



# OIE Standards as a Platform for Developing EU Legislation and Bilateral Agreement with Trading Partners – Kuala Lumpur 5-9 November 2012

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*The views expressed here are purely those of the writer and may not in any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of the European Commission*

Health and  
Consumers



## EU and animal welfare

**Animal Welfare is a main issue for the EU**

**The EU will:**

- **promote Animal Welfare in a global context**
- **incorporate animal welfare as a topic in discussions and negotiations with third countries**

Sustainability and environment will be embedded within this animal welfare approach

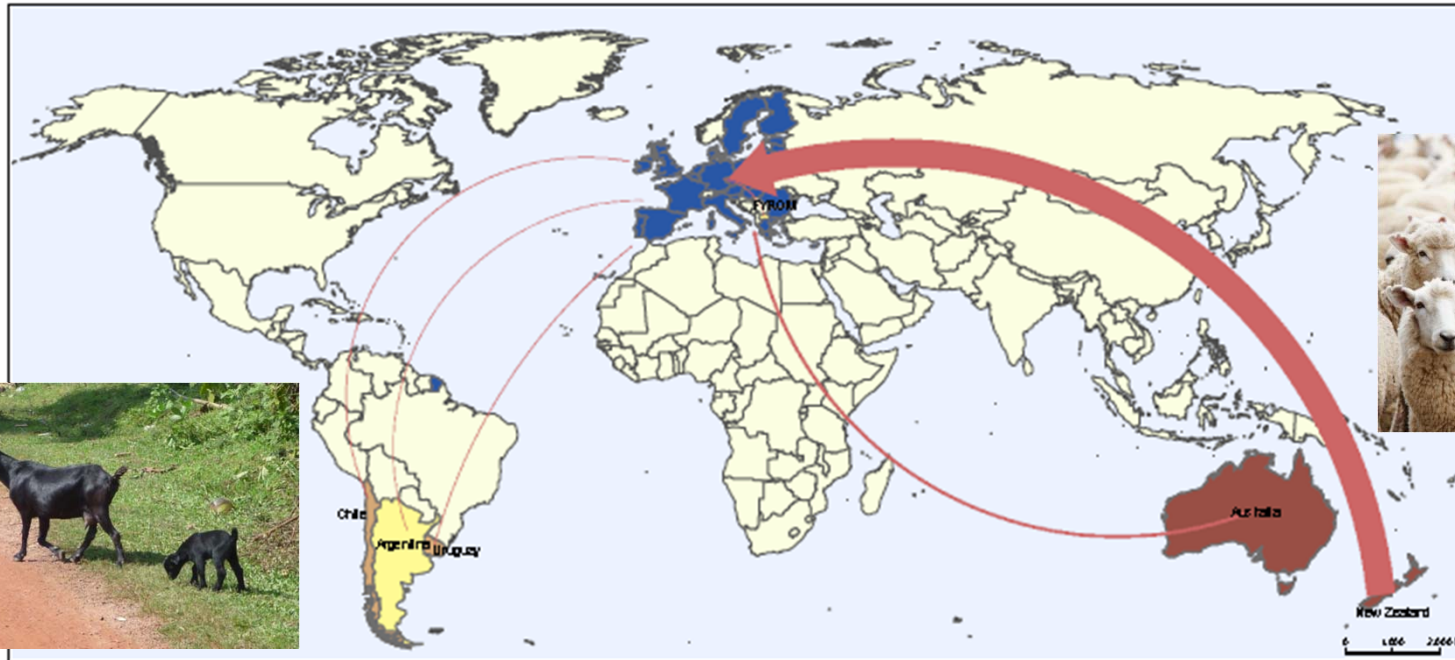
## What is achieved?

