



**Ministry of Environment  
and Food of Denmark**  
Danish Veterinary and  
Food Administration

# Implementation of AHL - Danish perspective

BTSF Training Course  
3 June 2021  
Stig Møllergaard

# Aim of the Animal Health Law – Regulation EU 2016/429

Streamline a huge number of EU legal acts into **a single regulation**, supplemented by secondary legislation

Simpler and clearer rules enable authorities and those having to follow the rules to focus on key priorities: **preventing and eradicating disease**

**Responsibilities are clarified** for farmers, vets and others dealing with animals

The rules allow **greater use of new technologies** for animal health activities and further convergence with international standards as e.g. the OIE standards - surveillance of pathogens, electronic identification and registration of animals

Better **early detection & control of animal diseases**, including emerging diseases linked to climate change, will help to reduce the occurrence and effects of animal epidemics

It offers **more flexibility** to adjust rules to local circumstances, and to emerging issues such as climate and social change

Improved legal basis for **monitoring animal pathogens resistant to antimicrobial agents**, supplementing existing rules and Regulations on veterinary medicines and on medicated feed



## Considerations on when to start implementation process

Reg. 2016/429 published March 2016 – legislative frame

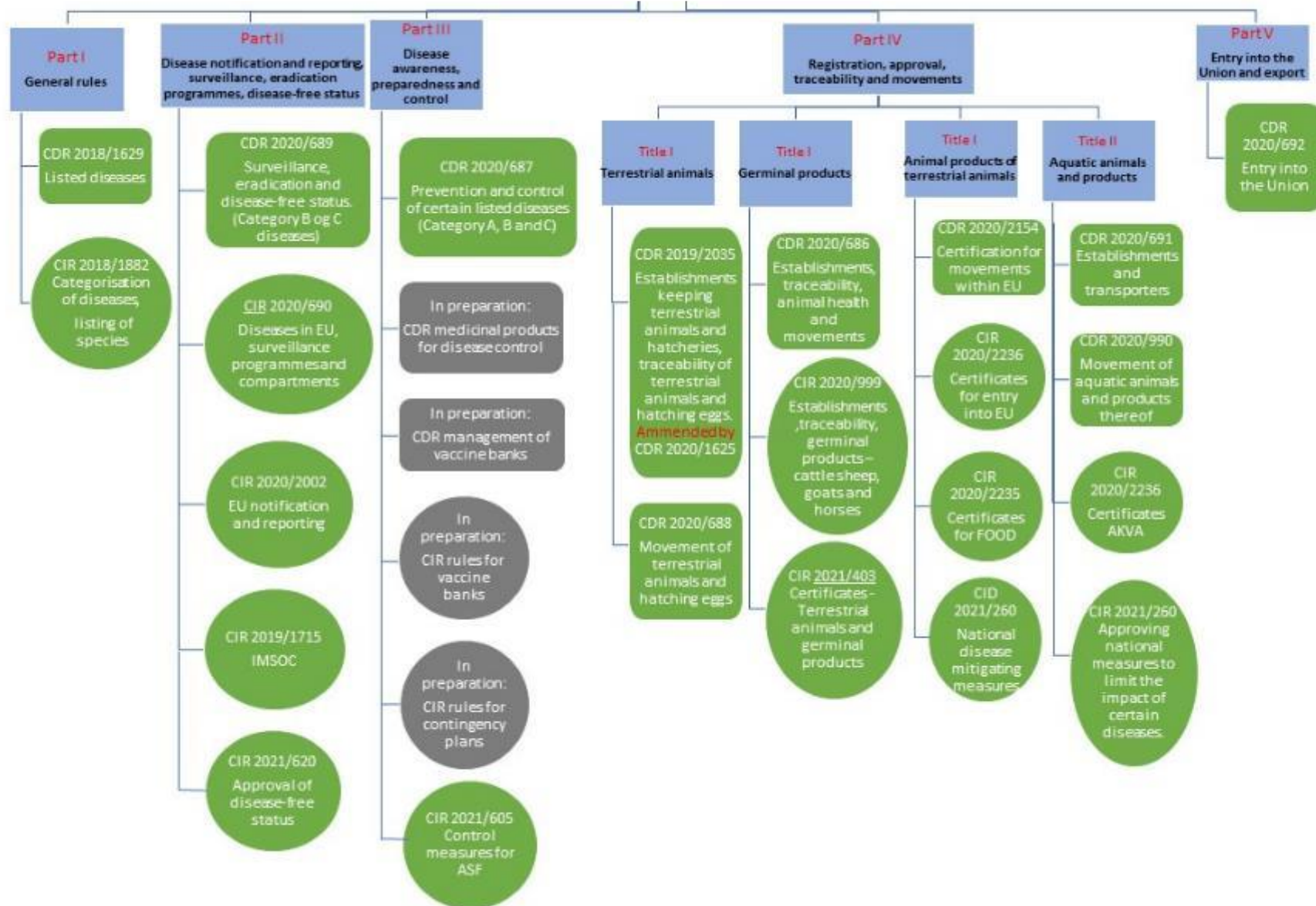
Entered into force 21. April 2016  
Applies from 21. April 2021

