

REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

LAW

ON VETERINARY MEDICINE

Adopted on June 21, 2014

Chapter 1

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1 The subject matter and scope of the Law

1. This Law regulates the relations pertaining to the implementation and management of Veterinary Medicine.
2. This Law shall apply to all entities participating in the relations existent in the field of Veterinary Medicine and to all persons practicing Veterinary Medicine.

Article 2. Scope of Veterinary Medicine

1. Veterinary Medicine comprises the application of veterinary requirements addressed at:
 - 1) protection of animal health and animal welfare;
 - 2) prevention and eradication of outbreaks of animal diseases and contagious diseases common for animals and humans /zoonoses/, preservation of stable epizootic situation and safety;

- 3) production, processing, keeping, transportation, trade and(or) sales, import and export of animals, animal origin raw material and products;
 - 4) production, keeping, transportation, trade and (or) sales, import and export of insemination supplies and veterinary medicinal products;
 - 5) Handling and storage of animal-origin by-products;
 - 6) Veterinary practice, Veterinary education and science, Laboratory activities, veterinary sanitary expertise;
 - 7) Protection of Environment against adverse effects emerging from activities in the field of Veterinary Medicine;
2. The field of Veterinary Medicine also includes veterinary state control aimed at the compliance with veterinary requirements.

Article 3: Main Concepts

1. Main concepts used in this Law are the following:

- 1) “competent authority” (authorities) – state body (bodies) authorized by the Government of the Republic of Armenia to develop policy, exercise control and (or) provide services in the field of Veterinary Medicine;
- 2) “veterinary medicine” – measures for prevention, diagnosis, treatment, eradication of animal diseases, protection of animals and animal welfare, control over the production, processing, transportation, marketing of animal origin products and raw materials, production of veterinary medicinal products, veterinary supplies, feed and feed additives, their import and export, prevention of contagious animal diseases from entering the area of the Republic of Armenia.
- 3) “veterinary practice” – a professional activity of natural and legal persons aimed at the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of animal diseases and diseases common for animals and humans (zoonoses), protection of animal health and animal welfare, prevention and eradication of epizooties, production of safe animal origin raw materials, products and animal origin by-products;

- 4) “veterinary service” – practice of veterinary medicine by natural and legal persons;
- 5) “community veterinarian” – person providing veterinary services in one or several communities in the scope of state epizootic measures;
- 6) “items subject to veterinary control” – animals or their insemination materials (egg for incubation, semen, ovum, zygote, embryo), animal origin products, animal origin raw material, animal origin by-products, feedstuffs, supplementary feeds, mixed feeds, feed additives, veterinary medicinal products;
- 8) “veterinary-sanitary expertise” – study of animal origin raw material and products, animal feedstuffs, animal insemination materials for the purpose of veterinary-sanitary assessment;
- 9) “veterinary supplies” – outfit, devices, tools, equipment, animal handling and care products, special veterinary transportation means, machinery required for veterinary practice;
- 10) “veterinary medicinal product” – substance or substance compounds (biological preparations: vaccines, diagnosis and identification kits and preparations for disease pathogens, immune and hyper-immune serums, immunoglobulins, blood fractions, healing and preventive preparations derived from animal tissues and organs, bacterial cultures and other bacterial products, hormonal preparations, thyrostatic substances, beta-antagonists, substances of plant, mineral, chemical, chemical-pharmaceutical origin, preparations or products used for treatment, disinfection, antibacterial, insecticidal, rodents control, anthelmintic, antiparasitic, anti tick action, pre-mixes to be used for medicated feedingstuffs), which
 - a. are used for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of contagious and non-contagious animal diseases and for the deactivation and destruction of the infection in the environment.
 - b. are administered to animals with a view either to restoring or neutralizing or improving physiological deteriorated functions by exerting a pharmacological, immunological or metabolic action,
- 11) thyrostatic substances – substances affecting the thyroid gland and contributing to the efficiency of animal growth;
- 12) hormonal preparation – products containing hormonal substances: estrogen, androgen and gestagen with direct and indirect action;

13) veterinary medicinal product withdrawal period – the period between the last administration of veterinary medicinal product to animals and the production of raw materials and foodstuffs from such animals, during which it is ensured that such animal-origin raw materials and foodstuffs do not contain residues of veterinary medicinal products or they do not exceed the maximum residue limits;

14) epizootic - an epidemic infectious disease of animals which is capable of spreading fairly quickly within a relatively short period of time and over long distances, and which is characterized as permanently present and re-occurring.

15) livestock farm – a site, where temporarily or permanently animals are kept, except for veterinary clinics and animal emergency aid organizations;

16) animal fertilization materials – semen, ovum, zygote and embryo, fertilized fish eggs, egg for incubation, which are used for animal artificial insemination, fertilization and reproduction;

17) animals – mammals, poultry, amphibians, reptiles, fishes, molluscs, crustaceans, snails, insects, other vertebrate and invertebrate animals, which are kept free-range or by humans;

18) agricultural animals – cattle, small ruminants (cow, buffalo, sheep, goat), pig, horse, chicken, turkey, quail, goose, duck, rabbit, ostrich, bee, silkworm etc. which are kept for the production of animal-origin raw materials and products;

19) domestic animals – animals which belong to animal species, which are fed, raised or kept but usually are not raised for foodstuffs;

20) stunning of animals – temporary pain relief or life interruption of animals through state registered veterinary medicinal products;

21) animal identification - a special ear tag containing numerical code for data or electronic chips attached to certain body parts of agricultural animals (except for poultry, bees) and domestic animals used to identify and register animals;

22) isolation – isolation measures for animals infected with zoonoses or suspected being infected for a certain period and conditions in separated area or fenced area or buildings;

23) animal quarantine - activities imposed by the Government of the Republic of Armenia or local administrative bodies to eradicate the outbreaks of quarantine disease, isolate the area of infection

and prevent the spread of contagious animal diseases, or restrain for the time being the rights of natural and legal persons and impose additional obligatory requirements;

24) preventive quarantine – measures preventing the penetration of contagious diseases by isolating the acquired animals for 30 days, conducting examinations for diagnosis and carrying out preventive vaccinations;

25) quarantine and special animal infectious diseases – animal diseases, zoonoses that are capable of spreading rapidly, over long distances and inflicting huge economic damage and damaging or threatening animal and human health;

26) reportable infectious animal diseases – contagious and non-contagious diseases that are capable of spreading rapidly, over long distances and inflicting huge economic damage which are reported immediately and reported upon being detected or suspected;

27) animal origin product – meat of slaughtered animals, by-products/offals obtained from slaughter (subcutaneous and abdominal fat, internal parenchymal organs, blood, brain, tongue), melted fat, meat products, milk and milk products, processed fish, amphibians, crustaceans, molluscs, terrestrial and aquatic invertebrates and products obtained from them, unfertilized fish egg and egg, honey, which after processing or without processing are used for human consumption or as raw material;

