

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 1560/2007**of 17 December 2007****amending Regulation (EC) No 21/2004 as regards the date of introduction of electronic identification for ovine and caprine animals**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

implement the system, taking into account its current and potential economic impact.

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 37 thereof,

- (5) A number of Member States have already developed the technology necessary for the introduction of electronic identification and gained significant experience with its implementation. They should not be prevented from introducing it at national level if they consider it appropriate. Their experience would provide the Commission and the other Member States with further valuable information on the technical implications of electronic identification and on its impact.

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament ⁽¹⁾,

Whereas:

(1) Council Regulation (EC) No 21/2004 of 17 December 2003 establishing a system for the identification and registration of ovine and caprine animals ⁽²⁾ provides that each Member State is to establish a system for the identification and registration of ovine and caprine animals in accordance with the provisions of that Regulation.

- (6) Having regard to the economic importance of this Regulation, it is necessary to rely on the grounds of urgency provided for in point I.3 of the Protocol on the role of national parliaments in the European Union annexed to the Treaty on European Union, to the Treaty establishing the European Community and to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community.

(2) That Regulation also provides that, as from 1 January 2008, electronic identification is to become obligatory for all animals born after that date.

- (7) Since this Regulation is to apply from 1 January 2008, it should enter into force immediately.

(3) In addition, that Regulation provides that the Commission is to submit to the Council, by 30 June 2006, a report on the implementation of the electronic identification system, accompanied by appropriate proposals, on which the Council is to vote confirming or amending, if necessary, the date of the introduction of the obligatory use of that system and to update, if necessary, some technical aspects relating to the implementation of electronic identification.

- (8) Regulation (EC) No 21/2004 should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Regulation (EC) No 21/2004 is hereby amended as follows:

(4) The Commission report concludes that it is not possible to justify the date of 1 January 2008 as the date for the introduction of obligatory electronic identification. Therefore it is appropriate to amend this date by postponing it to 31 December 2009 in order to allow the Member States to take necessary measures to properly

1. the first subparagraph of Article 9(3) shall be replaced by the following:

‘3. As from 31 December 2009, electronic identification according to the guidelines referred to in paragraph 1, and in accordance with the relevant provisions of Section A of the Annex, shall be obligatory for all animals.’;

⁽¹⁾ Opinion of 13 December 2007 (not yet published in the Official Journal).

⁽²⁾ OJ L 5, 9.1.2004, p. 8. Regulation as amended by Regulation (EC) No 1791/2006 (OJ L 363, 20.12.2006, p. 1).

2. Article 9(4) shall be replaced by the following:

'4. Before 31 December 2009, Member States may introduce the obligatory use of electronic identification for animals born on their territory.'

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 17 December 2007.

For the Council
The President
J. SILVA
