



7.10.2009

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure

on the transportation of horses for slaughter in the European Union

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0054/2009

Written declaration on the transportation of horses for slaughter in the European Union

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 123 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas every year approximately 100 000 horses are transported unnecessarily long distances under inhumane conditions into and across the European Union for slaughter,
- B. whereas there is well-documented evidence showing that horses are being transported over long distances, causing a variety of welfare problems such as serious injury, disease, exhaustion and dehydration, because of the inadequacies of the existing legislation,
- C. whereas there is strong evidence to suggest that Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 of 22 December 2004 on the protection of animals during transport and related operations has not been robustly enforced,
- D. whereas a review of Council Regulation (EC) 1/2005 is being carried out by the Commission,
 1. Notes the petition collected by World Horse Welfare on the long-distance transportation of horses to slaughter in Europe;
 2. Calls on the Commission and Member States effectively to scrutinise World Horse Welfare's dossier of evidence in the context of the Commission's review of Council Regulation (EC) 1/2005;
 3. Urges the Member States and the European Commission to robustly enforce Council Regulation (EC) 1/2005;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council, the Commission, and the parliaments and government of the Member States.