

LAW OF GEORGIA
“ON AMENDMENTS AND ADDENDA
TO
LAW OF GEORGIA ON ‘VETERINARY MEDICINE’

Article 1. The following amendments and addenda shall be made to the Law of Georgia "On Veterinary Medicine" ("Parlamentis Utskebani" No. 27-30, 1995, article 635):

1. Article 1 shall be formulated as follows:

“Article 1. Definitions of the Veterinary Medicine Terms

- a. Veterinary Medicine* is the system of scientific and practical activities aimed at prevention and treatment of the diseases of all types of animals, poultry, fish, bees, sea and land mammals, Amphibia, embryos, incubatory eggs, fertilized spawn (hereinafter referred to as "the animals"); production of animal products valuable and safe in veterinary-sanitary terms, also, protection of the population and the territory of Georgia from the diseases common to animals and humans.
- b. The State Veterinary Service* is the unified system of state institutions and organizations, which perform the state controlling and supervisory functions. The State Veterinary Service takes measures specified by the legislation of Georgia, toward the owners of animals, as well as the owners of any subject to veterinary control, irrespective of their departmental subordination and form of ownership.
- c. By-products* are internal organs, head, tail, legs, udder, cuts of meat and other products obtained as a result of animal processing;
- d. Private Veterinary Service* implies the activities performed by physical and legal entities of Private Law having the relevant state license.
- e. Private Veterinary Activity* is the professional activity implemented by the person, who has a state certificate proving the veterinary education and a right to carry out private veterinary activities.
- f. Certification* is entitlement to private veterinary activities, thus, aiming evaluation of the person's ability to carry out private veterinary activities.
- g. Epizooty* is the massive contamination of animals by a contagious disease on the specific territory, in a definite period of time.
- h. Epizootic Situation* is the unified system of data about the origin and spread of contagious diseases within the specific territory, in a definite period of time.
- i. Antiepzootic Measures* are general-prophylactic and eradication measures against contagious diseases.
- j. Preventive Measures Against Non-contagious Diseases* are set of preventive and medical measures, including surgical, cosmetic, gynaecological and other special operations.
- k. Veterinary and Sanitary Measures* are presented by a unified complex of activities aimed at exercising veterinary-sanitary supervision and

eradication of pathogenic agents and disease carriers within the units under veterinary control, as well as in the environment.

- l. Zoonanthroponotic Diseases* are infectious and invasive diseases, communicated from animals to humans.
- m. Zoonotic Diseases* are infectious and invasive disease, communicated from animals to animals.
- n. State Veterinary Control* is the unified system of veterinary activities, which ensure veterinary inspectorial control over observance of the requirements stipulated by the International Veterinary-Sanitary Code and the Georgian Legislation of the veterinary field, as well as veterinary-sanitary supervision over export, import, transit, storage and sale of animals and animal products, also, over the quality of veterinary preparations.
- o. Veterinary Sanitary Supervision* is the system of constant supervisory activities over the units subject to veterinary control, providing eradication of movement of infected animals, also, production, processing, storage, transportation and sale of animal products, unreliable in veterinary terms.
- p. Veterinary Inspectorial Control* is the system of activities performed by the state veterinary inspectors, aimed to monitor observance of the requirements of the Georgian legislation of the veterinary field in any unit subject to state veterinary control.
- q. Veterinary Sanitary Evaluation* is the veterinary-sanitary conclusion, specifying the veterinary reliability of animal carcass and internal organs, as well as other animal products.
- r. Veterinary Laboratory Testing (Analysis)* is identification of the pathogenic agents of animal diseases, verification of the quality of veterinary preparations and determination of the veterinary safety indicators of animal products via laboratory methods.
- s. The Veterinary Legislation of Georgia* is the complex of laws and law-subordinate normative acts adopted for the regulation of the veterinary activities.
- t. Animal production* is production of animal origin designated either for human consumption or animal feed, also, for pharmaceutical or production purposes:
 - Products of animal origin, designated for human consumption: meat, internal organs and other by-products, meat products, egg, egg products, milk, dairy produce, fish and fish products;
 - Products of animal origin, designated for pharmaceutical use: organs, glands, tissues and animal organic fluids, used for preparation of pharmaceutical products;
 - Products of animal origin, designated for industrial use: leather, fur, wool, bristle, down and feather, horns, hoofs, bones, blood, bowels, milk products, which are designated for industrial purposes;

