



Brussels, 25/03/2017

## Minutes

### **Meeting of the Animal Health Advisory Committee, the sub-group of the Advisory group on the food chain and animal and plant health**

**Brussels, 14/03/2017**

- 1. Approval of the agenda of 1st Meeting of 2017 of the Animal Health Advisory Committee**
- 2. List of points discussed**

#### **Introduction, opening: Head of Unit G2 Animal health and welfare - DG SANTE**

The Commission explained briefly the purpose of the meeting and asked for any additional AOB points. OIE asked to share information on the application of international standards

- 1. Information on the state of play and follow-up after adoption of the EU Animal Health Law (SANTE G2 and G3)**

- Planning and context of future work on delegated and implementing acts.

The Commission updated participants on the planning for the adoption of the delegated and implementing acts under the Animal Health law and presented the working scenario for the following years. In particular, the Commission explained the grouping of empowerments and indicated that priority will be given to those acts that the Commission has to adopt by 2019.

Clarification was also provided on the differentiation of rules under the AHL and other EU legislation, such as on food hygiene, animal by-products and financing

- Update information on disease listing and categorisation process

The Commission updated participants on the ongoing process of listing and categorisation of animal diseases. The Commission detailed the steps of this exercise to assess the different parameters and criteria laid down in the Animal Health Law. The Commission stressed the relevance to assign defined preventive and control measures at EU level for the listed diseases. The Commission clarified practical/technical aspects of the process and insisted on the need of future feedback from stakeholders.

- Information (update) on the study with regard to Article 144 of the EU Animal Health Law – on possible derogation from certification for intra-EU trade

The Commission informed participants that the contract for the study was awarded to an external contractor for the duration of 9 months and work on the study has started in September 2016. Relevant stakeholders have been contacted by the contractor, however not all of them have provided the information requested. The Commission stressed that should stakeholders wish to contribute to the study, they should reply to the contractor as soon as possible.

During the discussion FVE, UECBV and ERPA informed about the state of play of their contributions to the contractor.

## **2. State of play in the EU of certain animal diseases: Avian influenza, African Swine Fever, Lumpy Skin Disease, Sheep and Goat Pox (SANTE G3)**

The Commission presented an overview of the situation of Avian Influenza, African Swine Fever, Lumpy Skin Disease and Bluetongue.

With regard to African Swine Fever, the Commission presented an overview of the situation in the EU and reviewed the measures in place to combat the disease. An emphasis was put on the regionalisation measures as well as the need to manage the wild boar population with a long term perspective in order to minimise the impact in case of occurrence of ASF. It was clarified that support measures by the Commission were already in place. The Committee noted the need to maintain biosecurity in farms at high levels in order to reduce the risks of outbreaks. The Commission reiterated the importance to follow the ASF Strategy for the Eastern Part of the EU.

## **3. "Funding options for 2018-2020 in relation to EU co-funded veterinary programmes and future perspectives" (SANTE D4)**

The Commission gave a presentation on the funding options for 2018-2020 with regard to EU co-funded veterinary programmes and future perspectives.

## **4. Animal Welfare (SANTE G2)**

- Information on the establishment of the Animal Welfare Platform

The Commission briefly presented the background of the platform, its role, membership and operations as laid down in Commission Decision 2017/C 31/12. It was underlined that the interest of the Platform is bringing successful experiences to be shared rather than pointing out what should be better done by others. Also it was stressed that commitments from the businesses are expected. The first meeting of the platform will take place on 6 June 2017 and a call for applications has been published for non-institutional members that was closed on 6/3/2017.

The *Dog and Cats Alliance* asked to which extent the welfare of companion animals will be covered by the activities of the Platform. The *MT Presidency* wanted to have some precisions regarding the voting system of the Platform. EFFAB wanted to know how the platform will deal with ongoing projects such as the project on pig castration.

