

## **Animal Transport Act** (1429/2006)

### Chapter 1 — **General provisions**

#### Section 1 — *Objective of the Act*

- (1) The objective of this Act is to protect live animals during and in connection with transport against injury and illness as well as all avoidable pain, distress and suffering.

#### Section 2 — *Scope of application*

- (1) This Act applies to the transport of live vertebrate animals and, as appropriate, of live invertebrate animals.
- (2) This Act also applies to the control of the compliance with Council Regulation amending Directives 64/432/EEC and 93/119/EC and Regulation (EC) No 1255/97, hereinafter referred to as the Animal Transport Regulation, and other enforcement required by these.
- (3) The Animal Transport Regulation applies to the transport of vertebrate animals in connection with commercial activity as set down in Article 1 of the Animal Transport Regulation. The general conditions for the transport of animals are set down in Article 3 of the Animal Transport Regulation and the technical rules to be followed in animal transport are set down in Annex I to the Regulation.
- (4) The general conditions for transport, means of transport and loading and unloading of animals apply to transport to which the Animal Transport Regulation does not apply (*transport other than that connected to commercial activity*).

#### Section 3 - *Relationship to certain statutes*

- (1) In addition to provisions set down in this Act, the provisions of the Animal Welfare Act (247/1996) and issued under it shall be complied with in the care, treatment and handling of the transported animals.
- (2) Provisions to be followed to prevent the spread of animal diseases in animal transport are set down in the Animal Disease Act (55/1980) or under it or regulated separately in individual cases.

#### Section 4 - *Definitions*

- (1) In this Act:
  - 1) *transport* means the movement of animals effected by one or more means of transport and the related operations, including loading, unloading, transfer and rest, until the unloading of the animals at the place of destination is completed;
  - 2) *long journey* means a transport defined in Article 2(m) of the Animal Transport Regulation;
  - 3) *means of transport* means road or rail vehicles, vessels and aircraft used for the transport of animals;
  - 4) *transport container* means a box, cage, crate, basin or other similar container which is used for the transport of animals; the provisions concerning the means of transport also apply to the transport container, as appropriate;
  - 5) *transporter* means transporter defined in Article 2(x) of the Animal Transport Regulation;

- 6) *a person transporting animals* means a person who transports an animal or animals in transport which does not fall within the scope of the Animal Transport Regulation; and
- 7) *control authority* means the State Provincial Office, municipal veterinarian, police, veterinary officer for meat inspection and veterinary officer for border control.

## Chapter 2 - **General conditions for transport**

### Section 5 - *Transport of an animal*

- (1) An animal may only be transported by a means of transport and in transport conditions where the transport does not cause any undue pain, distress or suffering to the animal. In addition, an animal must be protected against injury and illness during transport. An animal may not be transported if it is in such condition (*fitness of an animal for transport*) that the transport may cause undue pain, distress or suffering to it.
- (2) Further provisions on the fitness of an animal for transport may be issued by Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

### Section 6 - *Caring for the welfare of an animal*

- (1) The welfare of an animal must be cared for during transport. Water, suitable feed and rest must be offered to the animal at necessary intervals, taking account of the animal species transported, age of the animal, means of transport, transport conditions and duration of the journey as well as other factors influencing the need of the animal for water, feed and rest during the journey.
- (2) An animal which has fallen ill or been injured during the journey must, where required by the illness or injury, be separated from the other animals and first aid must be administered to the animal as quickly as possible. Appropriate veterinary care must be administered to the animal and, where required by the condition of the animal, the animal must be killed or slaughtered in a way that does not cause undue suffering to it.
- (3) Further provisions on caring for the welfare of an animal during transport may be issued by Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

## Chapter 3 - **Means of transport**

### Section 7 - *General requirements*

- (1) The means of transport must be sufficiently spacious, safe for the animal and such that it prevents the animal from escaping. The means of transport must have sufficient floor area and height, taking account of the animal species transported so that the animals can stand in a natural position and there is no risk that they may get hurt by being hit to the ceiling of the means of transport. The means of transport must have sufficient airspace considering the animal species transported.
- (2) The means of transport must have a sufficient number of adjustable ventilators, unless the ventilation can be organised in another appropriate and reliable manner. Where necessary, the means of transport must have pens, walls, fences or bars for separating animals from each other or for supporting animals during transport.
- (3) The means of transport must be such that it is possible to inspect and treat animals in the means of transport. The means of transport must be such that it can be cleaned and, where necessary, disinfected.
- (4) Further provisions on the requirements to be set for the means of transport may be issued by Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

### Section 8 - *Walls and floor of the means of transport*

- (1) The structures and materials of walls and floor of the means of transport must be suitable for the animal and such that they bear the weight of the animals.
- (2) The walls and floor of the means of transport must be such that they cannot injure the animal. The floor of the means of transport may not be slippery. There must be enough litter on the floor to absorb secretion, unless the removal of secretion can be organised by other, at least as efficient manner or unless secretion is removed regularly.

