

## Country report on animal welfare during long distance transport by land and sea

# IRELAND

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Multi-regional Whole Journey Scenario workshop on long-distance transport  
by land and sea between Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa

8 - 10 November 2022, Cairo, Egypt

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# Overview of country livestock transport and trade

- Competent Authority: the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM).
- Numerically most animals are sent to neighbouring EU countries by truck – DAFM works closely with Competent Authorities of other EU Member States.
- Economically significant trade also by sea in dedicated livestock vessels, mainly to Mediterranean countries

LIVE TRADE, WELFARE AT TRANSPORT SECTION (NECIT DIVISION)			
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## STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR DAFM STAFF WORKING AT EXPORT ASSEMBLY CENTRES

This is a revision of a previous SOP prepared and reviewed by several previous colleagues in the Animal Welfare (Transport) Division.



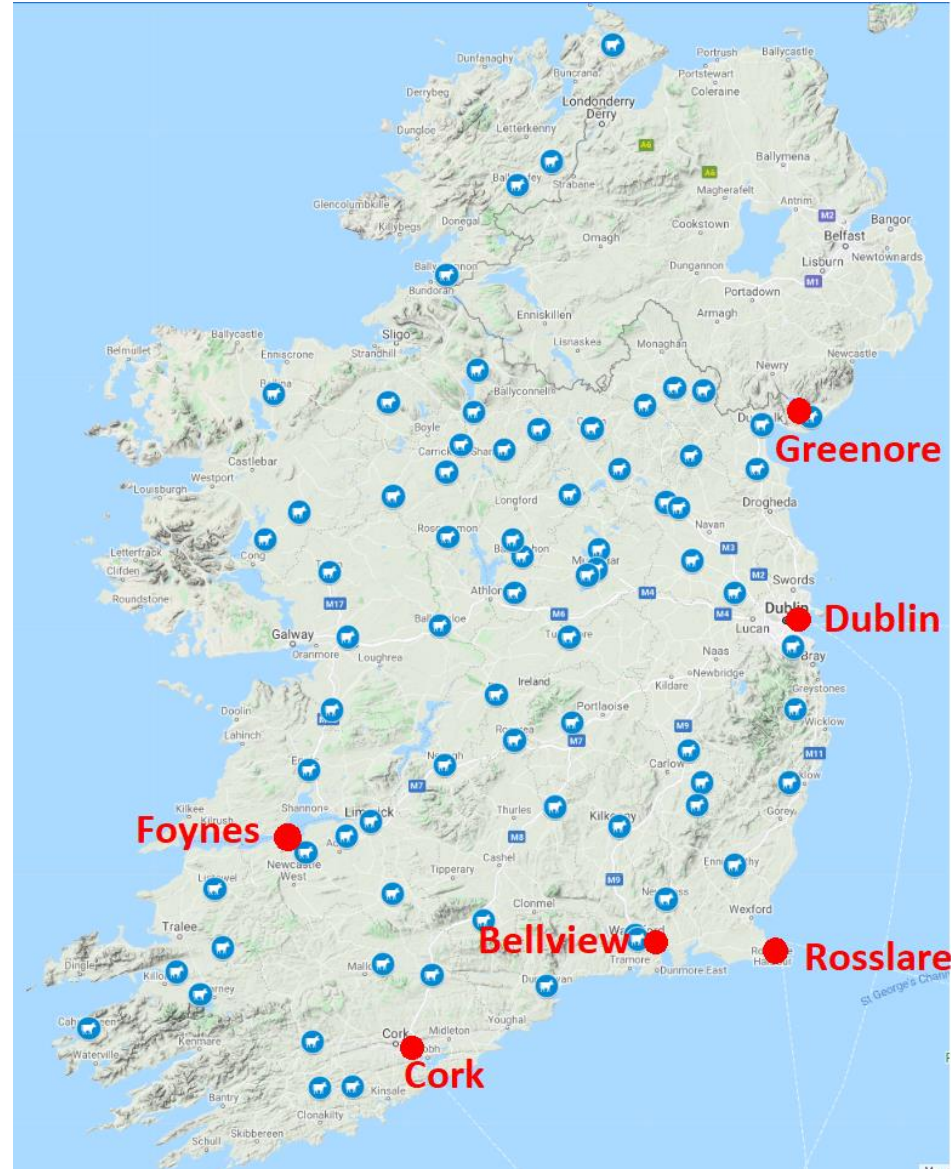
Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine  
Agriculture House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2  
Ver 04 released 25 March 2022.