**Animal welfare and animal health are linked inasmuch as a good animal welfare will ensure that animals:**

- a) are less stressed
  - b) are not constantly trying to cope with an inadequate or suboptimal living environment
  - c) are more robust and less susceptible to disease
- 1) By including animal welfare, bilateral agreements have the potential to improve the lives of both people and animals.**
  - 2) Better knowledge of animal welfare in third countries may also facilitate market access opportunities.**



### EU 27 SHEEP AND GOAT MEAT IMPORT 2011



Imports from	Quantity (klors)	Quantity (%)	Value (M€)	Value (%)
New Zealand	17821	82.3%	98024	82.9%
Australia	600	2.8%	11200	9.4%
Chile	528	2.4%	2658	2.3%
Uruguay	516	2.3%	2428	2.1%
Argentina	416	1.9%	1726	1.5%
F.Y.R.O.M	257	1.2%	1409	1.2%

Sheep and goat meat is in the main imported from New Zealand but also from Australia, Chile, Uruguay and Argentina. The total value of these imports is 1,187 million Euros



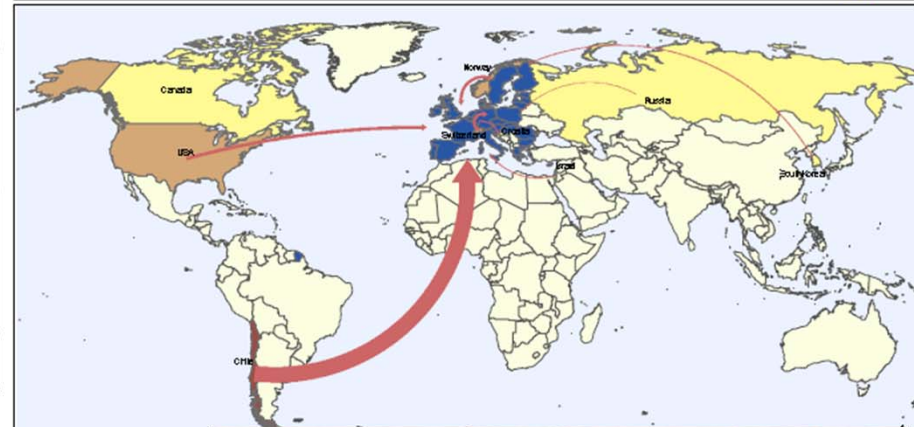
EU 27 BEEF MEAT IMPORT 2011



Country	Value (%)
31	21,5%
74	20,8%
11	16,5%
11	8,2%
15	5,5%
12	5,2%
19	1,5%
10	1,5%
11	3,1%

Beef is imported in main from South American countries. The total value of all imports is 1,600 million Euros.

EU 27 PORK MEAT IMPORT 2011



Countries representing 80% of the total quantity of EU imports (minimum 1%):

- 1 ktons
- 5 ktons
- 10 ktons

Source: Comis - COMEXT  
Cartography: DG AGRI GIS-Team 08/2012  
Map Projection: World, Coor. UTM - Map Scale: 1:110.000  
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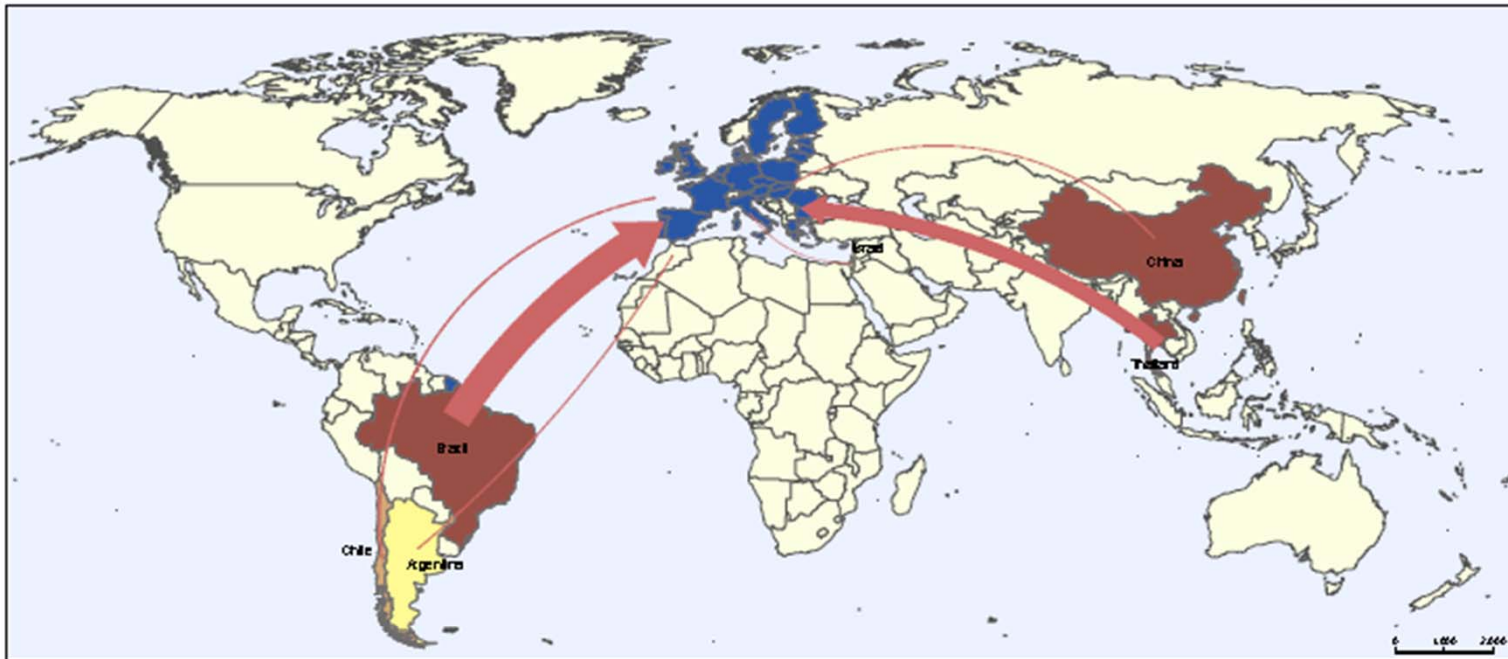
Chile is by far the largest exporter of pork meat to EU. The meat representing a value of 23 million Euros.