As regards companion animals, the Commission replied that many issues were likely to be proposed and the Platform should first concentrate on horizontal issues rather than on very specific ones, since this is likely to bring more interest and consensus. On vote, the Commission reminded the Committee that the Decision establishing the Platform insists on the need to adopt conclusions by consensus, voting remaining exceptional. On how ongoing projects will be integrated in the work of the platform, the Commission underlined the need to avoid redundancy with other forums and ongoing works. The Platform meetings should also be the occasion of regular information on the various ongoing activities performed by other organisations while the Platform activities should concentrate on complementary areas.

## **5. Any other business:**

- Presentation of ERPA's biosecurity information sheets

ERPA gave a brief presentation on their study on biosecurity measures avian influenza.

## **6. Next steps:**

In 2017 the Commission will hold regular meetings of experts on the delegated and implementing acts of the Animal Health Law. During that period the Commission will also hold regular expert meetings on the delegated and implementing acts of the Official Controls legislation. In addition, it is envisaged to first meeting of the Animal Welfare Platform on June 6 with a second meeting later in the year on a date to be decided.

The Animal Health Advisory Committee will be briefed on the progress of the discussions on the Delegated and Implementing Acts of both the Animal Health Law and the Official Controls legislation at future meetings of the Advisory Committee and will also be briefed on items discussed at the Animal Welfare Platform.

## **7. Next meeting**

The date of the next meeting has not yet been finalised due to the heavy workload envisaged in 2017. However, it is planned to hold a second meeting of the Advisory Committee in the second semester of 2017. Members of the Advisory Committee will be informed as soon as possible on the proposed dates for this meeting.

## **8. List of participants**

<i>Stakeholder Organisation</i>
<b>ANIMALS' ANGELS</b>
<b>ATA</b> <b>Animal Transportation Association</b>
<b>AVEC</b> <b>Association of Poultry Processors and Poultry Trade in the EU</b>
<b>CEFIC</b> <b>European Chemical Industry Council</b>
<b>CELCAA</b> <b>European Liaison Committee for the Agricultural and Agri-food Trade</b>
<b>CLITRAVI</b> <b>Liaison Centre for the Meat Processing Industry in the EU</b>
<b>COPA</b> <b>European farmers</b> <b>COGECA</b> <b>European agri-cooperatives</b>
<b>EAZA</b> <b>European Association of Zoos and Aquaria</b>

<b>ECLSA</b> <b>European Cold Storage and Logistics Association</b>
<b>EGGVP</b> <b>European Group for Generic Veterinary Products</b>
<b>e-Euroconsulting</b>
<b>EPO</b> <b>European Pet Organization</b> <b>OFI</b> <b>Ornamental Fish International</b>
<b>ERPA</b> <b>European Rural poultry Association</b>
<b>EUROCOMMERCE</b> <b>European Representation of Retail, Wholesale and International Trade</b>
<b>EUROCOOP</b> <b>European Community of Consumer Cooperatives</b>
<b>EU DOG and CAT Alliance</b>
<b>EUROGROUP FOR ANIMALS</b>
<b>FACE</b> <b>Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the EU</b>
<b>FEFAC</b> <b>Fédération européenne des fabricants d'aliments composés pour animaux</b>
<b>FEFANA</b> <b>EU Association of Speciality Feed Ingredients and their Mixtures</b>
<b>FESASS</b> <b>Fédération européenne pour la santé animale et la sécurité sanitaire</b>
<b>FoodServices Europe</b> <b>Fédération européenne de la restauration collective concédée</b>
<b>FVE</b> <b>Federation of Veterinarians of Europe</b>
<b>IFAH-EUROPE</b> <b>International Federation for Animal Health Europe</b>
<b>IPATA</b> <b>International Pet and Animal Transportation Association</b>

<b>IVSA</b> <b>International Veterinary Students' Organisation</b>
---

<b>UEAPME</b> <b>Union européenne de l'artisanat et des petites et moyennes entreprises</b>
--

<b>UECBV</b> <b>European Livestock And Meat Trading Union</b>
--

<b>VIER PFOTEN</b>
--------------------

**TROIKA** – Slovakia, Malta and Estonia