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## Overview of country livestock transport and trade

- Map of assembly centres and major exit points
- Standards are laid down in Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 – for inspection of animals, means of transport, drivers, transporters, fitness for transport, certification and record keeping.
- Relatively few livestock imports



# Overview of country-livestock transport and trade

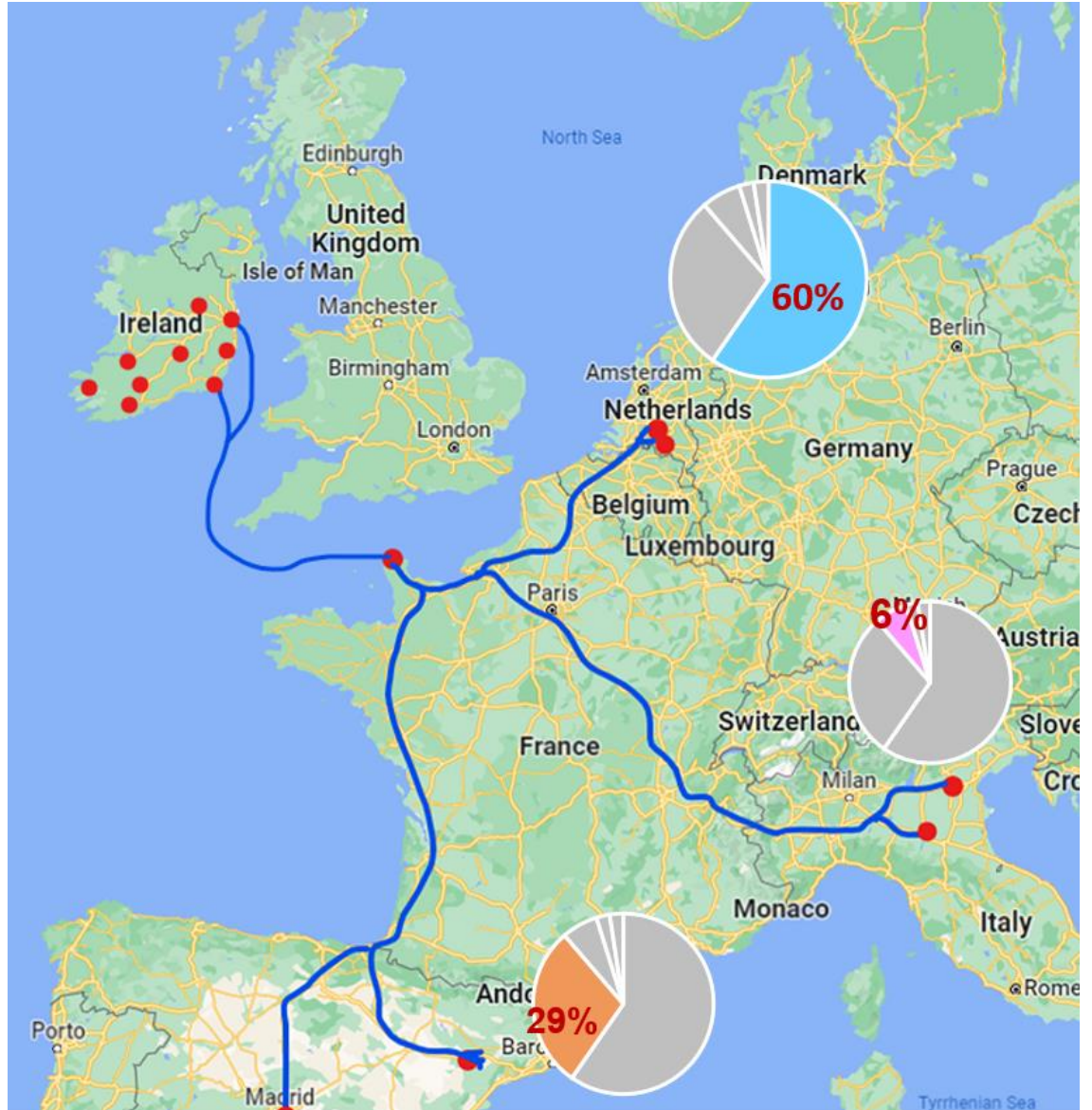
Country	Number of Cattle			
	2019	2020	2021	2022 to date (30/10/22)
NETHERLANDS	84,525	48,865	49,171	95,885
SPAIN	90,827	81,278	73,538	68,149
NORTHERN IRELAND	33,645	64,222	72,778	40,237
ITALY	30,145	21,836	29,752	26,842
LIBYA	13,123	13,009	6,467	9,196
POLAND	6,648	3,132	1,544	3,817
EGYPT				3,617
JORDAN				3,387
Others	42,644	33,321	14,291	9,098
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>301,557</b>	<b>265,663</b>	<b>247,541</b>	<b>260,228</b>

