

Message 901

Communication from the Commission - TRIS/(2026) 2128

Procedure for the provision of information EC - EFTA

Notification: 2026/9012/NO

Notification – Notification – Notifizierung – Нотификация – Oznámení – Notifikation – Γνωστοποίηση – Notificación – Teavitamine – Ilmoitus – Obavijest – Bejelentés – Notifica – Pranešimas – Paziņojums – Notifika – Kennisgeving – Zawiadomienie – Notificação – Notificare – Oznámenie – Obvestilo – Anmälan – Fógra a thabhairt

Does not open the delays - N'ouvre pas de délai - Kein Fristbeginn - Не се предвижда период на прекъсване - Nezahajuje prodlení - Fristerne indledes ikke - Καμμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - No abre el plazo - Viivituste perioodi ei avata - Määräaika ei ala tästä - Ne otvara razdoblje kašnjenja - Nem nyitja meg a késéseket - Non fa decorrere la mora - Atidėjimai nepradedami - Atlikšanas laikposms nesākas - Ma jiftaħ il-perijodi ta' dewmien - Geen termijnbegin - Nie otwiera opóźnień - Não inicia o prazo - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare - Nezačína oneskorenia - Ne uvaja zamud - Inleder ingen frist - Ní osclaíonn sé na moilleanna

MSG: 20262128.EN

1. MSG 901 IND 2026 9012 NO EN 05-08-2026 NO NOTIF

2. Norway

3A. Royal Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries
Departement of Trade Policy
P.O. Box 8090, Dep
NO-0032 Oslo
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3B. Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Box 8007 Dep.
NO-0030 Oslo
Norway

4. 2026/9012/NO - C20A - Agriculture, hunting

5. Draft regulation amending the Norwegian provisions regarding the farrowing pens for pigs

6. Farrowing pens for pigx

7.

8. The draft regulation introduces amendments to the Norwegian Regulation of 18 February 2003 No. 175 on the keeping of pigs, in particular

- repealing the provision allowing fixation of particularly restless sows at farrowing
- introducing a transitional provision allowing fixation of particularly restless sows until 31 December 2027
- introducing increased minimum dimensional requirements for farrowing pens
- introducing exemptions from the minimum dimensional requirements for existing buildings, subject to specified conditions

9. The amended provisions are national additional provisions under the scope of Council Directive 2008/120/EC laying down minimum standards for the protection of pigs.

9a. The objective of the draft regulation is to

- improve animal welfare, in particular the freedom of movement, for sows and gilts in farrowing pens
- abandon and prohibit the Norwegian practice of fixating sows during and after farrowing, in line with the general provisions in the Norwegian Animal Welfare Act, animal welfare developments and scientific recommendations
- balance animal welfare improvements with practical feasibility for existing pig husbandry facilities
- fulfill provisions made by the Norwegian Parliament (Stortinget).

The drafted amendments seeks to further develop national standards within the margin allowed by Article 12 in Directive 2008/120/EC.

9b. We consider the amendments to be proportionate in accordance with EU law. They are

- suitable to achieve the public interest pursued
- necessary
- not excessive in relation to the pursued objective

Stortinget has signalled a clear public interest in improving the welfare for pigs in farrowing pens. Both banning fixation and expanding the minimum pen area are suitable to achieve this. The amendments represents nothing more than what the public interest in Norway demands.

To repeal the provision allowing fixation are necessary to secure that all Norwegian pig farmers stop fixating. Many have in practice already stopped, but some will probably keep on doing it as long as it is allowed. It is therefore necessary to make fixation during farrowing totally prohibited.

To expand the minimum pen area in new buildings are necessary to secure that the new size is fully introduced in the new pen systems. Without regulatory amendments such improvements are likely to be embraced only by the more progressive farmers. Minimum provisions should always be updated to lift and keep the general standard on a suitable level.

9c. Most pig farmers have already stopped fixating during farrowing. And most new pig stalls are furnished

with extended farrowing pens. To make these amendments and thereby force the rest to follow could not be considered excessive. On the contrary, the new minimum area is in the lower part of the new standard and therefore far from excessive.

10. References of the Basic Texts:

11. No

12.

13. No

14. No

15. Yes

16.

TBT aspects: No

SPS aspects: No

European Commission

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