Question for written answer E-003137/2013 to the Commission Rule 117 Jelko Kacin (ALDE)

Subject: Approval of deficient journey logs by the authorities

Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 requires animals transported for more than 8 hours from one country to another to be accompanied by a journey log. The journey log should, among other things, indicate the planning of the journey, i.e. the estimated journey time and the scheduled 24-hour rest stops at control posts if the length of the transport requires it. The Regulation obliges the competent authority at the place of departure to approve the journey log only if the planning 'is realistic and indicates compliance with this Regulation'.

FVO inspection reports published in 2009 and 2010 concerning 16 missions to 12 Member States (Belgium, Bulgaria, Estonia, France, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Poland, Romania and Spain) show that officials in the Member States often do not properly check journey logs. In particular:

- Member States' authorities accept journey logs with unrealistically short estimated journey times.
 As a result the obligatory rest stops for very long journeys are neither planned nor carried out.
- Important parts of the journey log are often left blank and, despite this, officials stamp the journey log as being satisfactory.

How does the Commission intend to rectify this systematic and permanent failure of the Member States' competent authorities to approve only those journey logs which are realistic and indicate compliance with Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005?

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