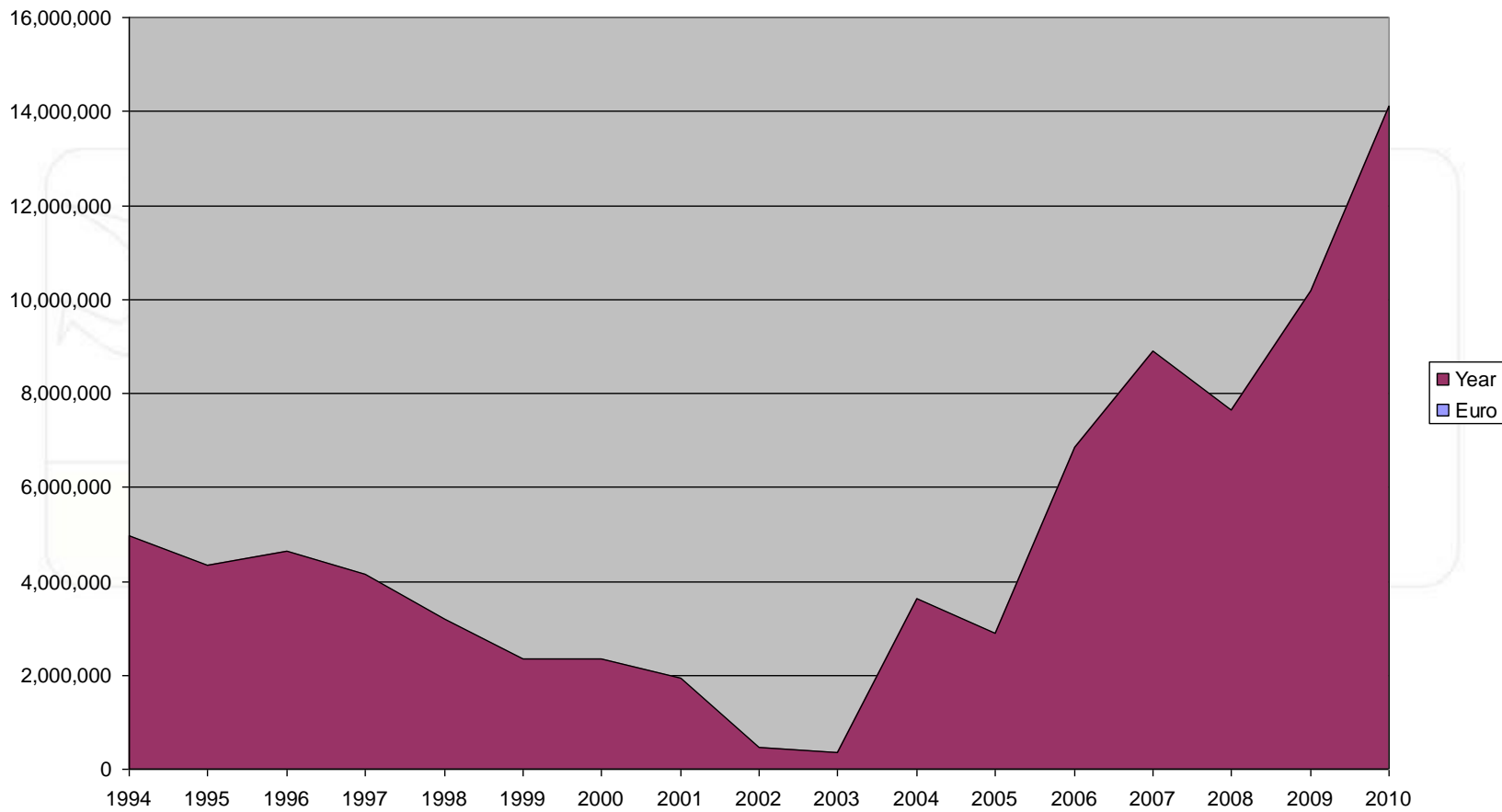
✓ Veterinary fund

- ❑ Funding for rabies started in 1989
- ❑ 1993-2010 more than € 80M
- ❑ 50% EU co-financing → 75% from 2010 for carrying out lab tests and purchasing and distributing baits
- ❑ EU close to eradication → cooperation with bordering countries from 2007
- ➔ 100% for bordering areas of non-EU countries
- ❑ 2011 allocated budget: € 24M

