



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

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**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 22 OCTOBER 2015 - 23 OCTOBER 2015
(Section Plant Health)**

CIRCABC Link: <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/caad81f5-5fce-4283-88ce-30dea7057e19>

A.01 Overview of new outbreaks of harmful organisms notified by Member States.

The report on the outbreak notifications of harmful organisms for the period 11 September to 14 October 2015 was presented. Emphasis was given on certain outbreak reports of regulated and non-regulated harmful organisms.

A.02 Presentation by Italy of the situation of *Xylella fastidiosa* in the territory and the Action Plan for the implementation of Decision (EU) 2015/789.

Italy provided an update of the recent developments of *Xylella fastidiosa* in its territory, and more particularly in the region of Apulia. The details of a new Action Plan adopted on 30 September 2015 for the implementation of Decision (EU) 2015/789 were also presented. Italy informed that 1018 olive plants had been removed since the adoption of the Action Plan, while survey and sampling activities were ongoing. Italy confirmed that currently there are no nurseries authorised to move any specified plant out of the demarcated areas.

A.03 Presentation by France of the situation of *Xylella fastidiosa* in the territory and the Action Plan for the implementation of Decision (EU) 2015/789.

France provided an update of the recent developments of *Xylella fastidiosa* in Corsica and informed the Committee about two new outbreaks recently discovered in the region of *Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur*. All outbreaks were demarcated and eradication measures in line with EU Decision are currently being taken.

A.04 Presentation by the Commission of the report of the 2015 Working Group meeting on reduced frequency of import inspections, followed by an exchange of views and possible approval of the report.

The Commission presented the report and a proposal for trade of plants and plant products under reduced frequency for 2016. The Committee approved the report and

the proposal except for the trades of citrus fruits from Uruguay and cut leaves of *Phoenix* from Costa Rica, for which it was respectively agreed to raise the minimum level of physical checks for citrus fruit from Uruguay to 100% already as of 1 November 2015 and for *Phoenix* cut leaves, to keep the level at 35% on condition that the inspected consignments shall be tested, at a reasonable proportion, for the presence of *Xylella fastidiosa*.

A.05 Presentation by the Commission of the additional information received from CFIA-Canada and APHIS-USDA concerning the implementation of the EU import conditions for wood and bark of ash (*Fraxinus* L.) after the expiration of the derogation laid down in Decision 2014/924/EU, i.e. 31 December 2015, followed by an exchange of views.

The Committee expressed its preference for a system approach as a phytosanitary tool/option over the recognition of pest free areas (PFAs). Furthermore, the Committee was skeptical to United States (US) proposal for PFAs mainly due to the extensive presence of Emerald Ash Borer in the US. The Committee asked the Commission to seek assurance from the US authorities that the rule of 100 km between proposed PFAs and infested areas is respected and that detailed surveys are conducted for a period of at least 2 years prior to any approval of the PFAs.

A.06 Presentation by the Commission of the additional information received from APHIS-USDA concerning the request for the recognition of an alternative option to the existing EU special requirements against *Erwinia stewartii* for the import of corn seed (*Zea mays*), followed by an exchange of views.

There was a general positive response from the Committee on the US proposal to include field inspection as equivalent to EU phytosanitary measures, on the condition that USA would give solid assurance to the EU. The Committee requested more time to review the latest documents received from the US authorities.

A.07 Presentation by the Commission of the conclusions of the meeting of the EU-US Technical Working Group for Plant Health on 30 September – 1 October 2015.

A short overview of the main conclusions of the meeting related to the on-going EU-import dossiers was given. The next meeting will take place in April 2016 in the US.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2015/789 as regards measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Union of *Xylella fastidiosa* (Wells et al.)

The Commission presented possible points to be revised in the current EU emergency measures. Based on the comments of the Committee, the Commission will present a proposal for a possible opinion in a forthcoming meeting of the Committee.

Vote postponed

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision extending the period of validity of Decision 2013/413/EU by authorising Member States to provide for derogations from certain provisions of Council Directive 2000/29/EC in respect of potatoes, other than potatoes intended for planting, originating in the regions of Akkar and Bekaa of Lebanon.

The draft Decision would extend the period of derogation for import of ware potatoes originating in Lebanon until 31/10/2018.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

C.01 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision laying down the procedures for the submission of applications for grants and requests for payment, in respect of the emergency measures against plant pests referred to in Regulation (EU) No 652/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

The Commission presented a draft Implementing Decision laying down the procedures for the submission of applications for grants and requests for payment, in respect of the emergency measures against plant pests (Article 16 of Regulation (EU) N° 652/2014). The Commission asked the Member States to communicate their comments by e-mail by 30th of October.

C.02 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on the adoption of a decision regarding the Union financial contribution to emergency measures in Austria, Croatia, Cyprus, Germany, Spain and Italy for the purposes of combating organisms harmful to plants or plant products in 2014 and 2015.

The Commission presented a general overview of the applications submitted by Member States for the co-financing of emergency measures in 2014 and 2015. The ad hoc financing Decision will be presented in a forthcoming meeting of the Committee.