28) raw material of animal origin - endocrine glands, intestines/entrails, skin or pelt, fur and hair (wool, bristles, down and feathers of fowl), horns and hoofs, bones, unprocessed animal fat, gall, blood obtained from the slaughter of animals; beeswax, propolis, bee venom, snake venom, scorpion venom, other types of venom of animal origin, technical albumen, casein, gelatin, hunting trophies and other raw material that are used after processing;

29) by-products of animal origin – products obtained from the production and processing of raw material and products of animal origin not intended for human consumption (obtained from flesh and bone, bones and corneus formations, fish flour, dried blood plasma and other products obtained from blood, hydrolysed proteins, gelatin obtained from bones and other products of animal origin), animal carcasses, that are technical raw materials and are not intended for human consumption and are subject to supplemental processing or destruction;

30) zoonoses – contagious animal diseases to which animals are susceptible, also certain contagious animal diseases to which both animals and humans are susceptible;

31) slaughter of animals – slaughter of animals in slaughterhouses to obtain raw material and products of animal origin for human consumption, also sanitary slaughter authorized to carry out in cases of certain diseases;

32) sanitary slaughter – forced compulsory slaughter of animals /to obtain raw material and products of animal origin conditionally suitable for consumption/ infected or under the direct threat of getting infected during the control of certain diseases;

33) killing of animals – killing of animals not in slaughterhouse environment for the purposes and cases defined by this Law;

34) animal and human health hazards – raw material and products of animal origin, by-products of animal origin, animal feedstuffs, veterinary medicinal products and other objects, items deemed as source of infection or transmission agent, the usage, consumption or presence of which can represent a serious threat for animal and(or) human health;

35) eradication - outcome of measures directed at the restriction of the spread and eradication of animal diseases and zoonotic diseases at all stages of the epidemiological chain, when the epidemiological chain is no longer valid;

36) destruction – burning or high temperature and pressure treatment/melting to exclude the further application of animal and human health hazards. Destruction also includes:

- a. burying, underground storage or accumulation,
- b. open-air burning (combustion) above ground with fuel,
- c. Immediate combustion through special equipment;

37) epidemiological facilities or facilities subject to veterinary state control – livestock farms and households, pastures, watering points, burial grounds for animals, zoological parks, aquariums, natural and artificial aquatic environments, where aquatic animals are bred and kept, terrariums, vivariums, veterinary laboratories, business entities and companies, agricultural and food markets, trade entities conducting transportation of animals, animal testings, producing, processing, storing, trading or marketing raw materials and products of animal origin, feed, supplemental feed, feedstuffs, producing storing, trading and marketing fertilization materials and veterinary medicinal products, companies, slaughterhouses, slaughter points possessing and storing by-products of animal

origin, sites of disposing of, storing and neutralizing animal waste, animal markets, animal shelters, animal gathering sites, companies producing veterinary bio-preparations, veterinary educational and scientific research laboratories, organizations and other establishments, areas, where and (or) in the vicinity of which contagious or parasitic agents may spread;

38) processing –activities in the result of which the content and composition of raw materials and products of animal origin, by-products of animal origin, change, turning into raw materials and products suitable for consumption or production;

39) application for zootechnical purposes – application of animals, fertilization materials, veterinary medicinal products to regulate animal estrus for the purpose of insemination, fertilization and vaccination of embryos;

40) raw material and products of animal origin conditionally suitable for consumption - raw material and products of animal origin which can be used after processing to secure sterilization, which guarantees their safety.

Article 4. Laws on Veterinary Medicine

1. Relations in the field of veterinary medicine are regulated by this Law, other legislative acts and international treaties of the Republic of Armenia.

2. Where international treaties of the Republic of Armenia prescribe rules other than those prescribed by this Law, the rules of the international treaties shall apply.

CHAPTER 2

STATE REGULATION OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Article 5. Main Principles and Objectives of State Policy in Veterinary Medicine

1. Main Principles and Objectives of State Policy in Veterinary Medicine are:

- 1) to ensure the enforcement of the legal acts on Veterinary Medicine, implementation of activities in the field of Veterinary Medicine aimed at the protection of humans health, prioritization of the protection of the environment and consumer rights;
- 3) to ensure cooperation and information exchange with relevant international and regional organizations;
- 4) to ensure introduction of international standards and requirements of animal health and animal welfare in the Republic of Armenia;
- 5) to review the state policy based on scientifically justified assessment of risks conducted during scientifically justified risks assessment, consulting and risks management.

Article 6. Powers of the Government of the Republic of Armenia in the field of Veterinary Medicine

1. The Government of the Republic of Armenia shall define:

- 1) the list of products subject to veterinary control;
- 2) general hygiene requirements for products of animal origin;
- 3) requirements for feedstuffs hygiene;
- 4) requirements for by-products of animal origin;
- 5) requirements for products of animal origin, including safety requirements in bacteriological, parasitic and chemical indicators;
- 6) uniform procedure for conducting joint inspections in facilities subject to state veterinary control and sampling of products subject to state veterinary control;
- 7) uniform procedure for implementing veterinary control;

- 8) uniform veterinary and veterinary-sanitary requirements for products subject to state veterinary control;
- 9) procedure for applying accompanying joint veterinary documents in the area;
- 10) procedure for registering products subject to registration and state veterinary control; .
- 11) procedure for importing, exporting and transit movement of animals, products of animal origin, feedstuffs and premixes;
- 12) materials forbidden in products of animal origin exported to European Union, Eurasian Economic Union and other countries and the maximum limits of substances used in Veterinary Medicine;
- 13) procedure for veterinary and sanitary examination of meat and products derived from animals slaughter;
- 14) procedure for stamping products derived from animal slaughter;
- 15) procedure for veterinary and sanitary examination of fish, aquatic animals and fish products;
- 16) procedure for veterinary and sanitary examination of milk and milk products;
- 17) procedure for veterinary and sanitary examination of honey;
- 18) procedure for veterinary and sanitary examination of egg;
- 19) procedure for exporting and importing veterinary medicinal products;
- 20) procedure for registering veterinary medicinal products;
- 21) procedure for licensing the production of biological preparations used in the field of veterinary medicine;
- 22) procedure for the issuance of accompanying veterinary documents;
- 23) procedure for delivering paid veterinary services;
- 24) procedure and requirements for arranging the slaughter of agricultural animals in slaughterhouses;

- 25) procedure for compensation of animals that are dead, destroyed or subjected to sanitary slaughter (forced slaughter) during the control of animal contagious diseases;
- 26) announcement of quarantine in case of the outbreak of epizooties in two or more marzes;
- 27) procedure for compensation for the death of animals from diseases included in the state program of anti-epizootic measures;
- 28) conditions, instances and procedure of culling or forced killing of animals;
- 29) the list of animal diseases and zoonotic diseases;
- 30) requirements for animal identification;
- 31) procedure for maintaining registries on electronic information system in the field of veterinary state control, facilities subject to state veterinary control and business entities of third countries;
- 32) procedure for veterinary-sanitary state examination.