European  
Commission

### EU 27 POULTRY MEAT IMPORT 2011



Countries representing 80% of the total quantity of EU imports (minimum 1%)  
 20 k tons  
 100 k tons  
 200 k tons

Countries representing 80% of the total value of EU imports (minimum 1%)  
 ≤ 30 M€  
 30 - 60 M€  
 > 60 M€  
 Not included

Imports from	Quantity (ktons)	Quantity (%)	Value (M€)	Value (%)
Brazil	29327	57.8%	78859	47.0%
Thailand	15652	30.9%	68431	40.8%
China	2151	4.2%	9885	5.9%
Argentina	1454	2.9%	2892	1.7%
Israel	608	1.2%	2823	1.7%

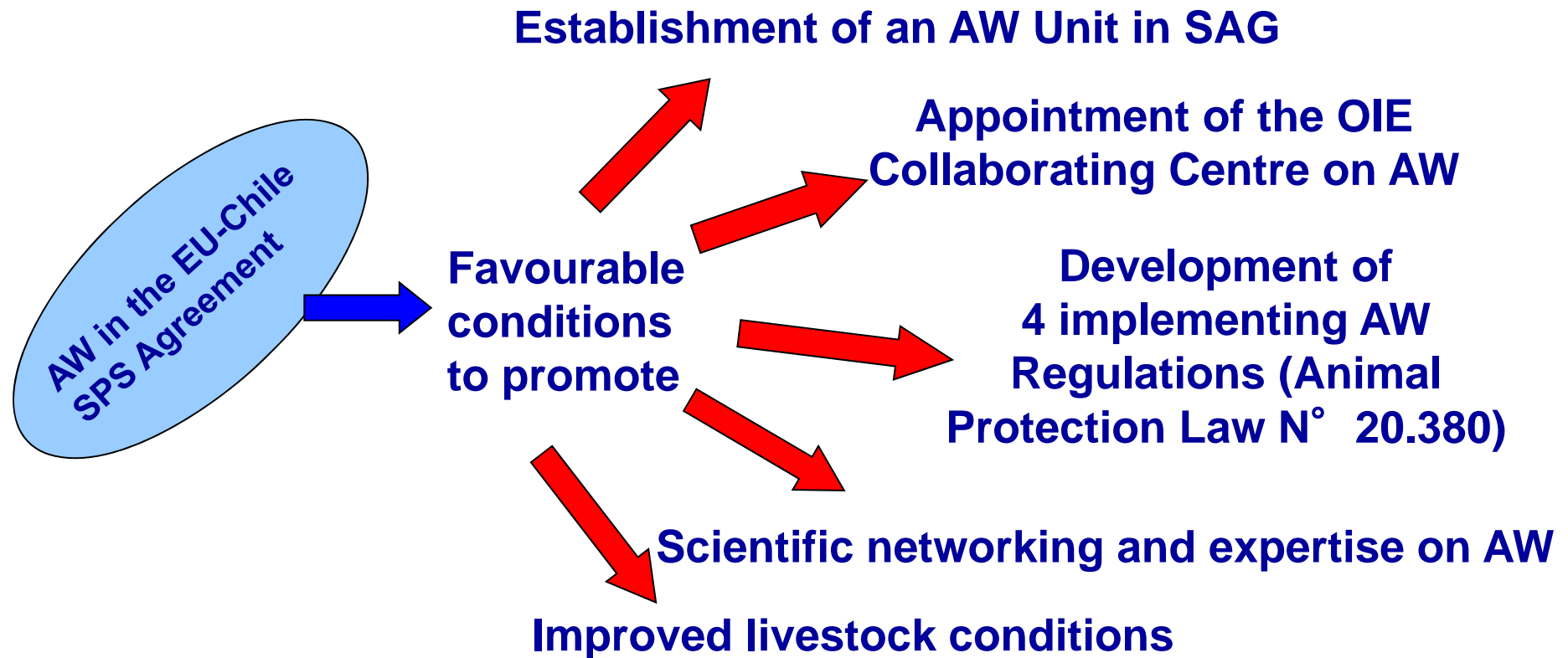
Source: Eurostat - COMEXT  
 Cartography: DG AGRI GIS-Team 08/2012