- Products of animal origin, designated for animal feed - meat, liver, bone, blood, feather, fat tissues, protein residue (cretonne) flour and milk products, designated for adding to animal feed.
- u. *Animal feed*** means all types of fodder, produced through processing of products of animal and plant origin;
- v. *Animal Feed additives*** include natural and synthesized substances (admixtures) that enrich vitamin-mineral composition of animal feed.
- w. *Units Under State Veterinary Control*** are any animal (including, poultry, fish, bees) farms, households, family enterprises and breeding farms, plants, incubators; any transport facilities for animal transportation; units of collection, processing, storage and sale of animal products and raw materials; industrial refrigerators and food units; units of production, storage and sale of animal feed and feed additives; units of production, storage and sale of veterinary, biological, chemical and pharmaceutical preparations; any veterinary entities; veterinary units of physical and legal entities of Private Law; agrarian markets, fairs (“bazrobas”) and other similar sales outlets.
- x. *Processing Enterprise of Raw Materials and Products of Animal Origin*** is an industrial enterprise, which, in accordance with the veterinary-sanitary procedures, technological parameters and the normative documents in force, carries out processing of raw materials and products of animal origin; preparation, storage and sale of food products and other produce for the use in animal-breeding and veterinary fields.
- y. *Storage Enterprise of Raw Materials and Products of Animal Origin*** is an enterprise, which, adherent to veterinary and sanitary procedures set for the raw materials and products of animal origin, ensures their storage in the suitable thermal regime, thus, preventing spoilage. The equipment and operational conditions of such enterprises shall respond to the requirements of the corresponding normative document.
- z. *Animal Produce and Raw Materials Production Enterprise*** is an enterprise, which, in obedience to the veterinary / sanitary procedures and requirements of the normative documents in force, produces animal products and raw materials for their future sale with nutritional and industrial processing purposes.
- aa. *Industrial Processing*** is the production of commodity outputs (ready products) from animal raw materials in the enterprise (plant), pursuant to the veterinary / sanitary procedures, technological parameters and the normative documents.

2. Article 2 shall be formulated as follows:

“Article 2. The Veterinary Service

The Veterinary Service implies theoretical and practical activities of the state agencies staffed by qualified veterinary specialists, as well as, the activities of Physical and Legal Entities of Private Law in the veterinary medicine field.”

3. Article 3 shall be formulated as follows:

“State Services Acting in the Sphere of Veterinary Medicine

The veterinary activities are carried out by: the Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia, the Veterinary Departments of the Ministries of Agriculture of the Autonomous Republics of Abkhazia and Adjara and the respective structures within these Departments.”

4. Article 4 shall be formulated as follows:

“Article 4. Objectives and Tasks of State Veterinary Services

1. State Veterinary Services have the following *Objectives*:

- a. Protection of animal health;
- b. Protection of the population from diseases common to animals and humans;
- c. Protection of the country’s territory from introduction of pathogenic agents of animal diseases from other countries.

2. State Veterinary Services have the following *Tasks*:

- a. Supervision over the conduct of prophylactic-medical measures to prevent contagious and non-contagious animal diseases;
- b. Veterinary-sanitary supervision over slaughtering of animals, also, production, processing and storage of animal products;
- c. Veterinary-sanitary supervision over trade (sale) of animals and animal products;
- d. Control over production and quality of the veterinary, biological and chemical-pharmaceutical preparations;
- e. Veterinary-sanitary supervision over export, import, re-export and transit of animals; products and raw materials of animal origin; animal feed; veterinary, biological, chemical and pharmaceutical preparations; as well as other cargo subject to veterinary control;
- f. Ensuring veterinary laboratorial testing;
- g. Organizing and exercising veterinary-inspectorial control.”

5. Article 5 shall be formulated as follows:

“Article 5. Legal Basics of the Activities in the Sphere of Veterinary Medicine

Activities in the sphere of veterinary medicine are regulated by: the Constitution of Georgia, International Veterinary-Sanitary Code, this Law, the Law of Georgia “On Procedure of State Certification of Veterinarians”, other legal and law-subordinate acts.”

6. Article 7 shall be formulated as follows:

“Article 7. Training of Specialists of the Veterinary Medicine Field

1. In Georgia, higher and specialized secondary-education institutions (faculties) train the specialists of the veterinary medicine field.
2. Graduates of higher and specialized secondary-education institutions (faculties) are given the profession of veterinarians, veterinary-sanitary doctors, veterinary pharmacists and veterinary technicians, according to their education.
3. Training of veterinarians, veterinary-sanitary doctors and veterinary pharmacists shall be conducted in accordance with the Law of Georgia “On Education”.