- Most trade consists of calves traded to EU countries by truck & ferry.
- However, although lower in number, many stronger and more valuable animals are traded by dedicated livestock vessels, to other trading partners in Mediterranean Region:
  - Turkey,
  - Lebanon,
  - Egypt,
  - Libya,
  - Tunisia,
  - Algeria,
  - Morocco

## Trade to European Union countries

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- Large numbers of bovine animals to Netherlands, Spain, Italy – most are unweaned or young calves.
- Travel by truck and ferry
- Can only enter continental Europe via Cherbourg port currently
- Two Control Posts in Cherbourg – 12 hours rest for all unweaned calves, feeding.



## Trade to European Union countries

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- Under Regulation (EC) No 1/2005, unweaned calves may be transported from 14 days – vulnerable.
- Annex I, Chapter V (1.7)(b) – following a long ferry journey, rest 12 hours in immediate vicinity of port. Calves must be fed in Control Post.
- Issues highlighted in 2019

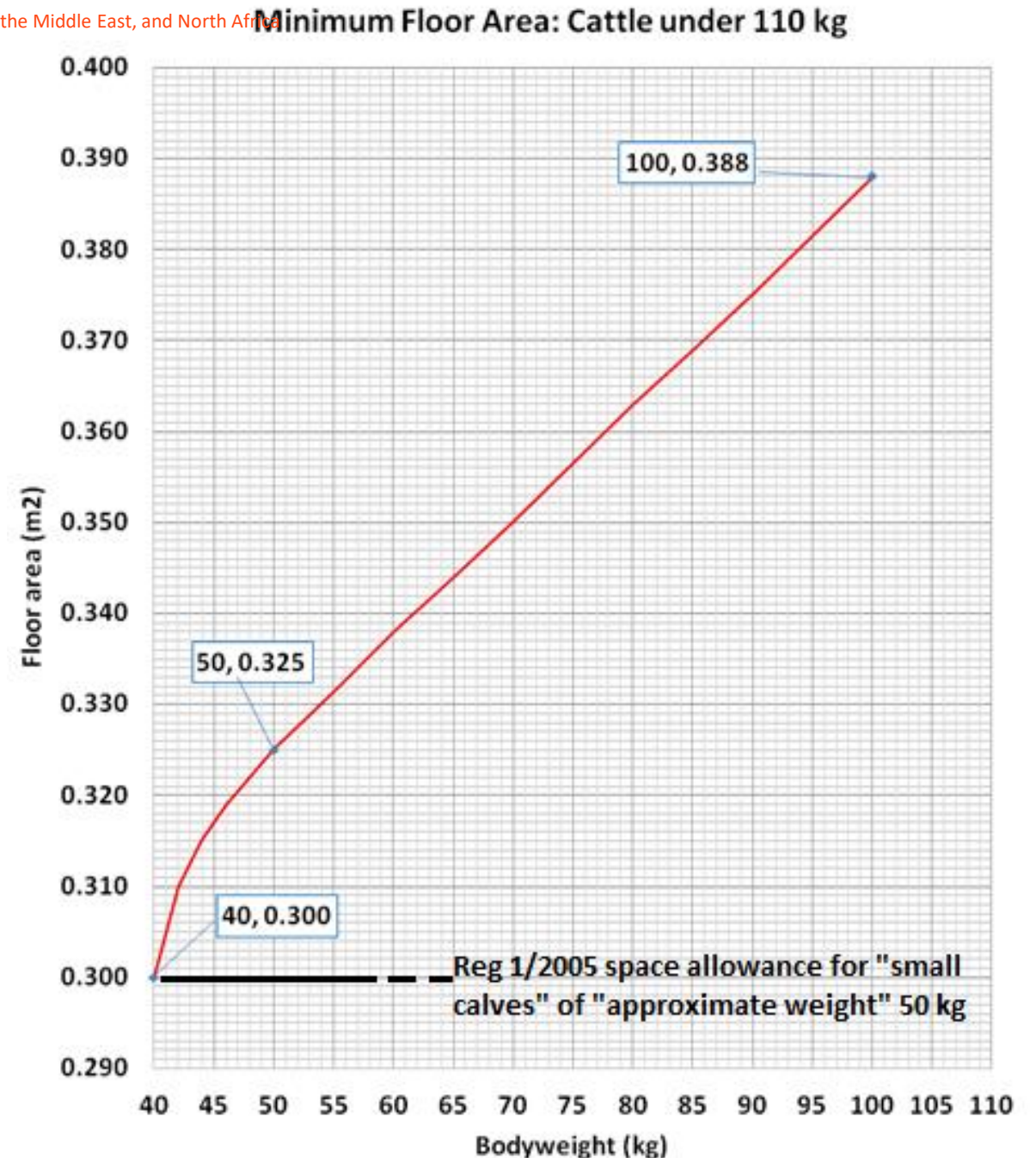




## Trade to European Union countries

2019 and 2020 – Introduction of policy measures to provide extra protection

