

Council Directive 83/129/EEC

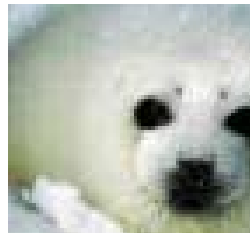
(amended by Council Directive 89/370/EEC)



- concerning the importation into Member States of skins of certain seal pups and products derived therefrom

Reasons for Council Directive 83/129/EEC

- **Doubts concerning the population status** of the harp and hooded seals and especially as to the effect of non-traditional hunting on the conservation and population status of hooded seals
- **Widespread public concerns**
- **Adoption of Council Directive 83/129/EEC on 28 March 1983** to prohibit the import of certain seal pup products into the EU
- Initially applied until 1st October 1985



Reasons for amending Council Directive 83/129/EEC

- **Adoption of Council Directive 85/444/EEC on 27 September 1985**
 - thereby extending the validity of Council Directive 83/129/EEC until 1st October 1989
 - **The Commission was asked to report again after two years**
 - on the conservation status of the two seal species
 - on the development of markets in seal skins derived from the Inuits' traditional hunting and of the market in other seal skins also outside the scope of the Directive

Reasons for amending Council Directive 83/129/EEC (2)

**Adoption of Council Directive 89/370/EEC amending Council
Directive 83/129/EEC on 8 June 1989**

Reasons for indefinite extension of Council Directive:

- Avoid the negative consequences that could be expected should the Council Directive not be extended.



Reasons for amending Council Directive 83/129/EEC (3)

- Increasing doubts with regard to the effects of non-traditional hunting on the conservation of harp seals in the East Atlantic, the Barents Sea and the White Sea.
- Harp seals also affected by the depletion of prey fish species and entanglement in nets along the Norwegian coast.
- Useful complementary measure to the measure of the Canadian Government to end all commercial hunting of whitecoats and bluebacks.

Implementation by EU Member States



1. Member States shall prohibit commercial import of skins of harp seal *Phoca groenlandica* pups ('whitecoats') & hooded seal *Cystophora cristata* pups ('blue-backs') and products derived therefrom;
2. Member States shall inform the Commission of measures taken.

Products listed in Annex

- **The products listed in the Annex refer to the Common Customs Tariff (CCT) headings in place in 1983**
- **ex 43.01, ex 43.02 A:** Raw furskins and furskins, tanned or dressed, including furskins assembled in plates, crosses and similar forms:
 - of whitecoat pups of harp seals,
 - of pups of hooded seals (blue-backs)
- **ex 43.03:** Articles of the furskins referred to in 1.

Products listed in Annex (2)

- The **Common Customs Tariff (CCT)** was integrated as of 1988 into the **Combined Nomenclature (CN)**.
- The CN is a method for designating goods and merchandise which was established to meet, at one and the same time, the requirements both of the CCT and of the external trade statistics of the Community.



Products listed in Annex (3)

The codes listed hereafter refer to the CN, published in Annex I to Council Regulation (EEC) No 2658/87 on the Tariff and Statistical Nomenclature and on the Common Customs Tariff. This Annex has been last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1719/2005 (O L 286 of 28 October 2005).

- **4301 70 10**: Raw furskins of whitecoat pups of harp seal and of pups of hooded seals (blue-backs), whole, with or without head, tail or paws.
- **4302 19 41**: Tanned or dressed furskins of whitecoat pups of harp seal or pups of hooded seals (blue-backs), whole, with or without head, tail or paws, not assembled.

Products listed in Annex (4)

- **4302 30 51**: Tanned or dressed whole furskins of whitecoat pups of harp seal or pups of hooded seals (blue-backs), and pieces or cuttings thereof, assembled, without the addition of other materials
- **4303 10 10**: Articles of apparel and clothing accessories made of fur skin of whitecoat pups of harp seal or pups of hooded seals (blue-backs)

Exemption

ARTICLE 3:

- Products resulting from traditional hunting by the Inuit people
- Hunting, as traditionally practised by Inuit people, leaves seal pups unharmed



Further questions?

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