✓ Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance

- ❑ Rabies projects for the W. Balkans and Turkey

Veterinary fund expenditure for rabies



Wildlife oral rabies vaccination EU and bordering areas

2011

Legend

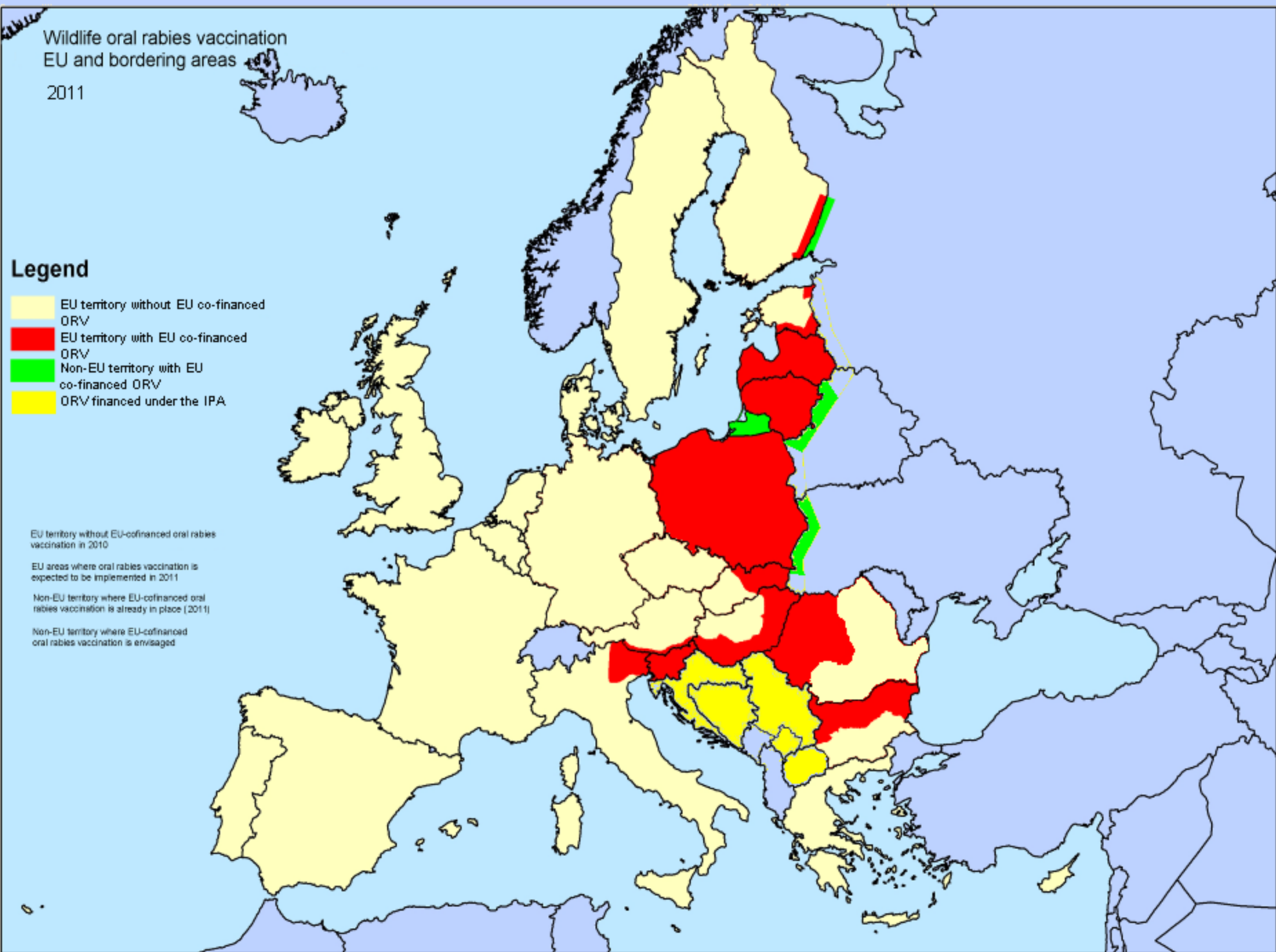
- EU territory without EU co-financed ORV
- EU territory with EU co-financed ORV
- Non-EU territory with EU co-financed ORV
- ORV financed under the IPA