2. The Government of the Republic of Armenia shall approve:

- 1) the form and the way of wearing of the uniform of officials exercising state veterinary control;
- 2) the list of quarantine, special dangerous and reportable animal diseases;
- 3) plans for prevention and eradication of quarantine, special dangerous and reportable animal contagious and widely prevalent non-contagious diseases;
- 4) monitoring programs for controlling the amount of residues of materials used in the field of veterinary medicine in products of animal origin;
- 5) Requirements for import into the Republic of Armenia and export from the Republic of Armenia of products subject to veterinary control.

3. The Government of the Republic of Armenia adopts other legal acts deriving from this Law.

Article 7. Powers of the Competent Authority

1. The Competent Authority shall approve:

- 1) the format of registers, seals, documents, administrative acts, individual seals of officials exercising state control, required for state supervision/control;
- 2) the format of veterinary-sanitary examination statement and label;
- 3) the format of registers maintained by persons practicing veterinary medicine;
- 4) the format of veterinary passport of animals and the filling procedure.

2. The Competent Authority shall define:

- 1) instructions and manuals for controlling and preventing contagious animal diseases;
- 2) requirements for veterinary practice as per the facility/entity subject to veterinary control or type of veterinary establishment.

3. The Competent Authority shall perform:

- 1) forecasting, evaluation and monitoring of epizootic situation;
- 2) analysis of the reasons of animal morbidity and deaths caused by contagious diseases;
- 3) identification of agricultural animals, development of electronic information system on registered animals and database maintenance;
- 4) registration of natural and legal entities, importing and exporting of products subject to veterinary control, keeping animals, producing, processing, storing, transporting, trading or marketing raw materials and products of animal origin, by-products of animal origin, animal feedstuffs and veterinary medicinal products, development of electronic information system on their operations and operations areas and database maintenance;
- 5) registration of products subject to state veterinary control and due to be registered in the area of Customs Cooperation;
- 6) introduction of electronic information system in the sphere of state veterinary control and registries on entities/facilities subject to state veterinary control and business entities of third countries;

- 7) state registration of products defined by the Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia and maintenance of state registration certificate registry;
 - 8) maintenance of registries on organizations and persons producing, processing and (or) storing products subject to veterinary control that are transported from the Republic of Armenia to another member-country of Eurasian Economic Union and imported into the Republic of Armenia;
 - 9) registration of veterinary medicinal products.
4. The Competent Authority shall cooperate with international organizations in the field of veterinary medicine.
 5. The Competent Authority shall submit the state program for anti-epizootic annual measures and the list of included contagious diseases to the Government of the Republic of Armenia for approval.
 6. The Competent Authority shall carry out other actions defined by the Constitution of the Republic of Armenia and other laws.

Article 8. The obligations of regional administration body in the field of Veterinary Medicine

1. The regional administration body in the area of the marz shall
 - 1) ensure and coordinate the activities for organizing and implementing measures for preventing and eradicating contagious and non-contagious wide-spread diseases and poisonings;
 - 2) establish and cancel quarantine in case of outbreaks of animal quarantine diseases in an area or community as recommended by the Competent Authority;
 - 3) support in the implementation of state control functions.

Article 9. The powers of local self-government bodies in the field of Veterinary Medicine

1. The powers of local self-government bodies in the field of Veterinary Medicine shall be defined by the Law of the Republic of Armenia on “Local Self-Governance”.

CHAPTER 3

COMPENSATION FOR ANIMALS KILLED OR FORCE SLAUGHTERED IN THE SCOPE OF CONTROL MEASURES OF CONTAGIOUS ANIMAL DISEASES

Article 10. Compensation costs for animals dead, killed or subjected to sanitary slaughter

1. Compensation costs for animals dead, killed or subjected to sanitary slaughter in case of contagious animal diseases are covered in the manner prescribed by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

CHAPTER 4

VETERINARY ACTIVITIES, VETERINARY EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LABORATORY ACTIVITIES

Article 11. The right to practice veterinary medicine

1. Natural persons and sole proprietors qualified as veterinarians, legal entities staffed with relevant specialists shall have a right to practice veterinary medicine in the Republic of Armenia.

2. Foreign natural persons who have a residence permit and received their professional veterinary degree in a country, which has a cooperation agreement on veterinary qualification documents with the Republic of Armenia, also foreign organizations shall have a right to engage in veterinary practice in accordance with requirements defined by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia.

Article 12. Requirements for Veterinary Practice

1. Veterinarians practicing veterinary medicine, legal persons staffed with veterinarians with relevant qualification and also paraprofessionals shall inform the competent authority on their engagement in veterinary practice.

2. Persons engaged in veterinary practice can validate their activities by a seal.

3. Veterinary laboratory activities are carried out in state and private veterinary educational, scientific organizations, veterinary clinics and laboratories.

Article 13. Veterinary Training

1. State bodies in the sphere of veterinary medicine provide for trainings for qualified veterinary specialists.

Article 14. Veterinary Laboratory activities

1. Laboratory activities include:

1) diagnosis of animal diseases;

2) veterinary sanitary investigation; the following shall be investigated:

- a. unprocessed raw materials and products of animal origin;
 - b. unprocessed feedstuffs of animal origin;
 - c. fertilization materials: semen, fertilized fish egg, egg for incubation;
- 3) investigation aimed at zoohygienic norms and safety norms related to animal husbandry and environment contamination and identification of prohibited and residual materials;
 - 4) investigation of the quality and efficiency of veterinary medicinal products.
2. Laboratory activities referred to in Point 3 and 4 of paragraph 1 of this Article shall be carried out in accredited institutions.
3. In the event of disputing the diagnostic test results of contagious animal diseases, the statement issued by the national reference laboratory shall be deemed final.

CHAPTER 5

RIGHTS, OBLIGATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITY OF NATURAL AND LEGAL PERSONS ENGAGED IN VETERINARY PRACTICE

Article 15. Rights of persons engaged in veterinary practice

1. Natural and legal persons, sole proprietors engaged in veterinary practice shall have a right to
 - 1) implement anti-epizootic measures on contractual basis;
 - 2) arrange and implement animal diseases prevention and immunopreventive measures;
 - 3) conduct diagnosis, treatment and elimination of animal diseases;

- 4) for the purpose of diagnosis of animal diseases conduct clinical, laboratory (virological, bacteriological, biochemical, chemico-toxicological, radiological, histological, parasitic) examinations, tests;
- 5) conduct artificial insemination of animals;
- 6) provide a relevant signed and sealed accompanying veterinary document;
- 7) conduct animal registration and provide veterinary passports for registered animals;
- 8) have relevant stamps and other technical resources required for the validation of their activities;
- 9) provide consulting to natural and legal persons on the implementation of prevention and eradication measures of contagious and non-contagious animal diseases;
- 10) for preliminary diagnosis conduct anatomic pathology autopsy of carcasses and send pathologic samples to laboratory for testing, if necessary;
- 11) conduct animal identification, registration and maintain registers for animal passports, animal registration and veterinary measures defined by this law and other legislative acts;
- 12) maintain the register for anti-epizootic measures on his/her service area livestock farms, the template of which shall be approved by the competent authority;
- 13) establish a non-governmental organization of veterinarians in the manner prescribed by law;
- 14) perform other functions defined by the Legislation of the Republic of Armenia.