7. Article 10 shall be formulated as follows:

“Article 10. Right to Implement Private Veterinary Activities

The right to implement private veterinary activities is awarded only to a person having the proper veterinary education and possessing a state certificate in the respective field confirming his/her right to implement independent veterinary activities.

8. Clause 6 of Article 11 shall be formulated as follows:

“6. Salaries of the specialists of the veterinary medicine field and the technical staff engaged in particularly harmful work (bacteriologists, virologists, anatomists, morbid anatomists, toxicologists, X-ray specialists, disinfectors, disinsectors, deratizators, members of the structures fighting epizooties and other equated specialists), as well as the employees of veterinary organizations working in high mountainous regions, will be increased by 20 percent.”

9. Article 12 shall be formulated as follows:

“Article 12. Encouragement and Award of Specialists in the Sphere of Veterinary Medicine

Specialists of veterinary medicine field are encouraged and awarded in line with the legislation of Georgia.”

10. Article 13 shall be formulated as follows:

“Article 13. The State Veterinary Service of Georgia

1. The Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia implements state policy in the sphere of veterinary medicine in Georgia. In cases stipulated by the Law, the Veterinary Department coordinates the activities of state veterinary and private veterinary services and represents Georgia in International Epizootic Bureau, World Veterinary Association and other international veterinary organizations.
2. The State Veterinary Service of Georgia consists of: Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia; Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia and Veterinary Department of the Ministry of the Autonomous Republic of Adjara, and, also, the respective structures within these Veterinary Departments.
3. Heads of Veterinary Departments of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia and the Ministry of Agriculture of the Autonomous Republic of Adjara, as well as Heads of structural and administrative-territorial veterinary services are at the same time Chief State Veterinary Inspectors of Georgia, the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia, the

Autonomous Republic of Adjara and Administrative Units of the country, while their Deputies represent Deputy Chief State Veterinary Inspectors

4. Specialists of the veterinary medicine field working for the Veterinary Departments of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia and the Ministry of Agriculture of the Autonomous Republic of Adjara, and for the structural and administrative-territorial veterinary services of these Veterinary Departments (except the veterinary laboratorial system) are also the State Veterinary Inspectors.

11. Article 14 shall be extracted.

12. At the end of Article 16, before the word "self-governance", the words "and governance" shall be added.

“Article 16. Subordination of State Veterinary Services of Georgia

The Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia and the Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Autonomous Republic of Adjara, on professional matters, are directly subordinated to the Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia, while on territorial matters, to the Governments of the Autonomous Republics.

13. Article 17 shall be formulated as follows:

“Article 17. Functions of State Veterinary Services

Functions of State Veterinary Services include:

- a. The veterinary-inspectorial control over observance of requirements stipulated by the International Veterinary-Sanitary Code and Veterinary Legislation of Georgia by the physical and legal entities;
- b. Control and supervision over veterinary-sanitary check-up of animals, animal and plant products at the markets and fairs (“bazrobas”); at the production, storage and sales units of raw materials and products of animal origin; industrial refrigerators (cooling complexes); food units and sales outlets trading with fresh meat and fish, by-products, eggs of household production, raw milk and honey;
- c. Control over the quality of locally produced and imported biological and chemical-pharmaceutical veterinary preparations and their departmental registration;
- d. Licensing of private veterinary services, and veterinary-inspectorial control over their activities;
- e. Fulfillment of other duties as specified in this Law and the Legislation of Georgia.”

14. Article 18 shall be extracted.

15. Article 19 shall be formulated as follows:

“Article 19. Duties of Private Veterinary Services

1. Private Veterinary Services formed in accordance with the legislation of Georgia are granted the right of operation after they receive a veterinary license.
2. Private Veterinary Services are to perform the following duties:
 - a. To carry out preventive-medical and quarantine-liquidation measures in regards with epizootic, zoonotic and zoonothroponotic diseases in accordance with the Charter approved by the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia and a contract concluded with the Veterinary Department;
 - b. To immediately notify the cases of emergence of infectious or massive non-contagious animal diseases to the State Veterinary Service of the respective administrative-territorial unit;
 - c. To maintain statistical record of the veterinary activities and to relevantly update the State Veterinary Service of the respective administrative-territorial unit on the regular basis;
 - d. To observe the requirements stipulated by the International Veterinary-Sanitary Code and the Legislation of Georgia for the sphere of veterinary medicine while performing their activities.”