EU territory without EU-cofinanced oral rabies vaccination in 2010

EU areas where oral rabies vaccination is expected to be implemented in 2011

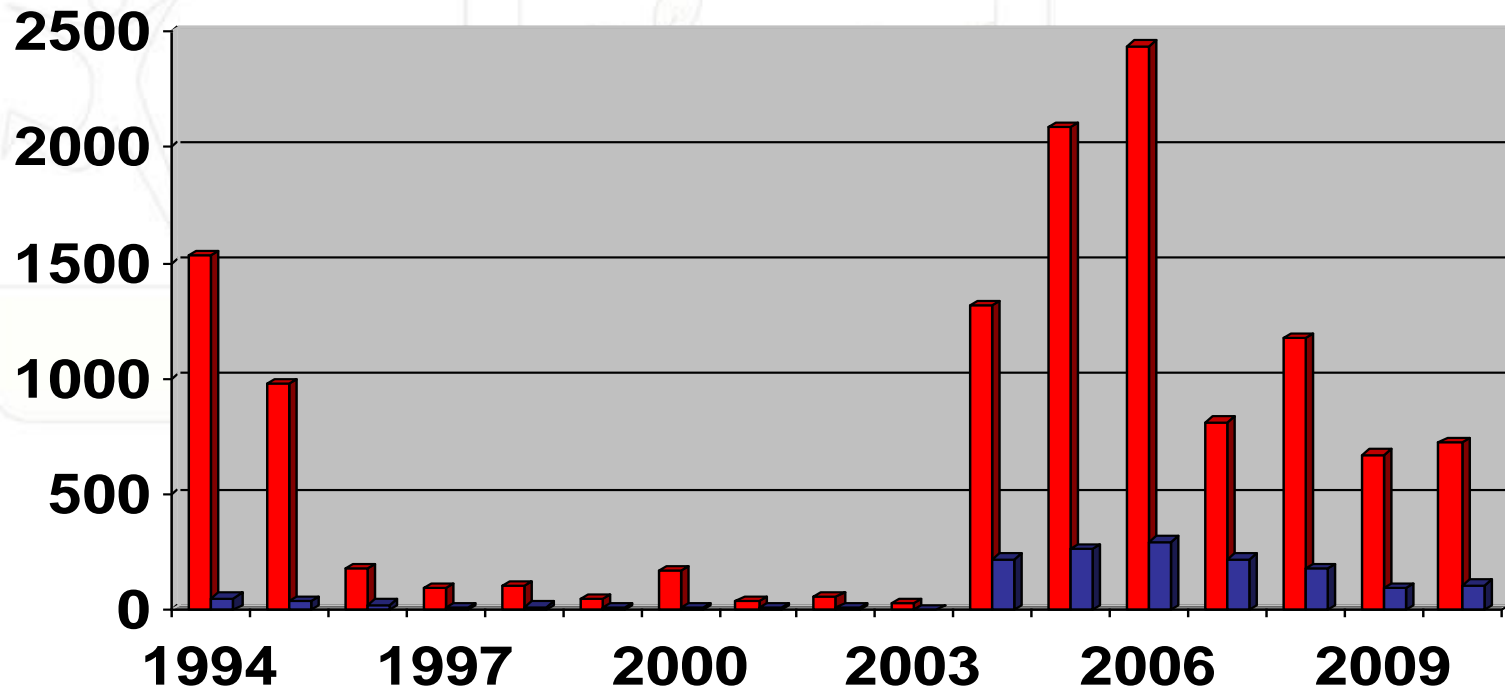
Non-EU territory where EU-cofinanced oral rabies vaccination is already in place (2011)

Non-EU territory where EU-cofinanced oral rabies vaccination is envisaged



Results of the EU oral vaccination programmes

■ number of cases in wildlife
■ number of cases in dogs and cats



EU legal framework (1)

- **90s: creation of a single market**
 - free movement of people
 - abolition of veterinary checks at internal borders
 - harmonised animal health requirements regarding trade in and imports of dogs/cats/ferrets
 - national rules for pets remained in place
 - quarantine system maintained in the UK, IE, SE
- **2000: progress in rabies eradication in EU-15**
 - replacement of quarantine system in UK, IE, SE by antibody titration test for EU pets
 - Discussion on a vaccination-only policy for pet movement within EU

EU legal framework (2)

■ **2003: Regulation (EC) No 998/2003**

- harmonised rules for movements within and into the EU of pet dogs/cats/ferrets accompanying their owners
- national rules in place in the UK, IE, MT and SE for 5 years (test maintained)