Article 16. The obligations of the persons engaged in veterinary practice

1. Natural and legal persons engaged in veterinary practice shall

- 1) meet the requirements for veterinary practice;
- 2) make records in the relevant registers for anti-epizootic measures and veterinary practice and submit a report to the competent authority;

- 3) each month submit veterinary passport data of each newly registered agricultural animal to the competent authority;
 - 4) in the event of emerging risk of animal contagious diseases, cases of infection and deaths, immediately report to the competent authority and implement diseases prevention and eradication instructions;
 - 5) inform animal owners about the influence on the animal health of the veterinary medicinal products or of violations of feedstuffs usage enriched with medical preparations or of the withdrawal period thereof;
 - 6) immediately inform the competent authority about any violations in the processes of the collection, destruction or burying of dead animals;
 - 7) for animal treatment and zootechnical purposes follow the requirements for applying hormonal products, beta-antagonists, thyreostatic or other veterinary medicinal products and veterinary means;
 - 8) implement animal diseases prevention, restriction and eradication measures on the initiative of the competent authority based on the epizootic situation in order to support the veterinarians that are in charge of the activities required by the state program of anti-epizootic annual activities.
2. In the event of improper implementation of duties, exceeding powers, disclosing information deemed as state and trade secret, natural and legal persons shall bear liability as prescribed by law.

Article 17. The obligations of community veterinarians

1. Community veterinarians in their service areas shall conduct:
 - 1) preventive vaccinations, blood sampling for diagnosis, other veterinary measures against animal contagious diseases included in state program of annual anti-epizootic measures;
 - 2) animal registration, identification and maintenance of registers for animal passports, animal registration and veterinary measures as defined by this law and other legislative acts;

- 3) submit information and report to the competent authority on the anti-epizootic measures implemented and contagious and non-contagious diseases identified;
- 4) antemortem and post mortem inspection of agricultural animals;
- 5) report to the competent authority in the event of infringements of the Legislation of the Republic of Armenia regulating the field of veterinary medicine;
- 6) veterinary practice aimed at protection and welfare of animals;
- 7) provision of accompanying veterinary documents for products that are transported within the Republic of Armenia and are subject to state veterinary control;
- 8) other powers prescribed by the Legislation of the Republic of Armenia.

CHAPTER 6

REQUIREMENTS FOR ANTI-EPIZOOTIC MEASURES

Article 18. State Program for annual anti-epizootic measures

1. State Program for annual anti-epizootic measures is mandatory for animal types covered and includes:
 - 1) types of measures to be implemented and the implementation period, number of livestock etc.
 2. In the event of emerging quarantine or highly dangerous disease not included in state program for annual anti-epizootic measures, an amendment shall be made in the program and additional state resources shall be provided.
 3. Expenses for diagnostic testing of animals to be imported or exported shall be made by animal owners.

4. Anti-epizootic measures shall be implemented in accordance with professional methodological guidance and instructions for contagious animal diseases control and prevention measures.

Article 19. Reporting and registration of contagious animal diseases

1. Contagious animal diseases shall be subject to mandatory reporting and registration in the Republic of Armenia.

2. The international reporting of contagious animal diseases shall be done in accordance with the procedures defined by World Organization of Animal Health (OIE). Contagious animal diseases shall be recorded in the register on the epizootic situation established by the competent authority.

CHAPTER 7

REQUIREMENTS FOR ANIMAL REGISTRATION, IDENTIFICATION AND RECORD KEEPING, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTIVITIES DURING THE CIRCULATION STAGES OF PRODUCTS SUBJECT TO VETERINARY CONTROL, ANIMAL EXHIBITIONS, COMPETITIONS, ACTIVITIES DURING COMPETITIONS WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF ANIMALS OR MARKET OPERATIONS

Article 20. Animal registration, identification and record keeping

1. Agricultural animals in the Republic of Armenia are subject to registration, identification and record keeping, in the results of which an electronic database on identified animals shall be established.

2. After the registration, identification and record keeping animal passports shall be issued and registers for animals registration and veterinary measures shall be developed, which shall be maintained by the community veterinarian.

3. Community veterinarian shall enter individual data, data on animal movement, slaughter, death, breeding, anti-epizootic preventive measures and other passport data about identified productive animals.

4. Funding for animal registration, required templates, registers, printing of animals passports, the process of attaching eartags on the ears, required equipment for eartagging, acquisition of distinctive eartags, development of information electronic system and the processing of the data received shall be made at the expense of state budget and other resources not prohibited by law.

Article 21. Obligations of persons engaged in animal husbandry and animal and poultry breeding

1. Natural and legal persons, sole proprietors engaged in animal husbandry and animal and poultry breeding shall

1) report to the veterinarian or veterinary service tending the farm about the changes in the numbers of animals:

a. during 3 days in case of animals that are newly acquired or left the farm or dead or slaughtered and force-slaughtered,

b. during 7 days in case of newly born piglets, calves, lambs, kids and foals on farm;

2) submit the passport of newly obtained animal if available and the accompanying veterinary documents of acquired productive animals to the farm veterinarian or veterinary service during 3 days;

3) ensure the identification, vaccinations, diagnostic examinations of animals in their possession subject to registration and identification;

4) maintain a register, which should be maintained for a period of at least 5 years, where the farm veterinarian or veterinarian service makes records on the following:

a. animal identifications,

- b. Information on dead, killed, sold, newly acquired animals,
 - c. the registration number of the livestock farm, from where animals were obtained or sold,
 - d. information on treatments, diagnoses, vaccinations, handlings,
 - e. information on farm employees tending animals;
- 5) inform the veterinary service tending the farm and (or) competent authority on animals health status changes, morbidity, animals subjected to sanitary slaughter, killed and dead;
 - 6) enable the veterinary service tending the farm, community veterinarian and competent authority to freely carry out their activities on the farm and with animals;
 - 7) follow the requirements for keeping animals, their movement and transportation;
 - 8) follow the requirements for animal protection and welfare;
 - 9) carry out the instructions of veterinarians, tasks and orders of the competent authority in the framework of contagious animal diseases prevention, restriction and eradication;
 - 10) follow the zoohygienic requirements set for the care and handling of agricultural animals, which are defined by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

Article 22. Obligations and restrictions of persons implementating activities during the circulation stages of products subject to veterinary control