16. Sub-clauses “b”, “e”, “f”, “g” and „h“ of Clause 1 of Article 20 shall be formulated as follows:

“b) Elaboration of programs and measures against epizootic, zoonothroponotic and non-contagious diseases.”

“e) Issuance of veterinary permits for export, import and transit of animals, animal products, animal feed and other cargo subject to veterinary control.”

“f) Issuance of permits for production, storage and sale of biological, diagnostic, chemical-pharmaceutical and other veterinary preparations, as well as for bringing in, transportation and application of imported biological preparations.”

“g) Control over the use of biological, chemical, pharmacological, other veterinary preparations and feed additives; determination of the effect of thereof on healthy animals and quality of animal products; drawing up and approving the technical documentation concerning application of these preparations.”

“h) Elaboration of normative acts on processing, storage, shipment and sale of animals and animal products, as well as on the veterinary issues.”

17. Sub-clauses “a”, “c”, “d” and “f” of Article 21 shall be formulated as follows:

“a) Adoption of appropriate normative acts for implementation of quarantine measures and programs against especially dangerous diseases.”

“c) Allocation of funds required for implementing annually the measures of prevention and liquidation of epizootic, zoonothroponotic, massive non-contagious and contagious animal diseases, as well as for purchasing material and technical facilities for the State Veterinary Service; also, refrigerating facilities; lab equipment; special-purpose, disinfection and veterinary ambulance motor transport and other means.”

“d) Allocation of additional funds and other veterinary means for localizing and eradicating focuses of the dangerous contagious animal diseases, where necessary.”

“f) Exerting control over the eradication measures of bringing from abroad and spreading on the territory of Georgia the dangerous contagious animal diseases.”

18. Sub-clauses “a”, “c” and “d” of Clause 1 of Article 22 shall be formulated as follows:

“a) Organization of the veterinary activity in the Autonomous Republic in accordance with this Law and the veterinary legislation.”

“c) Fixing control over implementation in the Autonomous Republic of the antiepidemic measures aiming the protection of animals from quarantine and especially dangerous contagious diseases.”

“d) Elaboration, in concert with the State Veterinary and Health Protection Services, of measures aiming prevention of dangerous diseases common to animals and humans, as well as localization and liquidation of focuses of infection.”

19. Sub-clauses "a", "b" "g" and "h" of Article 23 shall be formulated as follows:

- a. Establishment and annulment of quarantine, specific conditions and regime for economic activities on the basis of reference of district, municipal and state veterinary services for catching-destruction of stray and homeless animals within the corresponding administrative territory, as well as for localization-liquidation of hazardous animal diseases;
- b. Implementation of veterinary-sanitary supervision through State Veterinary Services in animal-breeding farms, pastures, animal production processing and storage units;
- g. Control over execution of instructions and resolution adopted in regards with prevention and localization-liquidation of hazardous infectious diseases common to animal and human and mass non-infectious diseases;
- h. Within administrative territory, arrangement of neutralizing-utilizing units and burial holes for dead animals, flesh, unsafe meat, meat products and animal products as well as exertion of control over their functioning."

20. Article 24 shall be formulated as follows:

“Article 24 "Production of Veterinary, Biological and Chemical-Pharmaceutical Preparations and Control over their Quality

1. The Veterinary Department under the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia shall control the quality of biological and chemical-pharmaceutical veterinary preparations both produced in Georgia and imported into the country.
2. Sale and application of veterinary preparations, not registered in Georgia according to regulations stipulated by Law, is prohibited;

3. Application of residues of vaccines, diagnostic reagent, chemical-biological and other preparations, feed additives, microelements, biological and pharmaceutical preparation is prohibited."