■ **Development of a fully harmonised policy**

- in 2006 EFSA assessed the risk of abandoning the test
 - <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/doc/436.pdf>
- decision to prolong national rules until 31/12/2011
 - **areas would be close to eradication**
 - **increase in EU-support to national programmes**

Conditions for moving a pet from a Member State into another

I. Marking requirements

II. Rabies vaccination requirements

III. Identification requirements

I. Marking requirements

- link between animal and identification document (sanitary status)
- microchip [or tattoo applied before 3 July 2011]
- ISO 11784 compliant microchip (otherwise obligation of own reader)
- ISO 11785 compliant reader

Pet registration in the EU

- No EU registration requirements for non-travelling pets
 - most pets never moved to other countries
 - unnecessary administrative and financial burden
- Mandatory for dogs in some Member States for purposes other than animal health (national taxes, dangerous breed)
- Voluntary in “Europetnet” for lost pets

II. Vaccination requirements

- Inactivated or recombinant vaccine
- Vaccine
 - marketing authorisation in Member States, or
 - licensed in a third country (in compliance with OIE manual)
- Administration by a veterinarian authorised by the competent authority
- Period of validity indicated in passport

III. Identification requirements

- Identification document issued by a veterinarian authorised by the competent authority
 - documents compliance with marking and rabies vaccination requirements
 - validity = lifespan of the animal
 - Format = model passport (Decision 2003/803/EC)



Conditions for moving a pet from a third country into a Member State

- I. Actively marked
- II. Valid anti-rabies vaccination
- III. Valid anti-rabies titration test
 - not required for countries listed in Part C of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 998/2003
- IV. Certification

Anti-rabies titration test

- sample collected by an authorised veterinarian
 - not less than 30 days after vaccination and
 - not less than 3 months before movement
 - does not apply on re-entry
- OIE prescribed neutralisation test
 - titre equal or greater than 0.5 IU/ml
 - performed in an approved laboratory
 - http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/liveanimals/pets/approval_en.htm
 - Proficiency testing- EU reference lab designated by Decision 2000/258/EC
- Test not to be renewed following a satisfactory result provided the animal is revaccinated within the period of validity

Procedure for Third Countries to be listed

- Application to the Commission
- Provide evidence of the following:
 - Mandatory notification of cases of rabies to the authorities
 - Efficient monitoring and reporting system in place for at least two years
 - Structure and organisation of veterinary services sufficient to guarantee the validity of animal health certificates
 - Measures for the prevention and control of rabies in place, including import rules
 - Regulations in force on the licensing and marketing of anti-rabies vaccines

Certification requirements

- animal health certificate issued by
 - an official veterinarian on the basis of supporting documentation; or
 - a veterinarian authorised by the competent authority and subsequently endorsed by an official veterinarian
- Compliance with requirements to be verified before issuing the certificate.
- Validity: 4 months or until the date of expiry of the anti-rabies vaccination
- Model certificate (Decision 2004/824/EC)
 - or EU passport accepted (on re-entry)

Veterinary checks for pet movements

- movements between Member States
 - targeted or random documentary and identity checks.
- movements from a third country into a Member State
 - at travellers' points of entry designated by Member States
 - http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/liveanimals/pets/pointsentry_en.htm
 - Measures in case of non-compliance,
 - return to country of provenance;
 - isolation until compliant with legislation
 - put down without financial compensation
 - where return is not possible and isolation not practical

Transitional measures until 31/12/2011 (national rules)

- IE, MT and UK are allowed to:
 - accept only microchips (no tattoo)

- IE, MT, SE and UK are allowed to:
 - require a test for pets coming from "listed" third countries

 - to require pets coming from "non-listed" third countries to undergo quarantine on arrival

Conditions to move a dog/cat/ferret into a Member State for commercial reasons

- Articles 10 and 16 of Directive 92/65/EEC
 - Requirements for pets (Reg.(EC) No. 998/2003)
plus
 - Clinical examination by an authorised veterinarian 24h before dispatch, documented in the passport or import health certificate
- Official veterinarian
 - Issues certificate
 - Notifies the movement to the Member State of destination (TRACES) (TRACES: the EU TRAdE Control and Expert System for traceability)
- Entry from third countries
 - identity, documentary and physical checks at designated Border Inspection Posts

More information on
http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/vegeteanimals/pets/index_en.htm