1. In the framework of animal health protection and protection of humans against zoonotic diseases, natural and legal persons engaged in the import and export of products subject to veterinary control, in the keeping of production animals, in the production, processing, storage, transportation, trading or marketing of animal origin raw material and products, animal origin by-products, animal feedstuffs, veterinary medicinal products, shall

- 1) ensure the implementation of measures aimed at the prevention and eradication of contagious animal diseases;

- 2) immediately inform the veterinary service about the sudden and mass morbidity and deaths;
 - 3) allow and support veterinarians to examine animals, vaccinate them and conduct diagnostic examinations and tests;
 - 4) import and export or transit transfer products subject to veterinary control guided by this law, its legislative acts and in accordance with the requirements of international veterinary legislation;
 - 5) carry out the transportation and marketing of animals, fertilization materials, animal origin raw materials and products, animal feedstuffs only upon availability of accompanying veterinary documents;
 - 6) export, produce, store, process and market animal origin raw materials and products, animal feedstuffs subjected to veterinary sanitary examination;
 - 7) rule out the killing of animals and the marketing of the derived products and raw materials without the written consent of veterinary service;
 - 8) register with the competent authority either in person or through registration via postal delivery, or fax, or email, or online registration in the official website, providing information on their operations and the areas where operations are held, in particular:
 - a. Name of food operator,
 - b. type of operations,
 - c. place of operations,
 - d. taxpayers identification number (TIN),
 - e. state registration certificate serial number;
 - 9) additionally report to the competent authority about any changes in the data stated in subparagraph 8 of paragraph 1 of this article during 3 days after making the change.
2. The following shall be prohibited:
- 1) movement or transportation of non-identified productive animals against which anti-epizootic annual measures and measures established by contagious diseases prevention and eradication instructions have not been applied;

- 2) removing the eartags or any other type of identification means of agricultural animals or beehive identification number;
- 3) the movement of productive animals without the accompanying veterinary documents and in case of bovine and perissodactyle animals without their passports;
- 4) breeding, keeping or feeding animals in places meant for waste collection;
- 5) movement of infected animals or animals suspected to be infected except for cases when movement is carried out based on the written instruction or with the knowledge and permission of the competent authority;
- 6) feeding animals with food leftovers, except for animals bred for fur production;
- 7) usage of public pastures and watering points by productive animals that are not identified and (or) are not included in annual anti-epizootic measures;
- 8) free-range breeding of pigs;
- 9) fertilization of pastures with processed animal proteins;
- 10) administration of veterinary medicinal products by persons not qualified in veterinary medicine;
- 11) skinning and post mortem inspection of dead animals as forbidden by the instructions for animal contagious diseases control and prevention or sanitary slaughter or killing of animals infected with contagious animal diseases;
- 12) usage of active and (or) other substances for the production of veterinary medicinal products, which can be used as veterinary medicinal products;
- 13) production, import and export of dog and cat skins.

3. Animal origin by-products shall be disposed (collection, storage, transportation, marketing, processing, destruction) and (or) stored so that full safety of the end-product will be guaranteed, the presence of threats to animals and humans health and the possibility of the environment contamination will be prevented.

Article 23. Requirements for the organization of animal exhibitions/fairs and (or) competitions or activities with the participation of animals or animal markets

1. Natural and legal persons, organizing animal exhibitions/fairs and (or) competitions or activities with the participation of animals or animal markets, shall notify the competent authority at least 7 days earlier than the due activity, stating the place and time of the activity.

2. Owners of farms, zoological gardens, aquariums, terrariums, vivariums, animal asylums, zoological shops and other livestock facilities and those organizing exhibitions and (or) competitions, activities with the participation of animals shall follow the requirements for animal protection and welfare.

CHAPTER 8

REQUIREMENTS FOR ANIMAL ORIGIN RAW MATERIAL, PRODUCTS AND VETERINARY MEDICINAL PRODUCTS

Article 24. Requirements for animal origin raw material and products

1. The processes of the production, processing, storage, transportation, trading or marketing, utilization and destruction of animal origin raw material and products shall meet:

1) general and special requirements for animal origin food hygiene, which are approved by the Government of the Republic of Armenia;

2) requirements for animal origin products not intended for human consumption, which are approved by the Government of the Republic of Armenia;

3) requirements of this law, Law of the Republic of Armenia on “Food Safety” and other legislative acts.

2. Animal origin raw materials and products intended for human consumption shall be derived from animals, that

- 1) have been subjected to veterinary examination and antemortem and post mortem inspection;
- 2) come from farms of epizootically safe areas;
- 3) are not subjected to prohibitions and restrictions as a result of cases or suspicions of animal quarantine and special infectious diseases.

3. The production, processing, sales of animal origin raw materials and products intended for human consumption shall be carried out in the manner prescribed by this law by persons registered at the competent authority.

4. The production, sales and marketing of animal origin raw materials and products derived from animal origin by-products and not intended for human consumption, shall be carried out in the manner prescribed by this law in establishments registered at the competent authority.

Article 25. Prohibition of animal origin raw materials and products circulation

1. The production, processing, trading or marketing of animal origin raw materials and products shall be prohibited, provided

- 1) they have been derived from animals treated with veterinary medicinal products and animals to which thyreostatic substances or beta-agonists were administered before the completion of their prohibition period;
- 2) they have been derived from dairy cows treated with preparations of somatotropic hormones; 3) causative agents of infectious diseases or amounts exceeding the maximum limits of veterinary medicinal products residues have been identified in them.

2. For therapeutic and zootechnical purposes veterinary hormonal medicinal products, thyreostatics and beta-agonists can be used in cases defined by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia.

Article 26. Requirements for the transportation of animal origin raw materials and products and animal origin by-products not intended for human consumption

1. The transportation of animal origin raw materials and products shall be carried out via appropriate vehicles in accordance with transportation requirements.
2. Animal origin raw materials and products shall be transported together with accompanying veterinary documents.
3. Transportation of animal origin raw materials and products and animal origin by-products shall be carried out by transporters registered at the competent authority.

Article 27. Accompanying veterinary documents

1. Accompanying veterinary documents ensure the compliance with veterinary requirements of the transportation, trading or marketing, import and export of products subject to veterinary control and shall be issued:

- 1) veterinary certificates by veterinarians;
 - 2) import and export certificates by relevant officials of the competent authority.
2. The competent authority provides a system for veterinary documents issuance, based on
- 1) the number of indexed document;
 - 2) signature and seal of the person issuing the document;
 - 3) copy of each veterinary document, which shall be kept for a period of 3 years after issuance.

Article 28. Requirements for veterinary medicinal products

1. The application, production, import, export, trade or marketing of veterinary medicinal products shall be regulated by this law and other legislative acts.