21. Sub clauses "a", "b", "c", "f", "h" and "i" of the first clause of Article 25 shall be formulated as follows:

- a. To observe requirements and rules set by this Law, Georgian veterinary legislation and International Veterinary-Sanitary Code, free entering and examination of organizations, institutions, enterprises, firms, corporations and other objects subject to veterinary control irrespective of their departmental subordination, as well as of private and individual organizations and enterprises.
- b. To present requirements to improve violations of veterinary rules and norms in order to implement anti-epizootic and other veterinary-sanitary measures;
- c. To reveal reasons of outbreak and dissemination of animal hazardous infectious diseases and facts of production and use of food inedible for human and animal product unsafe in ecological and veterinary-sanitary terms;
- f. Within separate or entire administrative territory, to execute quarantine and other restrictive measures, aimed at avoidance of animal hazardous infectious and mass non-infectious diseases as well as localization-liquidation of their foci.
- g. To adopt decisions on animal diagnostic examination and vaccination, as well as on confiscation-destruction of animals and animal products according to epizootic situation for the purpose to localize-liquidate foci of especially hazardous diseases;
- h. Stop or prohibition of production, shipment and sale of animal products before execution of essential measures and eradication of facts of violation of veterinary-sanitary rules."

22. Article 27 shall be extracted from the Law.

23. The first clause of Article 26 shall be formulated as follows:

1. "The Chief State Veterinary Inspector of Georgia, the Chief State Veterinary Inspectors of Autonomous Republic of Adjara and Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia, the Chief State Inspectors of districts and towns and their Deputies, other Heads and specialists of services within the structure of the Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia, which exert state veterinary control, are the representatives of corresponding state regulatory bodies and they are protected by state."

24. The title of Section V shall be formulated as follows: "State Veterinary-Sanitary Supervision"

25. Article 28 shall be formulated as follows:

"Article 28. "Exercising Veterinary-Inspectorial Control and Veterinary-Sanitary Supervision over animals (including poultry, fish, bees), as well as over premises those involved in production of animal output, processing, storage and sale of raw materials of animal origin

1. In the planning and construction of animal-breeding facilities, veterinary objects, biological complexes, biological plants, objects involved in production of veterinary preparations, drug-stores, basis, refrigerator systems, poultry plants, agrarian markets (fairs), premises trading with meat, by-products, eggs, fresh milk and fish, meat processing complexes, slaughter-houses, sausage and other meat processing departments, any kind of enterprises engaged in animal products and animal raw materials processing and storage, all types of farm and peasant private economies and other units subject to veterinary control, sanitary conditions necessary for the maintenance of animals, for production and processing animal products and raw stuff, shall be taken into consideration in order to prevent the contamination of the environment with agents of the dangerous infectious diseases common to human and animal;
2. Allocation of land for veterinary objects, for enterprises involved in production of animal products, processing of animal raw material and other units subject to veterinary control, approval of construction, reconstruction and projection documentation and putting the unit for exploitation is allowed on the basis of reference issued by administrative-territorial State Veterinary Service of the Veterinary Department under the Ministry of Agriculture, only if the projection documentation entirely complies with set veterinary-sanitary rules and norms.
3. The state-veterinary controlling bodies of Georgia are authorized to require the court to stop construction of objects in case of violation of veterinary-sanitary rules and norms.

26. Clauses 3 and 5 of Article 29 shall be formulated as follows:

3. The Veterinary-Sanitary requirements and norms in regards with safety of animal feed and feed additives shall be approved in accordance requirements set by the International Veterinary Rules.
5. "Transportation and movement of animals shall be implemented through observance of the veterinary terms, according to route agreed with the State Veterinary Services".

27. Article 30 shall be formulated as follows:

"Article 30. Protection of the Territory of Georgia from Bringing in Animal Dangerous Infectious Diseases from Abroad"

1. Only healthy animals and products obtained from such animals are permitted to be brought into Georgia;
2. The country-exporter of animals and animal products shall be necessarily safe in respect of dangerous infectious animal diseases;
3. Import into Georgia of animals, animal products, raw material, animal feed and other cargoes subject to the veterinary control, or export thereof is permitted only by permit of the Veterinary Department under the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia;
4. With a view of preventing the introduction of the common to animals and man hazardous infectious diseases from abroad into the territory of Georgia, the control over the export-import and transit cargoes subject to the veterinary control, transported by any means of transportation in any kind of parcels (by rail, by mail, as

hand luggage) at the border entry points of Georgia (at railway stations of international communication, bus stations, in sea ports, airports, on highways), directly within custom control zone, the conduct of the corresponding measures, the registration of veterinary certificate and veterinary license with the right of future shipment of cargoes, and in the event of doubts as to the safety and fitness of the cargoes or in case of revealing the fact of violation of the veterinary-sanitary norms of transportation, the retention of the cargoes, their decontamination, confiscation or destruction shall be effected by the frontier-based appropriate services of Veterinary Department under the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia;

5. Transportation of animals across the state frontier of the country, as well as animal products, raw materials, animal feed and other cargo subject to veterinary control shall be permitted only on places where the corresponding state agencies of the Veterinary Department under the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia are functioning."