Commissions original ambition –  
finalisation of secondary  
legislation Spring 2019

Two years for implementation in  
Member States



# Regulation (EU) 2016/429 on transmissible diseases (Animal Health Law)



# AHL implementation in Denmark

## Process started December 2019

- Sufficient knowledge on secondary legislation present

## Applied a project organisation structure

- Project leader
- Steering group
- Project groups
- Working groups

## Aim of project

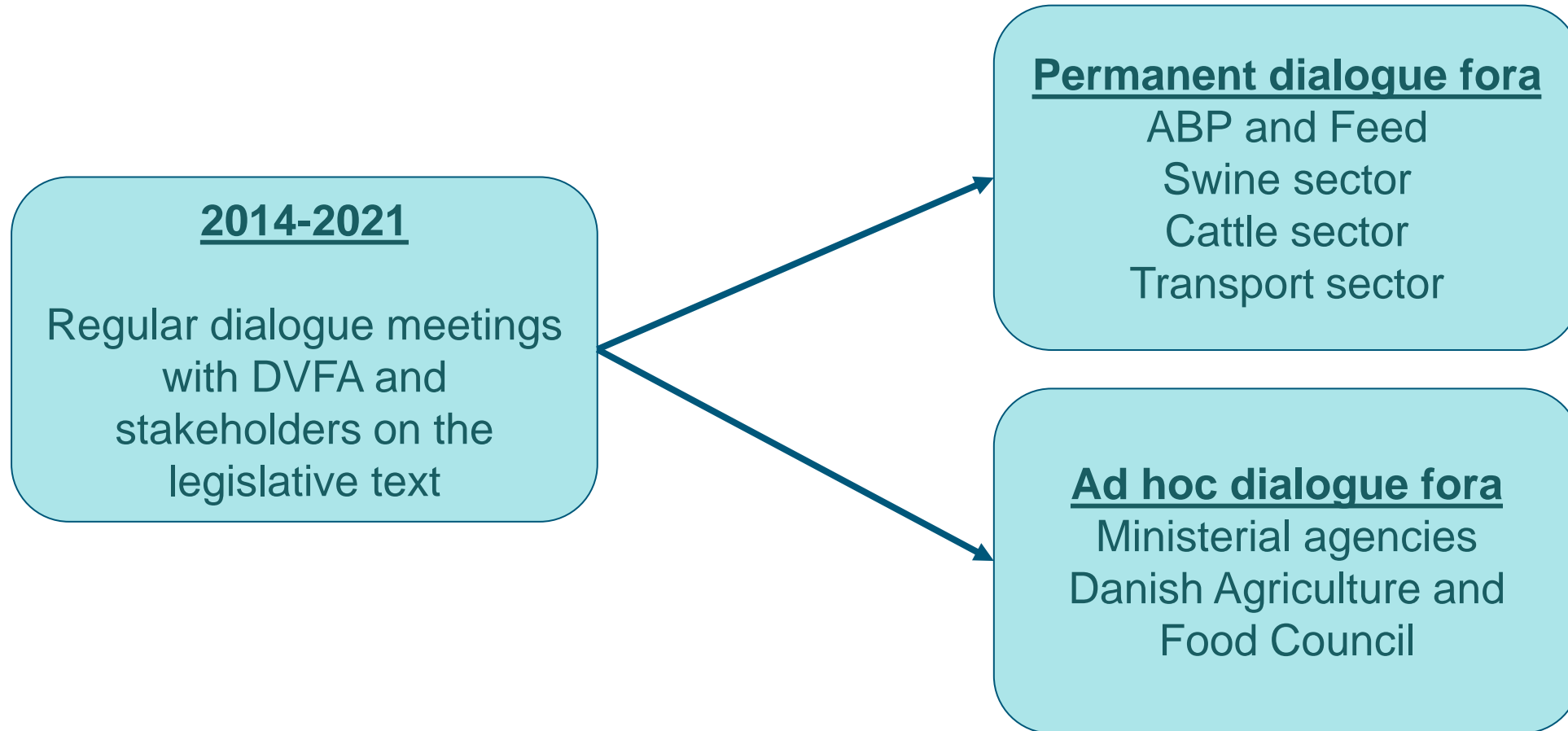
*To implement the Animal Health Law and secondary legislation in Danish law and in the control setup including proposing IT structures for facilitation and documentation of the control*