2. Veterinary medicinal products that are state registered shall be used in the area of the Republic of Armenia.

3. The use of the following substances shall be prohibited in the Republic of Armenia as prescribed by law: group A1 (stilbenes, stilbenes derivatives, their salts and esters), group A2 (antithyroid agents), group A3 (steroids: substances with androgenic, gestagenic and estrogenic activity, except for 17b-estradiol and its ester-like derivatives, beta agonists and conventionally prohibited estrogenic substances), group A6 (chloramphenicol, nitrofurans, nitroimidazoles), group B1 (sulfadiazine from antibacterial agents), group B2a (febendazole, levamisol), group B2f (cypermethrin), group B3e (malachite green and leucomalachite green, crystal violet and leuco-crystal violet), if

1) these substances are in some way intended to be used during keeping or breeding terrestrial or aquine animals or slaughter or as products designed to be used in food by humans;

2) productive and aquine animals have been marketed for human consumption, who have been injected with the above-stated substances and animal origin products or processed products have been obtained from such animals;

3) those are hormonal products, which

a. are deemed as residual products,

b. after application more than 15-day veterinary medicinal product withdrawal period,

c. do not have terms of use or they are not known,

d. it is not possible to detect (including exceeding the maximum limits) residues or there are no reagents or equipment to be used for analytical methods;

4) as a veterinary medicinal product containing beta agonists, in the event of application they have a more than 28 days withdrawal period after treatment;

5) therapeutic veterinary medicinal products containing allyl trenbolone and beta agonists, which are administered during fattening and weight-gaining and at the end of reproductive life cycle of agricultural breeding animals.

4. The following is authorized in the Republic of Armenia:

1) therapeutic administration to agricultural animals of testosterone, progesterone, and their derivatives that readily yield the parent compound on hydrolysis after absorption and are also used for the treatment of ovaries dysfunction with the help of vaginal spirals but not through an implant.

2) application of allyl trenbolone for equines, which is administered orally or in the form of beta agonists, provided that it is applied in accordance with the instructions;

3) administration of beta agonists to cows through injection to cause birth during delivery;

4) to change the sex of aquine animals-small fish, treat them with veterinary medicinal products during the first three months, which have androgenic action and are authorized by the Legislation of the Republic of Armenia.

CHAPTER 9

REQUIREMENTS FOR HANDLING ANIMAL ORIGIN PRODUCTS AND BY-PRODUCTS NOT INTENDED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

Article 29. Requirements for handling animal origin by-products not intended for human consumption

1. Organizations dealing with animal origin by-products not intended for human consumption shall introduce and apply hazards analysis and risk management system which comprises:

1) technological documents with the description of manufactured products and information on their purpose;

2) description of the sequence of stages of manufacturing processes;

- 3) hazards and risks assessment analysis during all stages of manufacturing processes;
- 4) critical control points of manufacturing process;
- 5) critical limits for each critical control point;
- 6) monitoring rules at the critical control points and control of indicators;
- 7) requirements defined by technical regulations, normative documents and other legislative acts;
- 8) requirements for maintaining documents, which can include the information defined by paragraph 1 of this article.

2. The owner or user of the organization shall appoint specialists, who will be responsible for the system and shall regularly summarize and analyze the results.

3. Animal origin by-products and products derived from them shall be collected, transported, stored, marketed, processed or destroyed so that full safety of the end-product will be guaranteed, the presence of threats to animals and humans health and the possibility of environment contamination will be prevented.

4. Handling (collection, storage, transportation, marketing, processing, destruction) and (or) storage of animal origin by-products shall be carried out in organizations registered at the competent authority.

5. Individuals and legal persons shall keep animal origin by-products generated from certain activities in isolated buildings, containers or equipped places before handling or storage.

6. The requirements for handling, storage, marketing and transportation of animal origin by-products and products derived from them shall be defined by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

7. The expenses for packaging, storage, loading, transportation, unloading and destruction of products obtained in the result of processing animal origin by-products, shall be made by the owner.

8. The usage of animal origin by-products for diagnostic, educational and scientific purposes shall be authorized by the competent authority.

9. Diagnostic, scientific and educational organizations submit a request to the competent authority stating the purposes of usage, description and quantity of animal origin by-products and the establishments from where they will be obtained.

10. During 7 days after having received the request the competent authority shall examine the compliance of buildings for experiments, compliance of usage conditions of animal origin by-products with veterinary requirements and within 3 days after obtaining the examination results, shall authorize the application of animal origin by-products stating the conditions of their usage and storage or shall provide substantiated rejection of the request in the event of incomplete or lacking data of the request stated in paragraph 9 of this article and non-compliance with requirements for animal origin by-product usage or failure to eliminate the non-compliances identified during the examination.

Article 30. The obligations of the entity owning animal origin by-products

1. Business entities owning and (or) storing animal origin by-products shall

1) implement source of hazard analysis and risks management system which would be ensured via hazards analysis and critical control points (HACCP);

2) introduce source of hazard analysis and risks management system, appoint specialists responsible for the system and regularly summarize and analyze the results;

3) ensure the compliance of each batch of finished products with the relevant requirements;

4) implement tracking control system of each batch of finished products;

5) immediately report to the competent authority in the event of non-compliance with the relevant requirements;

6) as instructed by the competent authority:

a. identify the reason for non-compliance,

b. process or dispose of the batch,

- c. ensure the inspection of each batch,
- d. undertake cleansing and disinfection measures.

CHAPTER 10

VETERINARY REQUIREMENTS FOR ANIMAL HEALTH PROTECTION AND WELFARE

Article 31. Actions taken in the event of outbreak of animals quarantine, special dangerous and mandatory reportable contagious diseases

1. In the event of a suspicion or identification of animals quarantine, special dangerous and mandatory reportable contagious diseases, natural and legal persons shall immediately inform the relevant veterinary service or the competent authority.
2. The preliminary diagnosis of a disease is made by the veterinary service, which shall take a sample in order to confirm or reject the diagnosis of the disease and send the samples of the pathological material to the veterinary national reference laboratory and implement relevant preventive measures.
3. After the confirmation of the diagnosis, in the framework of the eradication measures of animals quarantine, special dangerous and mandatory reportable contagious diseases, the competent authority shall submit a proposal to the regional governance bodies that a quarantine shall be established in the area of outbreak, protection and surveillance zones and restrictions shall be established in the event of non-quarantine diseases. In the quarantine zone the movement of animals, public transport and transportation of products subject to veterinary control shall be restricted or suspended.
4. Taking into account the pathogeny and virulence of the causative agent, prevalence characteristics, the geographic position of the area and other natural conditions, based on the proposition of the authorized body, the regional governance body shall set a quarantine zone:

- 1) the boundaries of the outbreak area;
- 2) boundaries of a protection zone with a radius of up to 3 km around the outbreak area;
- 3) boundaries of a surveillance zone with a radius of up to 10 km around the protection zone.