28. Article 31 shall be formulated as follows:

"Article 31. Preparation, storage, transportation and sale of animal products

1. Animal products shall comply with human health safety norms and they shall be produced on the territory safe in terms of animal dangerous infectious diseases.
2. Enterprises, organizations, agencies, farms, firms, cooperative, peasant and private enterprises, those engaged in preparation, processing, storage, transportation and sale are obliged to observe veterinary-sanitary and ecological requirements".

29. Article 32 shall be formulated as follows:

"Article 32. Obligations of Owners of Cattle and Heads of Units subject to State Veterinary Control

The owners of cattle, heads of the enterprises those engaged in production and processing of animal products, firms and all other units subject to state veterinary control, peasant and farm economies, plant owners, citizens shall:

- a. Fully observe the conditions of maintenance of animals and shall not admit the production and realization of low-quality in veterinary-sanitary and ecological terms animal products;
- b. Carry out the economic and special veterinary measures ensuring epizootic and zoonotic safety;
- c. Keep animal-rearing buildings, feed-processing enterprises and feed stores in a proper veterinary-sanitary conditions;
- d. Prevent the contamination of the environment with animal and animal raw material wastes;
- e. Observe the zoo-hygienic and veterinary-sanitary norms and requirements associated with construction and use of buildings for animals, the facilities for the storage and sale of animal products;

- f. Immediately carry out instructions of the state veterinary specialists concerning prophylactic-medical and liquidation measures against animal diseases; ensure accomplishment of planned and compulsory anti-epizootic vaccination of animals, diagnostic examination, medical and other veterinary arrangements at the correct time;
- g. Prevent the slaughter of cattle without the permission of veterinary surgeons and veterinary examination, as well as the sale of meat and by-products of the slaughtered animals;
- h. Sell animals, animal products and raw materials on markets, fairs and special trade objects only after the conduct of the necessary veterinary inspection and veterinary-sanitary examination."

30. Article 32¹ shall be added to the Law as follows:

"Article 32¹. Ensuring veterinary safety while animal slaughtering

- 1. The slaughter of animals (poultry) for meat is permitted only under veterinary-sanitary supervision, in slaughter-houses possessing the appropriate license;
- 2. Number of slaughter-houses, typical rule, other issues associated with their creation and functioning shall be determined by the Order of the Minister of Agriculture of Georgia;
- 3. At least one slaughterhouse shall be functioning in each administrative-territorial unit.

31. Article 33 shall be formulated as follows:

"Article 33. Confiscation and destruction of animals, animal products, animal raw materials and animal feed during especially hazardous infectious animal diseases

While eradication of the hazardous infectious diseases of animal (determined by the International Veterinary-Sanitary Code, "a" and "b" clauses), neutralizing danger of their occurrence, prevention of import and transportation inside the country, in case of violation of veterinary-sanitary norms during production and sale, while liquidation of infectious foci, animals, animal products and animal feed may be confiscated and destroyed by decision of the Chief State Veterinary Inspectors of Georgia, the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia and the Autonomous Republic of Adjara, their Deputies, the Chief State Veterinary Inspectors of towns, districts and their Deputies, according to determined rules, at the expense of owner."

32. Article 34 shall be formulated as follows:

"Article 34. Implementation of Veterinary Sanitary Supervision at agrarian markets, fairs ("bazrobas"), other establishments engaged in production, storing and processing of animals, animal raw material and products, industrial refrigerators (complex of refrigerators) as well as engaged in trading with fresh meat and fish, by-products, home-made eggs, raw milk and honey fresh milk and honey:

1. At agrarian markets and fairs (“bazrobas”), at other units trading with fresh meat and fish, by-products, home-made eggs, raw milk and honey, in enterprises engaged in preparation, storing and processing of animals, animal raw materials and products (except milk and milk products processing enterprises), in industrial refrigerators (complex of refrigerators), irrespective of their administrative subordination and legal status, it is obligatory to ensure functioning of structural Veterinary-Sanitary Supervision Services (laboratories) staffed by properly licensed and certified veterinary specialist (specialists). Milk and milk products processing enterprises shall ensure examination of supplied raw materials on brucellosis and mastitis.
2. In mentioned objects, where the stipulated Veterinary-Sanitary Supervision Services (laboratories) do not operate, trade with animals (poultry, fish, bee), marine and terrestrial mammal animals, amphibian, animal products (meat by-products, meat products, milk and dairy products, fish and fish products, egg, beekeeping products, etc.) is prohibited.
3. Cessation or annulment of license of permanent Veterinary-Sanitary Supervision Services (Laboratories) operating in objects as listed in the first clause of this Article correspondingly causes stop of functioning of the object or cessation of its activities according to rules set by Georgian legislation.
4. At markets (fairs) the determination of safety in veterinary-sanitary terms shall apply to animals, meat, by-products from the slaughtered animals, milk and milk products, domesticated poultry, its meat, the products of wild animals and birds, eggs, food oils, fish, honey, beekeeping products and raw material, and plant products;
5. The sale of leather raw material and fur is allowed as a result of the corresponding appropriate processing-preservation and on the basis of a Laboratory conclusion thereon.
6. The managers (administration) of agrarian markets, fairs, animal raw materials and output production, storing and processing enterprises, industrial refrigerators (complex of refrigerators), and other units trading with fresh meat and fish, by-products, home-made eggs, raw milk and honey, as well as the veterinary-sanitary supervision services operating within these units, shall confiscate products if it is obvious that production is dangerous in veterinary-sanitary terms. Confiscation shall be conducted with full observance of the legislation of Georgia. Destruction shall be carried out at owners' expense. The appropriate information shall be submitted to the towns and district-based relevant services of the Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia.
7. The managers (administration) of agrarian markets, fairs, animal raw materials and output production, storing and processing enterprises, industrial refrigerators (complex of refrigerators), and other units trading with fresh meat and fish, by-products, home-made eggs, raw milk and honey, shall provide comfortable typical space, refrigerator systems, equipment and machinery, running hot and cold water and electro-energy, diagnostic means, chemical reactive, special uniform and other essential

additional means for Veterinary-Sanitary Supervision Services (Laboratories).

8. The Veterinary Departments of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia and the Ministries of Agriculture of Autonomous Republics of Adjara and Abkhazia, the State Sanitary Supervision territorial bodies under the Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Security implement the joint coordinative arrangements to prevent contamination and poisoning of population by dangerous diseases common to animals and humans.

33. Article 34¹ shall be added to the Law as follows:

"Article 34¹. Ensuring veterinary-sanitary safety in nutrition units

The nutrition units are prohibited to purchase, use and sale animal raw materials and products those not examined in veterinary-sanitary terms, not stamped and having no appropriate veterinary certificate. Violation of requirements of this Article will invoke responsibility set by the Georgian legislation.

34. Article 35. The first clause of Article 35 shall be extracted from the Law.

35. Article 36 shall be formulated as follows:

"Article 36. Funding of anti-epizootic measures

Funding of planned prophylactic and quarantine measures to prevent zonal and zoo-anthroposic contagious diseases common to humans and animals shall be provided from either the central budget or the budgets of the Autonomous Republics (according to the list of diseases determined after consideration of the epizootic situation in the country by the Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia).

36. Article 37 shall be formulated as follows:

"Article 37. Funding other veterinary measures.

Anti-epizootic, prophylactic-quarantine and other veterinary measures, except for the measures indicated in Article 36, are to be conducted at the expense of the owner of the animal."

37. Sub-clauses "c", "d", "e", "f", "g", "h" and "i" of the second clause of Article 38 shall be formulated as follows:

- c. Liquidation of hazardous and infectious animal foci untimely and incompletely;
- d. Violation of regulations and norms regulating supply of safe in veterinary terms animal products and other food stuff;
- e. Production and use of unsafe animal feed, which caused or might cause outbreak and dissemination of animal mass infectious or non-infectious disease.

- f. Failure in execution of veterinary-sanitary rules and norms necessary to guard the territory of Georgia for bringing in hazardous animal diseases from abroad.
- g. Failure in observance of veterinary rules while transportation of animals, animal products, animal feed, international and internal (export, import, transit) cargo subject to veterinary control by any transportation mean;
- h. Transportation-sale of products which are not examined in veterinary terms, have no veterinary-sanitary safety reference and have no veterinary control stamp;
- i. Violation of veterinary-sanitary requirements while processing and use of raw leather, fur and other animal products".