## Ressources

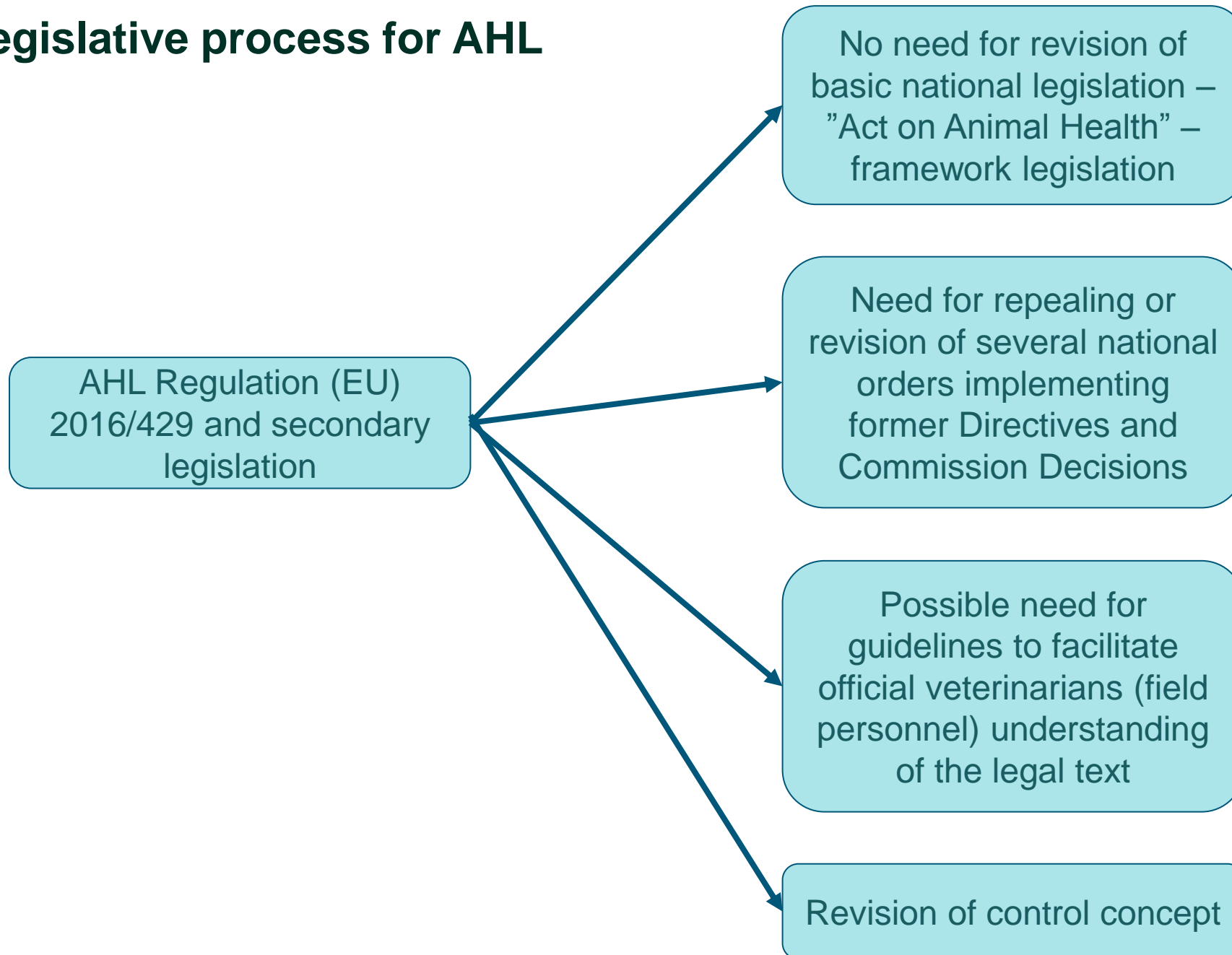
- 8-10 man-years



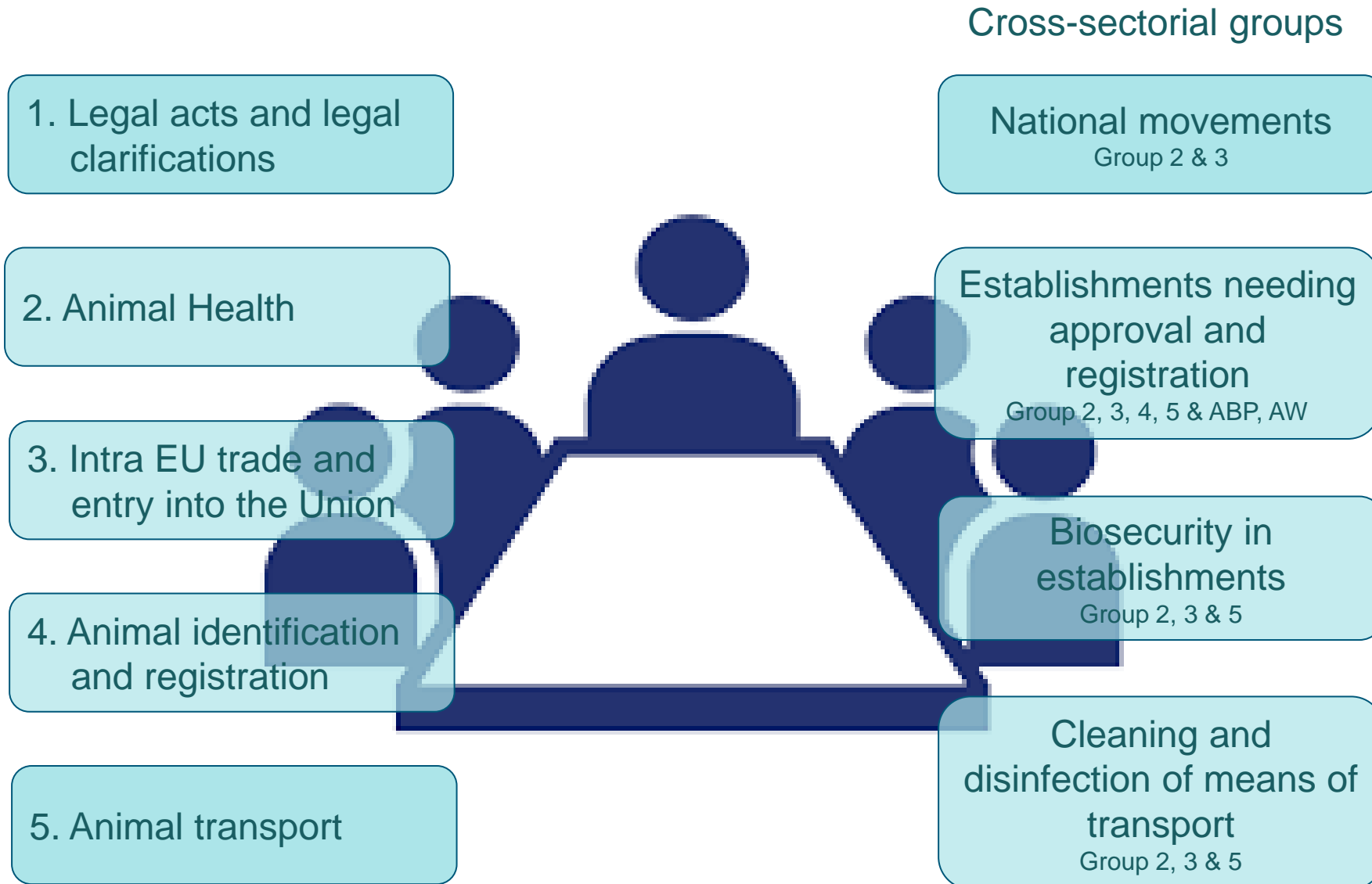
# Danish collaboration with stakeholders in legislative processes



# Danish legislative process for AHL



# Working groups





# Tasks for working groups

WG's had to go through all existing Danish legislation (around 80 executive orders) within the Animal Health area and fill in a template for decision making

Existing Danish legislation/national rules	New EU legislation AHL and secondary legislation	Former EU legislation (if national rules e.g. does not exist in new EU legislation)	Continuation of/new national rules (supplementary rules to EU legislation – notification)	Repeal of national rules
Order no. <i>On §§ level</i>	AHL , CDR or CIR <i>On article level</i>	Regulations, Directives, Decisions <i>On article level</i>	Comments with conclusion	Comments with conclusion