#### Section 9 - *Conditions in the means of transport*

- (1) The conditions during animal transport must be such that the animal is protected against adverse weather conditions and abrupt changes in the climate during transport.
- (2) The ventilation of the means of transport must be organised according to the transport conditions and so that it is suitable for the transported animal. During transport it must be ensured that the animal does not suffer from heat, cold, draught, excessive humidity, harmful gases, dirt or continuous noise which is harmful to the animal.
- (3) Further provisions on the conditions during animal transport may be issued by Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

#### Section 10 - *Marking indicating animals*

- (1) A means of road transport which carries a horse or a similar animal which is large in size must carry a marking which indicates that the means of transport contains animals. If it cannot be seen that a transport container contains animals, the container must carry a marking indicating this.

#### Section 11 - *Transport in the boot of a passenger car*

- (1) Animals may not be transported in a closed boot of a passenger car, except for fish, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrate animals. The transport of animals is, however, allowed in a boot of a passenger car which is large enough for the transported animal and which has a sufficiently open access to the passenger space of the car and the transport does not cause undue suffering to the animal.

### Chapter 4 - **Loading and unloading**

#### Section 12 - *Devices and equipment used for loading and unloading*

- (1) Where necessary, suitable equipment such as bridges, ramps and loading lifts must be used for the loading and unloading of animals. The structures of the devices and equipment used for loading and unloading must be such that the animals do not slip or otherwise get injured. Where necessary, the devices and equipment referred to above must be equipped with protective rails.
- (2) Further provisions on the devices and equipment used for loading and unloading may be issued by Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

#### Section 13 - *Treatment and handling of animals*

- (1) When loading, transporting and unloading animals, they must be treated calmly and the animals may not be unduly frightened or agitated.
- (2) Animals may not be hung by mechanical devices or lifted or dragged by the legs, tail, fur, ears, horns or directly by the head or otherwise treated in a way which causes undue pain, distress or suffering to the animals.

#### Section 14 - *Loading animals into means of transport*

- (1) Animals must be loaded into the means of transport so that they do not get squeezed against each other or foul or injure each other. Considering the size and age of the animals and duration of the journey, the animals must have at their disposal sufficient floor area and height so that they can stand in a natural position and there is no risk that they may get hurt by being hit to the ceiling of the means of transport. The means of transport must have sufficient airspace considering the transported animals. Where necessary, the animals must be protected by supporting partition walls, fences or bars or they must be tied for transport so that there is no risk of them being injured.
- (2) If animals belonging to different species are transported in the same means of transport, they must be separated from each other by species. Animals must be separated from each other if animals of different ages or with a considerable difference in the size or animals which are hostile to each other or sexually mature animals of opposite sexes are transported in the means of transport. However, the animals need not be separated from each other if they have been raised in compatible groups or if they are used to each other or if the animals concerned are pet animals for which a separation would cause anxiety. Female animals may also not be separated from the young which are dependent on them.
- (3) If an animal is kept tethered during transport, the rope or other bond used for tethering must be safe for the animal, of suitable length and strong enough so that it does not break during the journey. An animal may not be transported with legs tied together.
- (4) Further provisions on the loading of animals into a means of transport and requirements concerning the fitness of the transported animals may be given by Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

#### Section 15 - *Placement and fastening of containers and other load*

- (1) Containers must be fastened so that they do not move and placed so that all animals get enough air and do not foul each other. Containers must be kept in upright position during the transport and handling and they may not be exposed to strong movement, jolting or shaking.
- (2) If load other than the animals is transported in the means of transport, this must be placed and fastened so that there is no risk of injury to the animals.