5. The following anti-epizootic measures shall be implemented in the mentioned areas (hereinafter quarantine zone):

- 1) provided that the quarantine zone includes two bordering communities or marz areas, the disease eradication measures shall be implemented by the regional state governance bodies and local self-governance bodies of the two marzes or communities, respectively. If the epizooty has affected three and more marzes, at the decision of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia a Central epizootic interministerial taskforce shall be established for the organization, coordination, implementation and financing of special dangerous and quarantine diseases prevention, control and eradication measures and required actions shall be defined, which shall be managed by the Prime Minister or the Deputy Prime Minister. The task force comprises representatives from the competent authority, competent authorities executing the state administration of the spheres of agriculture, healthcare, defence, finance, transport and communications and environmental protection. Regional epizootic standing committees shall be established in marzes, the composition and powers of which shall be approved by the marzpet (marz governor);

- 2) provided that the causative agent is also dangerous for the health of humans, required measures shall be taken jointly with the healthcare authorities;

- 3) The regional authority shall apply to other authorities with recommendations to take further actions such as to extend an established period of quarantine, prohibit the routes of public and private transport in community and marz areas, to make changes in existing public transport routes and involve police force, the national security, other forces and means. The decision about a specific measure shall be taken within 24 hours.

- 4) upon the confirmation of the outbreak the instructions of engaged veterinarians or veterinary service on the eradication of the sources of the virus in the areas stated in sub-paragraphs 1,2 and 3 of paragraph 5 of this article and the orders of officials of the competent authority shall be mandatory to be executed by all natural and legal persons;

5) If a sanitary slaughter of infected animals is authorized from economic and (or) epizootic perspective for the purpose of preventing disease spread and in cases defined by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia and according to the instructions aimed at disease control, then infected animals or animals suspected to be infected shall be subjected to sanitary slaughter and (or) the products and raw material generated by slaughter shall be processed in slaughterhouses and plants processing animal origin raw material and products, irrespective of their organizational-legal structure and form of ownership.

6) destruction/disposal of products subject to state veterinary control in order to eradicate the infectious disease or prevent its spread.

Article 32. Animal welfare

1. Animals shall be bred and kept in accordance with their features related to growth, physiological needs and type.

2. Rather painful actions against animals, such as manipulations or surgical interventions shall be executed through stunning.

3. Owners of farms, zoological gardens, aquariums, terrariums, vivariums, animal asylums, zoological shops and other livestock facilities and those organizing exhibitions and (or) competitions, activities with the participation of animals shall follow the requirements for animal protection and welfare.

Article 33. Requirements for animal stunning to cause interruption of life

1. The stunning of animals shall be executed by the veterinary service in charge of veterinary activities using veterinary medicinal products registered in the Republic of Armenia.

2. The preparation and execution of stunning shall be arranged in a way to minimize the level of stress in animals.

3. Stunning shall be executed in a separate building, which prevents other animals from being present during stunning.

4. Stunning shall be executed with materials that rapidly cause loss of consciousness and pain sensibility resulting in death.

5. After stunning the veterinarian shall determine if the animal is dead checking the pulse of the animal.

6. The veterinarian shall record the reasons of applying stunning and veterinary medicinal product in the relevant register.

7. Stunning shall be authorized

1) to apply against terminally diseased animals, that are in pain and suffering caused by the disease;

2) for the eradication of a contagious disease, which is a threat to human and animal health;

3) for the interruption of experiments against animals which have resulted in irreversible pathological changes causing pain and suffering to animals;

4) to apply against animals, the aggressive behavior of which poses a real threat to human and animal health.

8. For stunning it shall be prohibited to apply such veterinary medicinal product

1) that causes paralysis without loss of sensibility to pain;

2) that does not induce loss of consciousness.

Article 34. Requirements for keeping pets

1. Pet owners shall

1) take measures aimed at the implementation of medical preventive actions against internal and external parasites within the control measures of parasitic diseases preventing the contamination of public areas with pet waste and removing pet droppings ensuring that the area is clean;

- 2) undertake measures for the prevention of damage to humans or other pets, including going out without muzzle or other safety measures;
- 3) undertake measures for the prevention of unwanted reproduction of animals;
- 4) take into account the physiological, anatomical and behavioral characteristics of animals if reproduction is intended and not harm their health;
- 5) ensure that veterinary requirements for pet keeping are applied.

2. Dog owners shall also

- 1) have their veterinary passports during transportation for participation in exhibitions, competitions and for selling;
- 2) submit the veterinary passports to the veterinary service together with the pet in case of vaccinations or other measures;
- 3) conduct vaccinations, measures against parasites required for the protection of animal health;
- 4) take out for daily walks in case pets are kept in confined areas;
- 5) provide a shelter and free movement area if the pet is kept on leash;
- 6) acquire a veterinary passport when the pet is older than 6 weeks;
- 7) at the age of 4 months or within 7 days of obtaining a dog take the dog to veterinary service for vet inspection and upon willingness place a tattoo or a microchip on the pet, which includes animal localization marks and personal identification number.

Article 35. Obligations and restrictions for persons responsible for animal welfare

1. Natural and legal persons owning and (or) keeping animals shall

- 1) care for animals and not abandon them if an animal cannot survive on its own; inform local self-governance bodies and animal protection non-governmental organizations in advance in the event of abandoning an animal;

2) for each animal, depending on the type, age and breed, shall provide for

a. area, freedom and conditions required for living and moving,

b. sufficient quantity of feed and water,

c. open access to feed and water supplies,

d. items required for feeding and watering, adapted to prevent their contamination and to reduce aggressive competition among animals,

e. adequate microclimate for subsistence,

f. prevention and treatment of animal contagious and non-contagious diseases, immediate medical care in case of disease incidence or injury,

g. animal protection and welfare requirements;

3) take measures to prevent animals falling from heights;

4) check the overall condition of animals at least once a day;

5) rear wild animals, not meant to keep at home, not in their natural habitats but in zoological gardens, aquariums, terrariums, circuses, farms, vivariums (animal shelter, birds shelter).

2. The following shall be prohibited:

1) frighten, torture, exhaust, kill animals except for animals intended for religious rituals, hunting and fishing and for scientific research and cases of attacking humans and self-defense;

2) cruelty against animals:

a. slaughtering animals via suffocation, hanging, dismembering, strong blow or whipping,

b. skinning, dismembering or destruction of carcasses before slaughter,

c. throwing them into the fire, applying cruel measures, throwing them from heights or vehicles,

d. poisoning or injecting a substance causing cruel and painful death,

e. stunning, violating the provisions of this Law;