# Basic preparations

Prepared parallel documents for eradication of ASF and HPAI – eradication shall follow AHL from 21 April 2021

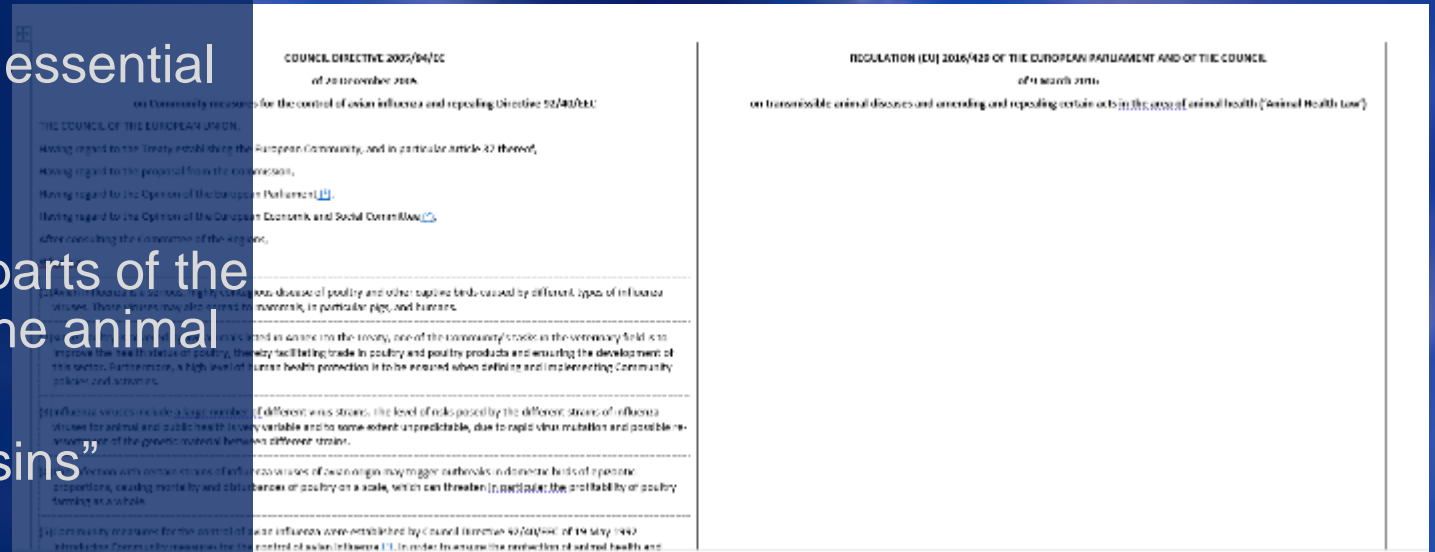
- Eradication of category A diseases essential for the Member State and EU

Possible delay of implementation of parts of the AHL may not have major impact on the animal health situation in EU

- Possibility of absolution for "minor sins"

Full implementation in all involved sectors will take time

- Operator responsibilities and change of mind-sets



# Communication plan



Information internally within the organisation

- At division level – central administration**
- To local veterinary units**
- Management level – weekly bird-table meetings
  - General staff level – information meetings and written material



Information to political level and stakeholders

- Meetings**
- Ministerial department
  - Agricultural sector
  - Transport sector
  - NRL
- Websites**
- General information on, and focus on specific topics



Elaboration of guidelines for specific areas

# Challenges

Evaluate the need for national rules supplementing AHL rules

Period with double regulation (until repeal of national legislation)

Registration of animals

- Await rules for derogations

Responsibilities given to operators

- Need for elaboration/developing of more industrial codes of practice

Control personnel

- Increased control in certain areas
- Need for case-by-case evaluations – e.g. on biosecurity measures
- Guidelines necessary in order to obtain a proper uniformity of evaluations

New rules for handling LPAI

- Challenge to explain new approach for stakeholders and general public

BVD has become a category C disease



# Actual situation

Preparation of secondary legislation more complicated and labour-intensive than expected

Most secondary legislation published during 2020

Some pieces of legislation still in preparation

Corona in mink in DK 2020 – many resources allocated

Outbreaks of HPAI

No extra personnel allocated to implementation of AHL

Implementing process in Denmark (and in other Member States) still ongoing, following the date of application of the AHL

Full implementation probably take years - overseen details will pop-up

Recent HPAI eradication in DK - AHL applied – and it is working!