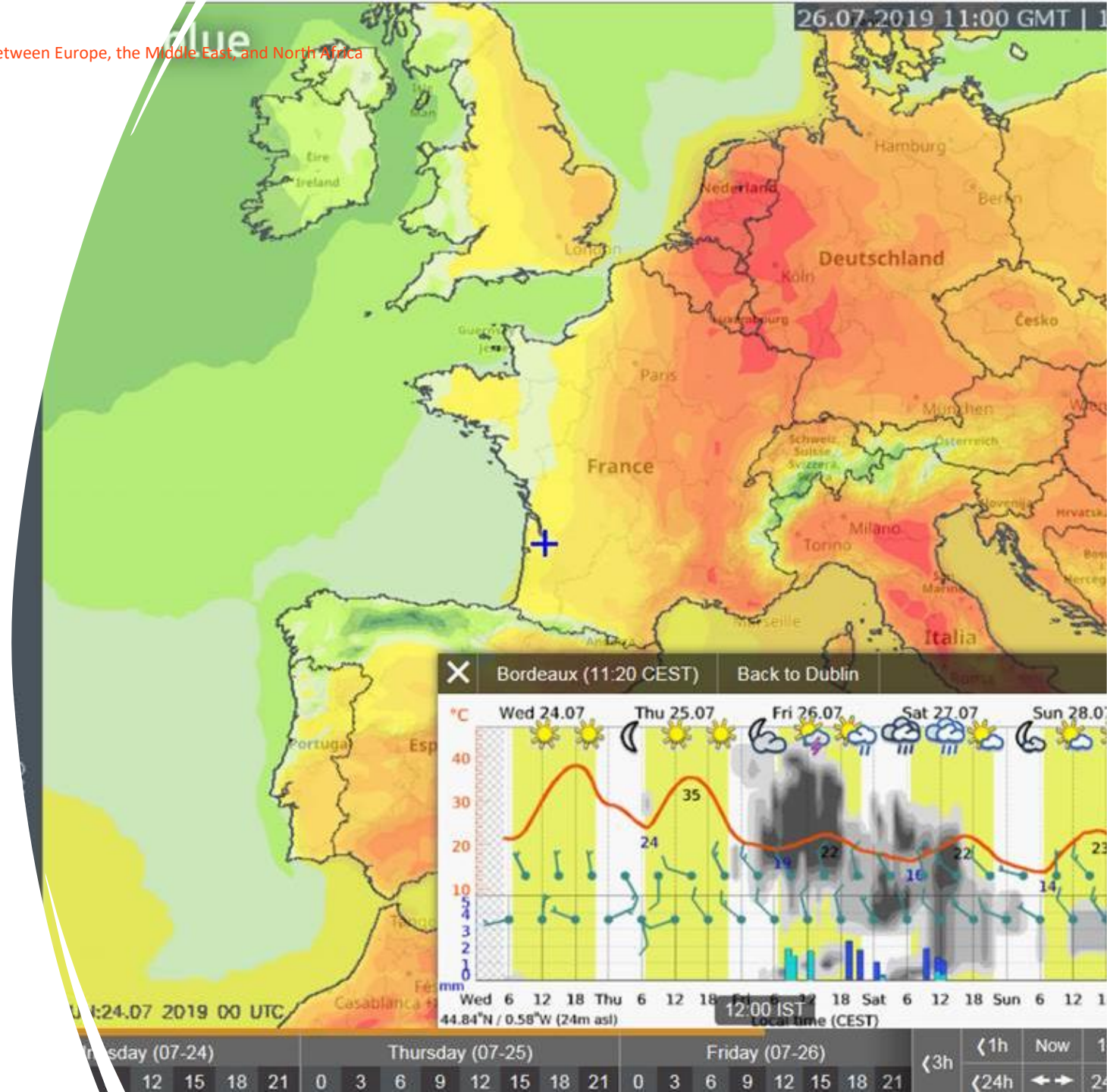
- Driver certificate of competence for livestock now lasts 3 years (was formerly 10 years). Full training required to renew.
- Extra space in vehicles for calves of 50Kg
  - (0.325m<sup>2</sup> as opposed to min 0.3m<sup>2</sup> laid down in Reg 1/2005; 55kg: 0.332m<sup>2</sup> or 11% more)





## Trade to European Union countries

- Maximum external temperature of 30°C at time of transport – weather forecast en route to be checked by transporter and VI.
- HQ started to issue general weather alerts to industry and regional offices.