38. Article 39 shall be formulated as follows:

"Article 39. Discussion of administrative law-violation cases and imposition of administrative penalties by State Veterinary Controlling Bodies

In case of violation of requirements set by Georgian veterinary legislation, on behalf of State Veterinary Supervision Body - Veterinary Department of Georgia, discussion of administrative law-violation cases and the imposition of administrative penalties shall be carried out in full accordance with the Georgian legislation in-force."

39. Article 41 shall be formulated as follows:

"Article 41. On International Agreements Within the Sphere of Veterinary Medicine

If the Agreement on veterinary and animal-breeding issues, as well as on animals, animal products, animal feed, import, export and transit of other cargo subject to veterinary control, stipulates rules different from this Law and veterinary legislations, the norms stipulated by the International Agreement shall be applied.

40. Article 42 shall be added to the Law as follows:

"Article 42. Transitional Provisions

1. During three months upon enactment of this Law, the joint order of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia and the Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Protection of Georgia shall be adopted, determining the list of feed animal-breeding and animal products, production, storage, transportation, import, export, transit shipment and sale of which are centrally supervised by the corresponding state veterinary and state sanitary supervision services under the Ministry of Agriculture and Food of Georgia and the Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Protection of Georgia, both independently and jointly, under their scope of competence.

2. During six months upon enactment of this Law, the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia shall adopt the following Orders:
 - a. On approval of Charter of the Veterinary Department under the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia;
 - b. On approval of charters of the state veterinary services under the structure of the Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia;
 - c. On approval of veterinary-sanitary norms and regulations for projection, construction and exploitation of units subject to state veterinary control;
 - d. On approval of typical rules for veterinary services of both physical and legal entities (veterinary drug-stores, trade firms, clinics and beauty parlor and other objects);
 - e. On approval of typical rules for Veterinary-Sanitary Supervision Veterinary Services (Laboratories) functioning in agrarian markets, fairs, animal raw materials and output production, storing and processing enterprises, industrial refrigerators, nutrition and trade units;
 - f. On approval of rules for confiscation and destruction of animal products and raw materials either infected with agents of epizootic, zoonotic and zoo-anthropozoonic diseases or considered as inedible, as well as for confiscation and destruction of biological and chemical-pharmaceutical preparations;
 - g. On approval of rules for execution of prophylactic-quarantine measures against hazardous infectious diseases determined by "a" and "b" clauses of the International Veterinary-Sanitary Code;
 - h. On approval of typical rules for veterinary laboratories (diagnostic divisions) of both the physical and legal entities under the Private Law;
 - i. On approval of veterinary-sanitary rules for animal movement (including winter and summer pastures);
 - j. On approval of veterinary-sanitary rules for import, export, re-export and transit shipment of animals (including poultry, bee, fish, all sorts of marine and terrestrial mammal animals, amphibians, hatching eggs, fertilized spawn, animal ovule, etc.) and raw materials of animal origin;
 - k. On approval of rules for veterinary examination of animals for slaughter and veterinary-sanitary examination of meat and meat products;
 - l. On approval of animal quarantine rules;
 - m. On approval of rules for production, storage (transportation), export, re-export and import of biological and all sorts of chemical-pharmaceutical means to be applied for veterinary purposes;

- n. On approval of charter of Permanent Board of Veterinary Affairs of the Veterinary Department under the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia.
- o. On approval of the Charter of Biological-Pharmacological Board of the veterinary Department under the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia.
- p. On rules for production, import, export, storage, registration and allocation of biological and chemical-pharmaceutical preparations to be applied within the veterinary sphere;
- q. On approval of rules for stamping animal meat.
- r. On approval of veterinary certificate form applied while shipment of animals, animal products and raw materials within the territory of the country as well as approval of procedures for its issuance.
- s. On approval of certificate form applied while export of animal, animal products and raw materials and procedures for its issuance.

Article 43. Final Provisions

1. This Law, except Article 10 and Article 32¹, goes into effect on 15th day of its publication.
2. Article 10 of this Law goes into effect on the day of enactment of the Law of Georgia “On Procedures of State Certification of Veterinarians”.
3. Article 32¹ of this Law goes into effect on the day of enactment of the corresponding normative act.

Article II. Put this Law into force on the 15th day of its publication

Mikheil Saakashvili

President of Georgia

Tbilisi, 2004, 26th October