



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



Brussels, 20 December 2006  
17048/06 (Presse 375)

### **Council statement on EU exports of animal products to Russia**

The Council thanks the Commission for its efforts and welcomes the solution found between the EC and the Russian Federation concerning EU exports of animal products to Russia as from 1 January 2007.

The Council notes with satisfaction that it has been mutually agreed to reinforce the provisions, in particular with regard to controls, of the Memorandum of 2 September 2004 between the European Community and the Russian Federation on veterinary certification of animals and animal products to be exported from the EC to Russia.

The agreement reached today will guarantee the continuation of exports of animal products to Russia after 1 January 2007. The agreement was initialled today in Moscow and it will be signed in mid-January 2007 in Berlin. The Council considers this positive development as a valuable opportunity to achieve progress also in the outstanding issues that still remain in the veterinary and phytosanitary field between the EC and the Russian Federation. The Council stresses the need for continued efforts between the EC and the Russian Federation with a view to finding a comprehensive and longstanding solution in these issues.

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