## Trade to European Union countries

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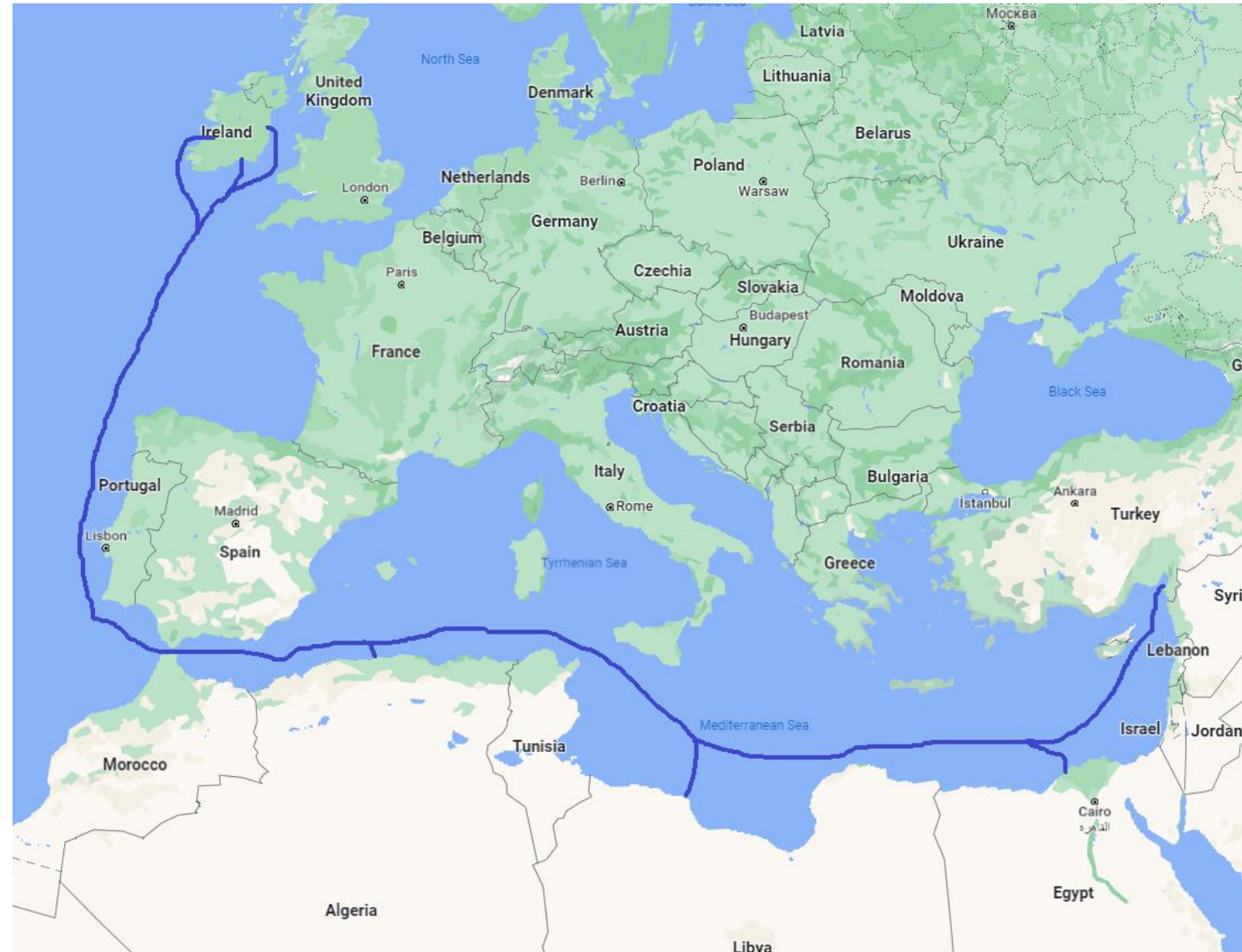
- Minimum overhead height set – for calves, a minimum of 15cms above the withers or tailhead (whichever is the highest) of the tallest calf on that deck.
- All use of sticks on calves banned.
- 13 hour stop period for lorries with unweaned calves in Cherbourg required to allow for unloading and reloading and the statutory 12-hour rest.
- No-warning veterinary accompaniment of calves to Cherbourg and Control Posts from time to time.
- Enforcement of return of JL Section 4 and sat nav – commencement of sanctions for non-return.



# Trade to countries outside the European Union

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- Adult cattle - dedicated livestock vessels
- Detailed provisions on vessel approval and operation are laid down in EU and Irish National legislation – dealt with in separate presentation.
- Accompaniment of first voyage after vessel approval (and occasional other voyages) by official veterinarian
- Standards of welfare during transport considered high.





# Trade to countries outside the European Union

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- Challenging to carry out controls on planning for that part of the journey after disembarkation.
- Feedback from competent authorities on arrival of animals greatly appreciated
- Grateful for role of WOAHA in creating network of contact points – potential solutions



# Thank you

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