Map Projection: World, Cabinet II - Map Scale: 1:110,000,000

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**Import of poultry meat from Brazil, Thailand, Chile, Argentina, China and Israel to a total value of 1,655 million Euros.**

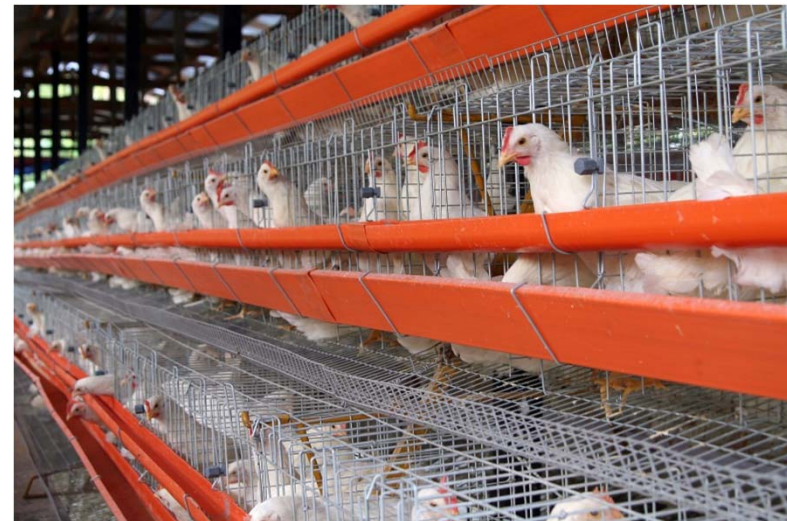
## EU-Chile SPS Agreement and Animal Welfare: a legislative success story



# OIE standards – bilateral agreements

- 1) The standards constitute a technical platform where central specifications are outlined
- 2) The standards provide a good framework for and help facilitate discussions

**The EU has good experience using the standards when negotiating bilateral agreements with third countries.**





## OIE Standards – Legislation

The EU has so far little experience in using the Standards in development of EU legislation.

➤ Council Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009 on the protection did however build on some elements of the standards:

e.g. Article 15(3)

The following methods of restraint shall be prohibited:

- a) suspending or hoisting conscious animals;
- b) mechanical clamping or tying of the legs or feet of animals;
- c) the use of electric currents to immobilise the animal that do not stun or kill it under controlled circumstances, in particular, any electric current application that does not span the brain.

Corresponds to OIE chapter 7.5 Article 7.5.2.(4)(b)

## OIE Standards – Legislation (2)

- The Commission is currently assessing the situation in European aquaculture with regard to the welfare of fish at time of killing.

It will be natural to use the Aquatic Animal Health Code Section 7 as a key source for the assessment of the current situation and for the development of possible legislative or non-legislative measures.

## In conclusion

*The EU believes that the OIE Standards constitute a very useful tool which facilitates both negotiations with trade partners and the development of Community or national legislation*





Thank you for your attention