- 3) use of animals for fights or performances, during which animals may suffer, get killed or get a life threatening injury;
- 4) infuriate animals against one another;
- 5) training of animals that may cause suffering or torture;
- 6) subject animals to physical load with no consideration of their anatomical and physiological abilities;
- 7) gathering or catching animals in a way that inflicts pain, torture or harm on them, provided that there are rules excluding them or reducing them to the extent possible;
- 8) leading wild animals in the streets without guaranteeing the safety of the neighbourhood;
- 9) animal treatment or administration of veterinary medicinal product by persons not having relevant qualification and specialization;
- 10) application of analgesic drugs or such substances that may harm the health of animals except for cases when it is medically substantiated and (or) is considered as a treatment to be conducted in the frames of authorized testings;
- 11) administration of performance enhancing substances to animals in order to obtain better sports results;
- 12) natural or artificial insemination, which is dangerous for animal health;
- 13) feeding animals with such feedstuffs, that contain harmful substances, or are not used for feeding the given animal taking into account its type, age and health status;
- 14) placing incompatible types of animals in one area or same type of animals in one area, which may trigger aggressive behavior, attacks and combat;
- 15) tail docking of bovine animals and equines;
- 16) conducting the following surgical manipulations without anaesthesia:
 - a. tail-docking of lambs, kids, pigs, calves and dogs,
 - b. cropping the extra toes of dogs,

c. dehorning calves via scorching or surgical removal,

d. animal neutering and spaying;

17) conducting the following surgical interventions against pets without anesthesia:

a. docking tails and cropping ears,

b. devocalization,

c. de-clawing and removing teeth,

d. placing a tattoo or microchip,

e. surgical operations;

18) breeding and keeping pets for the production of meat and fur;

19) taking pets out for walks on open-air child-care premises(kindergartens) and marked-out areas.

CHAPTER 11

ANIMAL EXPERIMENTS

Article 36. Animal Experiments

1. Animal experiments shall be conducted for educational, scientific and research purposes and when the application of alternative methods is impossible.

2. Animal experiments shall be conducted in educational, scientific and industrial organizations registered with the competent authority based on a permit to use animals for experiments, issued by the competent authority.

4. The requirements for animals used for experiments and organizations conducting experiments shall be approved by the competent authority.

Article 37. Permit for Animal Experiments

1. Organizations conducting animal experiments submit a request to the competent authority to receive a permit for using animals for experiments; the following data shall be provided /attached in the request:

- 1) list and quantity of the types of animals to be tested, sampling justification, place and manner of care upon failure of the experiment;
- 2) list of persons conducting experiments and copies of documents certifying their professional qualification.

2. The competent authority shall review the request stated in paragraph 1 of this article, the documents attached and the compliance of requirements for the activities.

3. Upon identification of inaccuracies in the submitted documents within 3 days after receiving them, the competent authority shall notify the applicant in written form setting a deadline for eliminating the inaccuracies.

4. Upon the absence of inaccuracies or within 7 days after eliminating them the competent authority shall authorize to conduct the experiment or reject the request with a justification, in case the documents stated in paragraph 1 of this article have not been submitted and (or) the incompliances of requirements for the activities identified by the competent authority have not been eliminated.

5. The permit for using animals for experiments shall be issued for a period of 5 years.

6. Permit for conducting an experiment or its rejection shall be appealed in the manner prescribed by law.

7. In the event of any kind of modification of previously indicated conditions, organizations conducting animal experiments shall notify or inform the competent authority within three days.

8. Permit for animal experiments shall be registered in the relevant register approved by the competent authority, where the following data shall be included:

- 1) the name of the organization that has received the permit for experiments, organizational legal status, personal data of the president or director;
- 2) the type of the centre in charge of conducting experiments, the place of operations and location;
- 3) breed types of animals to be used in experiments;
- 4) the nature and purpose of experiments.

9. It shall be prohibited

- 1) to use stray or home-kept dogs or cats;
- 2) to conduct experiments on animals by pupils or students for professional purposes on their own initiative, in the result of which animals may get injuries or endure lasting pains.

CHAPTER 12

SLAUGHTER AND KILLING OF ANIMALS

Article 38. Slaughter of Animals

1. Slaughter of animals shall be conducted in slaughterhouses after stunning to achieve a rapid death ensuring that during consciousness and bleeding the animal has been insensate.
2. It shall be prohibited to dissect and dispose animal carcasses until the end of bleeding.
3. It shall be authorized to slaughter production animals, which
 - 1) are kept and bred for the production of animal origin raw material and products;

- 2) are treated against diseases and the treatment is not efficient and justified economically;
- 3) must be destroyed for the eradication of certain contagious diseases.

Article 39. Sanitary slaughter of animals

1. Sanitary slaughter of animals shall be carried out in a slaughterhouse after conducting regular slaughter under the supervision of veterinary service; upon impossibility of transporting animals, sanitary slaughter shall be carried out outside the slaughterhouse in an area determined by the competent authority and under the supervision of the latter.
3. It shall be prohibited to consume or sell animal origin raw materials and products derived from animals killed outside slaughterhouses without veterinary-sanitary examination.

Article 40. Killing of animals

1. Killing of animals shall be carried out outside a slaughterhouse so that the animal does not endure lasting pain or suffering, except for purposes and cases defined in paragraph 2 of this article.
2. Killing of animals shall be authorized
 - 1) for the eradication of contagious diseases;
 - 2) for the surveillance of diseases;
 - 3) during hunting and fishing;
 - 4) for religious rites and other common rituals;
 - 5) for ruling out the death of animal by the instructions of the veterinarian conditioned by serious irreversible physical and functional disorders of animal health influenced by external and internal factors;

6) killing of agricultural animals on farms or in livestock buildings shall be authorized solely under the control of a veterinarian with an antemortem and postmortem examination.

Article 41. Requirements for transportation of agricultural animals

1. Agricultural animals shall be transported in equipped vehicles in conditions safeguarding their health, physiological and behavioral needs.

2. Where the transportation of agricultural animals lasts more than 8 hours, rest time shall be provided in areas determined by the competent authority.

3. The following shall be prohibited:

1) transportation of production animals in vehicles not convenient for transportation and in conditions causing pain, damage and suffering to animals;

2) during loading, unloading and transportation

a. striking, putting pressure on and throwing animals,

b. putting pressure on sensitive parts of the animal,

c. crushing, twisting or breaking the tails of animals,

d. use of equipment that may cause pain to animals,

e. transportation of animals with the help of mechanical equipment and dragging them by heads, horns, ears, tail and fur.

4. Land transportation vehicles intended for professional transportation of agricultural animals shall be registered at the competent authority.

5. Drivers of vehicles transporting agricultural animals and persons accompanying animals during transportation shall be registered at the competent authority.

6. Competent authority shall establish an electronic information system on the transportation of agricultural animals and vehicles and shall maintain a relevant database.

7. During transportation transporters shall follow animal protection and welfare requirements.

CHAPTER 13

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 42. Final Provision

1. This law shall enter into force on the tenth day following the official publication.

Article 43. Transitional Provisions

1. Articles 12, 34 and 35 of this law shall enter into force since January 1, 2017.

2. From the moment this law enters into force, the law of the Republic of Armenia “on Veterinary Medicine” number HO-202-N of October 24, 2005 shall be repealed.

3. Legislative acts adopted for the enforcement of the law of the Republic of Armenia “on Veterinary Medicine” number HO-202-N of October 24, 2005 shall be effective to the extent they do not contradict this law.

President of the Republic of Armenia

S. Sargsyan

July 22, 2014

Yerevan

HO-137-N