### Chapter 5 - **Authorisations and certificates of approval and competence**

#### Section 16 - *Applying for transporter authorisation*

- (1) Animal transport authorisation referred to in the Animal Transport Regulation is applied for from the State Provincial Office in whose territory the domicile of the applicant for the authorisation is or in which an applicant from another Member State has placed him- or herself or in which an applicant placed in a third country is represented.
- (2) The application for authorisation must show the applicant's name or business name and domicile and other contact information. The application for authorisation must be accompanied by accounts and documents required for granting the authorisation referred to in the Animal Transport Regulation except for the account that the applicant has not been guilty of violating the animal welfare legislation.

#### Section 17 - *Granting and revoking of transporter authorisation*

- (1) The State Provincial Office grants the transporter authorisation if the applicant fulfils the requirements set in the Animal Transport Regulation.
- (2) The State Provincial Office may withdraw the authorisation if the transporter violates the animal transport legislation in an essential way or if the transport of animals no longer fulfils the prerequisites for granting the authorisation and the transporter does not remedy the shortcomings within a reasonable time limit set by the control authority.

#### Section 18 - *Notification of changes*

- (1) A transporter must notify the State Provincial Office which granted the authorisation of any changes in the prerequisites concerning the authorisation as set down in Article 6(2) of the Animal Transport Regulation.

#### Section 19 - *Certificate of approval of means of transport by road*

- (1) The certificate of approval for a means of transport by road used for long journeys is applied for from the State Provincial Office which granted the transporter authorisation. The inspection of the means of transport required by the Animal Transport Regulation is performed by the State Provincial Office or official veterinarian appointed by the State Provincial Office.
- (2) The State Provincial Office issues the certificate of approval if the means of transport fulfils the requirements set down in the Animal Transport Regulation. The State Provincial Office may withdraw the certificate if the means of transport no longer fulfils the set requirements and the holder of the certificate of approval does not remedy the shortcomings within a reasonable time limit set by the control authority. A certificate of approval may, however, be withdrawn immediately if the shortcoming in the means of transport is such that it directly endangers the welfare of the animals transported in it.

#### Section 20 - *Certificate of approval of livestock vessels*

- (1) The certificate of approval of livestock vessels referred to in the Animal Transport Regulation is applied for from the Finnish Maritime Administration. The inspection of the livestock vessel required by the Animal Transport Regulation is performed by the Finnish Maritime Administration.
- (2) The Finnish Maritime Administration issues the certificate of approval if the livestock vessel fulfils the requirements set down in the Animal Transport Regulation. The Finnish Maritime Administration may withdraw the certificate if the livestock vessel no longer fulfils the set requirements and the holder of the certificate of approval does not remedy the shortcomings within a reasonable time limit set by the Finnish Maritime Administration or the control authority. A certificate of approval may, however, be withdrawn immediately if the shortcoming in the livestock vessel is such that it directly endangers the welfare of the animals transported in it.
- (3) The Finnish Maritime Administration must deliver the information contained in the certificate of approval or on revoking of the certificate of approval without delay to the Finnish Food Safety Authority to be entered to the register of transporters of animals. The Finnish Food Safety Authority issues the number unique in the Member State referred to in the Animal Transport Regulation to the certificate of approval.

#### Section 21 - *Certificate of competence of drivers of road vehicles and attendants*

- (1) The certificate of competence of drivers of road vehicles transporting domestic Equidae, domestic animals of bovine, ovine, caprine or porcine species or poultry and attendants is applied for from the State Provincial Office of the province in whose territory the domicile of the applicant is located.
- (2) The certificate of competence is issued by the State Provincial Office. Provisions on the issue of the certificate of competence are set down in Article 17(2) and on withdrawing the certificate in Article 26(5) of the Animal Transport Regulation

#### Section 22 - *Control posts*

- (1) The approval of a control post referred to in Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/97 concerning Community criteria for staging points and amending the route plan referred to in the Annex to

Directive 91/628/EEC, referred to as the Control Post Regulation below, is applied for from the State Provincial Office in whose territory the control post is located.

- (2) The State Provincial Office approves the control post if the control post and the operations performed in it fulfil the requirements set down in the Control Post Regulation. The State Provincial Office may withdraw the approval if the operator violates the Control Post Regulation or if the control post or the operations performed in it no longer fulfil the conditions for approval and the operator does not remedy the shortcomings within a reasonable time limit set by the control authority. Provisions on suspending the use of a control post are set down in Article 3(4) of the Control Post Regulation.

## Chapter 6 - **Authorities and their tasks**

### Section 23 - *Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry*

- (1) The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry steers and controls as the supreme authority the enforcement of and compliance with the Animal Transport Regulation and this Act and provisions issued under it.

