

NORDIC MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING CONDITIONS FOR MOVEMENT OF REGISTERED EQUINES WITH REFERENCE TO ARTICLE 69 OF REGULATION (EU) 2020/688

The competent authorities of Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Norway agree on the conditions for use of the derogation for movement of registered equines between their countries for the participation in competitions and in international breeding assessments and shows (The Memorandum). The purpose of The Memorandum of understanding is to facilitate movement of registered equines for this purpose between these countries.

Article 1 Definitions

For The Memorandum the definitions in Regulation (EU) 2016/429, Commission Delegated Regulation 2020/688 and Commission Delegated Regulation 2019/2035 apply.

“Competition” is defined as:

- All disciplines of equine competition recognised by the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI).
- All disciplines of the equine racing industry (trotting and thoroughbred racing).
- International breeding assessments or shows for equines registered in the studbook of the breed.

“Verified competition registration” is defined as a document verifying the participation of the equine in a competition (eg. Verified registration, equine name appearing in competition, racing or breeding assessment program).

Article 2 Use of derogations from requirement of animal health certificate

If the conditions given in article 3 of The Memorandum are fulfilled the following derogations when moving registered equine animals between Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Norway for participation in competitions may be used:

- The derogation given in Article 69 of Regulation (EU) 2020/688 from the requirement of health certificate in Article 143(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/429.

Article 3 Conditions

The derogations given in article 2 of The Memorandum may be used under the following conditions:

- The registered equine shall comply with the general requirements for movements set out in Articles 124-127 of Regulation (EU) 2016/429, and the supplementary animal health requirements for equines set out in Article 22 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/688.
- The registered equine shall during the whole journey be accompanied by:
 - A self-declaration fulfilling the requirements of article 151 of Regulation (EU) 2016/429.
 - A verified competition registration.
 - A single lifetime identification document (passport).

- The transporter of the equine shall at any time during the journey be able to provide these documents for the competent authority.
- The competition veterinarian or the main judge of the competition, or a person acting on his/her behalf, shall verify the identification of the registered equine by signing the section for recording of identity checks in the single lifetime identification document before participating in the competition to ensure the traceability.

Article 4 Duration of journey

The derogation given in The Memorandum can be used for journeys of maximum 10 days counting from crossing the border of the country of origin.

If the time period of the journey is extended, the person responsible for the equine animal shall apply for a health certificate from the competent authority where the equine is located, before the return trip.

Article 5 Final provisions

The conditions for the use of the derogation from the requirement of health certificate in Article 143(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 given in Article 69 of Regulation (EU) 2020/688 set up in The Memorandum are recognised by the Chief Veterinary Officers of Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Norway.

If the conditions of The Memorandum are breached by one of the countries, the non-implicated countries may agree on excluding the implicated country from this agreement with immediate effect. Changes to or interpretations of The Memorandum shall be discussed by the competent authorities of the parties of The Memorandum.

This Memorandum shall be applicable as from 17 October 2021. If one or more of the countries does not have the national provisions for movement of equines in accordance with this Memorandum in place by the 17 September 2021, it should notify the other countries.

Article 6 Transitional period

The current agreement will be applicable in each country until it is replaced by This Memorandum.

Signature and date

Date: 12.04.2021	Date: 8.4 2021	Date: 19.3.2021	Date: 10.04.2021
Signature: 	Signature: 	Signature: 	Signature: 
Hanne Larsen Chief veterinary officer of Denmark The Danish Veterinary and Food Administration	Håkan Henrikson Chief veterinary officer of Sweden The Swedish Board of Agriculture	Taina Aaltonen Chief veterinary officer of Finland Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Knut Rønningen Chief veterinary officer of Norway Norwegian Food Safety Authority