EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations revoke and replace for Scotland the Horses (Zootechnical Standards) Regulations 1992 (S.I.1992/3045).

They partially implement Council Directive 90/427/EEC on the zootechnical and genealogical conditions governing intra-Community trade in equidae (O.J. No. L 244, 18.08.1990, p.55), and implement Commission Decision 92/353/EEC (O.J. No. L 192, 11.07.1992, p.63), Commission Decision 92/354/EEC (O.J. No. L 192, 11.07.1992, p.66), and Commission Decision 96/78/EC (O.J. No. L 19, 25.01.1996, p.39).

The Regulations specify the criteria which an organisation or association must satisfy in order to become recognised by the Scottish Ministers for the purpose of maintaining a stud book (regulation 3(1) and the Schedule to these Regulations). Any organisation or association which satisfies these criteria must be granted official recognition (regulation 3(2)).

Regulation 4 sets out the circumstances in which the Scottish Ministers must and may refuse to grant recognition to, or withdraw recognition from, an organisation or association. Any such refusal or withdrawal must be communicated to the organisation in writing.

Regulation 5 allows a person to apply for a review of a decision to refuse or withdraw recognition under regulation 4.

Regulation 6 permits a recognised organisation to divide the main section of its stud book into different classes according to the horses' merits and requires that a horse registered in another stud book is registered in the appropriate class, upon application (regulation 6).

Regulation 7 specifies the circumstances in which a recognised organisation must enter a horse in the main section of its stud book.

Regulation 9 provides for the name of origin of an animal imported from another member State to be entered into a stud book maintained by a recognised organisation.

A recognised organisation is permitted to enter a horse in a supplementary section of its stud book where that horse meets certain minimum criteria (regulation 8); and to enter a horse in the main section of its stud book to take part in a cross-breeding programme (regulation 10).

A regulatory impact assessment has not been prepared for these Regulations.