### Section 24 - *Finnish Food Safety Authority*

- (1) The Finnish Food Safety Authority steers and controls as the central government authority the enforcement of and compliance with the Animal Transport Regulation and this Act and provisions issued under it.
- (2) In addition, the Finnish Food Safety Authority approves the examination and examiners referred to in Annex IV(1) of the Animal Transport Regulation.

### Section 25 - *State Provincial Office*

- (1) The State Provincial Office sees to the enforcement of and compliance with the Animal Transport Regulation and this Act and provisions issued under it in the territory of the province.
- (2) The State Provincial Office is the competent authority which inspects the livestock vessels referred to in Article 20 of the Animal Transport Regulation and the competent authority referred to in the Control Post Regulation.

### Section 26 - *Local authorities*

- (1) The municipal veterinarian and police control the compliance with the Animal Transport Regulation and this Act and provisions issued under it in their area of operation.

### Section 27 - *Veterinary officer for meat inspection and veterinary officer for border control*

- (1) The veterinary officer for meat inspection controls the compliance with the Animal Transport Regulation and this Act and provisions issued under it on the premises of a slaughterhouse or place of slaughter approved under the Food Act (23/2006).
- (2) The veterinary officer for border control controls the compliance with the Animal Transport Regulation and this Act and provisions issued under it on the premises of a border crossing, exit point and veterinary border inspection post.

## Chapter 7 - **Control**

### Section 28 - *Right to check*

- (1) If there is cause to suspect that an animal is transported in a way that violates this Act or the Animal Transport Regulation, the control authority has the right to perform a check. The police may perform a check concerning animal transport even without suspicion. The same right to

check an animal transport applies to the veterinary officer for meat inspection on the premises of a slaughterhouse or place of slaughter. The police may be assisted by the official veterinarian in performing the check.

- (2) The person who performs the check has the right to enter the facilities where animals are transported or kept during transport and take necessary samples for the check without compensation. The check may comprise the animal, means of transport and container referred to in Article 2(g) of the Animal Transport Regulation, as well as feed and drink intended for the animal and fittings and equipment. Documents required under the Animal Transport Regulation may also be checked. Accommodation facilities of a vehicle or means of transport may be checked as referred to in subsection 1 only if this is absolutely necessary to clarify the matters to be checked and there is cause to suspect that someone has been guilty of a procedure which is subject to punishment under section 39 (1-3, 5 or 6) of this Act.

#### Section 29 - *Special checks*

- (1) To control the compliance with this Act and the provisions issued under it or to fulfil the obligations of international agreements which are binding on Finland or when required by the legislation of the European Community, the Finnish Food Safety Authority and State Provincial Office may order the official veterinarians to check animal transports.
- (2) The provisions of section 28(2) apply to the right to enter the facilities where animals are transported or kept during transport as well as the right to check and take samples.

#### Section 30 - *Obligation to provide information*

- (1) A person who transports animals and an attendant, driver, person responsible for the animals, organiser and transporter is obligated to provide the person who performs the check the requested information and documents needed for the control.

#### Section 31 - *Advice*

- (1) The person who performs the check must pursue to promote the welfare of the transported animals by means of advice and to ensure that any minor shortcomings revealed in the check are remedied.

#### Section 32 - *Inspectors of the European Community*

- (1) The provisions of sections 28 and 29 concerning the right to check and right of access to information also apply, when required by the legislation of the European Community, to the inspectors of the European Community.

#### Section 33 - *Granting access to secret information*

- (1) Notwithstanding the secrecy obligation set down in the Act on the Openness of Government Activities (621/1999), access to information received when performing a task set down in this Act concerning the business or professional secret or economic status of a private individual or corporation or personal circumstances of a private individual may be granted to:
  - 1) prosecution and police authority for solving an offence referred to in Chapter 5, section 1 of the Coercive Measures Act (450/1987);
  - 2) Finnish Food Safety Authority and control authority for performing tasks under this Act; as well as
  - 3) foreign bodies and inspectors referred to in the legislation of the European Community or international agreements which are binding on Finland when required by the legislation of the European Community or the agreement.

#### Section 34 - *Executive assistance*

- (1) Where necessary, the police must provide executive assistance to the control authority in the supervision of this Act and provisions issued under it.
- (2) In addition, the Finnish Customs and Border Guard are obligated to provide, upon request, executive assistance to the veterinary officer for border control in performing tasks under this Act and provisions issued under it.

