Practical guidelines to assess fitness for transport of adult bovines: A stakeholders’ initiative
• Initiative by UECBV and Eurogroup for Animals,
• First condition for good transport: good preparation and FIT ANIMALS
• General Aim: getting rid of “black sheep”, win-win result
  ➢ improving AW
  ➢ avoiding distortion of competition
• Means: producing guidelines very practical to use, easy to understand by all S/H
• Prepared by a small group of representative S/H
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

- ANIMALS ANGELS
- COPA – COGECA (European farmers and agri-cooperatives)
- ELT (European Livestock Transporters)
- FVE (Federation of Veterinarians of Europe)
- INSTITUT DE I’ELEVAGE
- IRU (International Road Transport Union)
WORKING METHOD and TIMETABLE

• Establishment of TORs  (June 2009)
• Choice of a template
• Designation of a secretariat
• Working groups ( 6 meetings) → drafts
• Drafts open to comments from MO
• Final draft to be endorsed officially by SH: already approved by UECBV, EG, FVE, IDE, AA, still to be approved by Copa ( 11/10 ?), IRU ( 11/10 ?), ELT (?)
• Commission: presentation on 19/10
• Future: ?
Purpose of the Guidelines

- For all operators
- To help them to decide if an adult bovine is fit for transport
- To better understand requirements of Annex I (reg 1/2005)
- Practical and user friendly: photographs, coding system

NOT A LEGAL DOCUMENT
- Not to be used to make a diagnosis
- Do not replace legal obligations
- Tool at European level, national legislation to consider
Contents

• Introduction: definitions, warnings, coding signs
• Part I: Summary of European legislation
• Part II: Animal conditions prohibiting transport
• Part III: Animal conditions where further assessment is needed before transport
• Annexes: Regulatory references, measures to take when animal unfit, example of generic contingency plan, example of specific contingency plan
A foretaste
1) INABILITY TO MOVE

This means an animal is unable:

- To move without pain (see definition page 7)
- To walk unassisted (see definition page 7)
- To stand up (these animals are commonly called “dowens”) or
- To remain up or
- To walk or
- Likely to lose its balance during transport

Dowen animal: animals lying down, unable to get up or to remain up

Animal likely to lose balance during transport


4) SKIN PROBLEMS

Skin problems may be a symptom of disease and could be contagious and transmitted to other animals or humans.

You must consider:
- The general condition of the animal,
- The existence of unpleasant odours, crusting, weeping,
- If the lesions/slings are extensive or localised

Unbowed animal: check for the general condition of the animal before loading!

These papillomata present a risk of injury during transport.

Harshous area: in this case it is a superficial process without secretion or impact on the general condition of the animal.
If there is any doubt

leave the animal out!
Thank you for your attention