

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2659/03
by Elisabeth Jeggle (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Regular issuing of veterinary certificates

Every week a farmer in a border area in Germany sells pigs to a butcher in Austria (distance from the German farm: roughly 25 km). In order to do that, the farmer requires a health certificate issued by the competent veterinary authority no more than 24 hours prior to the export of the animals. The examination costs roughly EUR 50 per animal.

In connection with the transport of animals within the EU, is there a cheaper and less bureaucratic export-authorisation procedure than the regular issuing of health certificates, with the related costs this generates for farmers?