#### Section 35 - *Performance of checks*

- (1) Checks referred to in this Act should be performed so that they do not cause undue disturbance or damage to the animals or animal transport.

#### Section 36 - *Register of transporters*

- (1) For the supervision of animal transports, the Finnish Food safety Authority keeps a national register of transporters. The State Provincial Offices update the register within the scope of the tasks set down for them in this Act. The information to be entered to the register is the following:
  - 1) name or business name of the transporter, business identification code (company or corporation code), address and other necessary contact information;
  - 2) number of the transporter authorisation;
  - 3) limitations concerning the types of animals transported and modes of transport;
  - 4) State Provincial Office which granted the authorisation with contact information;
  - 5) information included in the certificate of competence of a transporter or attendant referred to in Chapter III of Annex III of the Animal Transport Regulation and information on the suspension of the certificate of competence;
  - 6) information included in a certificate of approval of means of transport by road referred to in Chapter IV of Annex III of the Animal Transport Regulation and information needed to specify the means of transport;
  - 7) information included in a certificate of approval of livestock vessels referred to in Article 19(1) of the Animal Transport Regulation; and
  - 8) information referred to in Article 26(4c) and Article 26(6) of the Animal Transport Regulation.
- (2) The Finnish Food Safety Authority publishes and maintains the publicly available list of transporters referred to in Article 13(4) on the basis of information referred to in subsection 1. If the holder of the transporter authorisation is a private person, the home address or other contact information of the holder of the licence may not be entered to the list without the consent of the person concerned.
- (3) Information referred to in point 5 of subsection 1 above is removed from the register when the validity of the certificate of competence ceases. Information concerning transporter authorisation is removed from the register after five years from the expiry of the authorisation. Otherwise the provisions of the Personal Data Act (523/1999) and Act on the Openness of Government Activities apply to the collection and recording of personal data as well as use and disclosure of information recorded in the register.
- (4) Notwithstanding the confidentiality provisions, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Finnish Food Safety Authority and control authority referred to in this Act have the right to obtain information from the register required for the control of animal transports. The same right applies to the competent authorities of the Member States of the European Union to the extent required by the Animal Transport Regulation.

### Chapter 8 - **Administrative coercive measures**

#### Section 37 - *Prohibitions and orders*

- (1) Where any non-compliance of this Act or provisions issued under it are found in a check referred to in section 28 or 29 or otherwise, the control authority may prohibit the person who transports animals from continuing or repeating an action which does not comply with the provisions or order him or her to meet the obligations within a sufficient time period considering the nature of the matter. If required for animal protection reasons, the control authority may order the animals returned immediately to the place of departure by the most direct route or to be transported to the place of destination by the most direct route or to have the means of transport temporarily repaired so as to prevent immediate risk of injury to the animals. If the animal is in such a condition that keeping it alive would obviously be cruel, the control authority may kill the animal.
- (2) Articles 23 and 26 of the Animal Transport Regulation set down the measures to be taken by the control authority where the provisions of the Animal Transport Regulation are not complied with in animal transport. The provisions of section 17(2), section 19(2) and section 20(2) also apply to the withdrawal of the authorisation of the transporter or the certificate of approval of the means of transport referred to in Article 26(4c) of the Animal Transport Regulation.

#### Section 38 - *Conditional imposition of a fine and ordering a measure at the defaulter's expense*

- (1) The State Provincial Office may reinforce an order or prohibition referred to in section 37 by a conditional imposition of a fine or threat to order the measures taken at the defaulter's expense. The provisions of the Act on Conditional Imposition of a Fine (1113/1990) apply to matters concerning conditional imposition of a fine and ordering and having a measure taken at the defaulter's expense.

#### Section 39 - *Animal transport infringement*

- (1) Anyone who intentionally or through negligence
  - 1) transports an animal which is not fit for transport under section 5 or provisions issued under it or the provisions of the Animal Transport Regulation,
  - 2) transports an animal by a means of transport which does not fulfil the requirements for a means of transport or transport conditions set down in sections 7-9 or provisions issued under these or in the Animal Transport Regulation,
  - 3) neglects the care of the welfare of the animal during transport in a way that violates section 6 or provisions issued under it or the provisions of the Animal Transport Regulation,
  - 4) violates a prohibition set down in section 11,
  - 5) in loading animals to a means of transport violates the requirements for the loading or fitness of the animals set down in section 14 or provisions issued under it or requirements on the loading or fitness of animals set down in the Animal Transport Regulation,
  - 6) in the treatment of animals violates a prohibition referred to in section 13(2) or a prohibition or obligation concerning the treatment of animals set down in the Animal Transport Regulation,
  - 7) neglects the application of the transporter authorisation referred to in section 17(1)
  - 8) violates the notification obligation referred to in section 18,
  - 9) neglects the application of the certificate of approval of a means of transport by road referred to in section 19 or certificate of approval of a livestock vessel referred to in section 20,
  - 10) neglects the application of a certificate of competence referred to in section 21,
  - 11) neglects the application of an approval of a control post referred to in section 22,
  - 12) violates the obligation to carry documentation referred to in Article 4 in the means of transport,

