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**Conférence Européenne des Ministres des Transports
European Conference of Ministers of Transport**

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**EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF TRANSPORT
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**

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Council of Ministers

TRANSPORT OF LIVESTOCK

Declaration

This Declaration has been submitted to the Council of Ministers in Budapest and adopted.

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The Council of ECMT Ministers of Transport, meeting in Budapest on 29 and 30 May 1996,

Facing

the increasing internationalisation of trade relations as a continuing trend,

Noting that

more and more live animals are being carried over very long distances and often under deplorable conditions which in many cases is even tantamount to cruelty. In the course of large international shipments to slaughter houses, the animals are often carried for days, crowded into a minimum of space, given little or no water and fodder and at times exposed to extremely low or high temperatures. The situation is particularly serious when animals for slaughter are carried by road, since, for example, temperature fluctuations on partly open vehicles have a greater impact.

Refers to

EU Directive 95/29/EC issued in early 1995, on which the EU reached a compromise establishing uniform regulations for animal transport, in order to achieve at least a minimum level of protection in all EC countries.

Recognises that

it is important to include all European countries since they carry out such transport operations on a large scale.

Invites therefore

the ECMT Member countries, to move towards uniform regulations for the transport of animals, particularly in the road haulage sector, and, as far as non-EU Member countries are concerned¹, to introduce such regulations, based on the text attached to the present Declaration².

Instructs

the Committee of Deputies to follow up this Declaration in order to further the cause of animal welfare in Europe by establishing uniform regulations for transport conditions.

¹ The Czech Republic entered a reservation due to national policy considerations.

² Due to technical reasons, this text is unavailable on OLIS.