- 13) violates the obligation to provide information or present documents set down in section 30  
or  
14) violates a prohibition or order issued by the control authority referred to in section 37,  
must be sentenced to a fine for *animal transport infringement*, unless a more severe  
punishment is set down in other law.

#### Section 40 - *Reference provisions concerning punishments*

- (1) Punishment for animal welfare infringement is set down in section 54 of the Animal Welfare Act.
- (2) Punishment for animal welfare offence and petty animal welfare offence is set down in Chapter 17, sections 14 and 15 of the Penal Code.

#### Chapter 9 - **Miscellaneous provisions**

#### Section 41 - *Derogations concerning the application of the Animal Transport Regulation and certain complementary provisions*

- (1) The requirement concerning continuous access to water for pigs set down in Chapter V, point 1.4b of Annex I of the Animal Transport Regulation does not apply to long road journeys which fall within the scope of application of the Animal Transport Regulation which take no more than 12 hours to reach the final place of destination during a period which starts on 1 September and ends on 30 April.
- (2) The additional national rules referred to in Article 30(8) of the Animal Transport Regulation concerning the requirements for the means of transport and fitness of the transported animals of species not explicitly mentioned in the Annexes to the Animal Transport Regulation, such as reindeer and fur animals, may be issued by Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

#### Section 42 - *Derogation from certain requirements concerning animal transport*

- (1) If required due to the conditions of the animal, derogation from the requirements of Chapters 2-4 of this Act is allowed when the animal is transported directly to a veterinarian's office or place of treatment or away from there if the transport can be organised so that no unnecessary pain, suffering or distress and if the derogation from the requirements may be considered necessary considering the nature of the illness or injury of the animal.

#### Section 43 - *Costs*

- (1) The transporter or person transporting animals must pay the costs due to measures referred to in section 37.
- (2) If absolutely necessary to ensure the welfare of an animal, the costs due to measures referred to in section 37 may be paid from the funds allocated in advance for veterinary services in the State budget. The costs may be recovered without a judgement and decision as set down on the recovery of taxes and charges through execution.

#### Section 44 - *Charges to be collected*

- (1) Charges are to be collected to the State for tasks performed by the authorities under this Act as set down in the Act on Criteria for Charges Payable to the State (150/1992).

#### Section 45 - *Enforcement*

- (1) It may be ordered in a decision issued under this Act that the decision must be complied with before it has gained legal force, unless otherwise provided for by the appellate authority.

#### Section 46 - *Appeal*

- (1) A decision of the Finnish Food Safety Authority, Finnish Maritime Administration, State Provincial Office, municipal veterinarian, veterinary officer for meat inspection, veterinary officer for border control and police under this Act may be appealed to the Administrative Court as set down in the Administrative Judicial Procedure Act (586/1996). The provisions of the Act on Criteria for Charges Payable to the State apply to appeal concerning a charge referred to in section 44 of this Act.

#### Section 47 - *Fees*

- (1) The municipal veterinarian has the right to collect a fee and compensation for a check performed under sections 28 and 29 and inspection of a means of transport by road referred to in section 19(1) as set down in the Government Decree on Veterinarian's Fees (1234/2001).

#### Section 48 - *Liability for damages*

- (1) The State is responsible for damages caused by a municipal veterinarian when controlling the compliance with the Animal Transport Regulation or this Act or provisions issued under it as set down concerning the vicarious liability of public corporations in the Tort Liability Act (412/1974).
- (2) The provisions on the right of subrogation of an employer towards the employee set down in the Tort Liability Act apply, as appropriate, to the right of the State to collect the amount of damages paid to the injured party from the municipal veterinarian.

#### Section 49 - *Entry into force*

- (1) This Act enters into force on 5 January 2007.
- (2) Measures necessary for the implementation of the Act may be undertaken before the Act's entry into force.