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Health and Food Safety Directorate General

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**Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed**

**Section *Animal Health and Welfare***

**23 November 2018**

**CIRCABC Link:** <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/d36ff9ae-0fd1-41e0-8ee0-8fec085e3c37>

**SUMMARY REPORT**

**A.01 General information by Member States.**

No item raised.

**A.02 Evaluation procedure of eradication, control and surveillance programmes submitted by Member States for Union financial contribution for 2019 and following years: list of the programmes technically approved and preliminary amount allocated to each programme.**

The outcome of the evaluation procedure of eradication, control and surveillance programmes submitted by the Member States for EU cofinancing in 2019 was presented for information, with the list of the programmes technically approved and the preliminary amount allocated for each programme. Member States raised several questions concerning the calculation method of the new unit costs.

**A.03 Information from the Commission concerning the draft on the situation of certain diseases of bovine animals and swine for 2017 in accordance with Council Directive 64/432/EEC.**

The Commission presented the data provided by Member States in their annual reports for 2017 on certain diseases of bovine and porcine animals. Member States were invited to correct mistakes in the tables by 10 December by e-mail.

**A.04 Information from Italy. Declaration of freedom from VHS and IHN for the zone "Torrente Adana" comprising two fish farms; Armani Cornelio e Alessandro, locality Saletti (100TN003) and Armani Cornelio e Alessandro, locality Vecchiarella (IT 100TN004).**

The declaration demonstrates that the conducted surveillance program and other relevant information apparently is in compliance with current legislation. The declaration is placed on the website of the Italian Competent Authority:

[http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/temi/p2\\_6.jsp?lingua=italiano&id=1845&area=sanita Animale&menu=acqua](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/temi/p2_6.jsp?lingua=italiano&id=1845&area=sanita Animale&menu=acqua). Member States had no comments.

**A.05 Information from France. Declaration of freedom from VHS and IHN in a zone comprising the stream of Soye and the fish farm "Pisciculture de Moulin de Soye".**

Item withdrawn.

**A.06 Information from France. Declaration of freedom from VHS and IHN in an independent compartment comprising the fish farm "Belle Fontaine".**

Item withdrawn.

**A.07 Information from Italy. Declaration of freedom from VHS and IHN in an independent compartment comprising the fish farm "Incubatoio de Valle di Plane di Carniglia".**

The declaration demonstrates that the conducted surveillance program and other relevant information apparently is in compliance with current legislation. The declaration is placed on the website of the Italian Competent Authority:

[http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/temi/p2\\_6.jsp?lingua=italiano&id=1845&area=sanita Animale&menu=acqua.](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/temi/p2_6.jsp?lingua=italiano&id=1845&area=sanita%20Animale&menu=acqua)

**A.08 4th meeting of the EU Platform on Animal Welfare.**

Item withdrawn.

**A.09 Information from the Commission concerning the draft Commission Implementing Decision repealing Decision 2006/80/EC granting certain Member States the derogation provided for in Article 3(2) of Council Directive 92/102/EEC on the identification and registration of animals.**

The Commission informed the Committee that the draft Commission Implementing Decision repealing the derogation on registration of holdings where one single pig is kept, which obtained a favourable opinion of the Committee on 13/06/2018, has been formally adopted by the Commission on 06/11/2018 and published in the Official Journal series L 278 on 08/11/2018 bearing the number 2018/1669.

**A.10 Information on African swine fever in Member States.**

Several Member States gave an update on the current African swine fever situation and the measures taken to control the disease.

**A.11 Information on highly pathogenic avian influenza in Bulgaria.**

During 2018 Bulgaria detected 26 outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza of subtype H5N8. 13 of those outbreaks were confirmed since the beginning of October in four adjacent regions with a dense duck population. EU disease control measures are applied and in addition surveillance on restocked holdings, pre-movement testing and verification of biosecurity measures on farms are performed. No wild birds have been found infected. Depending on the further development of the epidemiological situation the Commission suggested Bulgaria to consider establishing a further restricted zone around the outbreaks.

Furthermore, in relation to avian influenza the Commission informed the Committee about the publication of the 2017 Annual Report on surveillance in poultry and wild birds on the Commission's website and thanked Member States for their contributions. [https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/animals/docs/ad\\_control-measures\\_ai\\_surv-rslt\\_pltry-wld-brds\\_2017.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/animals/docs/ad_control-measures_ai_surv-rslt_pltry-wld-brds_2017.pdf)

The Commission gave a brief update on the situation as regards circulating avian influenza strains in China and vaccination with a bivalent vaccine in particular directed against the H7N9 subtype.

**A.12 Information on Newcastle disease in poultry in Sweden.**

Sweden reported on one outbreak of Newcastle disease in a laying hen flock of 5000 hens showing no significant clinical signs, but egg-drop and eggs without shell. Birds were killed and disposed of and zoning was applied. This was the first outbreak of Newcastle disease in Sweden during 2018.

**B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on the evolution of animal diseases in the Union.**

No item raised.

**B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Annex I to Decision 2010/221/EU as regards the list of areas in Ireland free of Ostreid herpesvirus 1  $\mu$ var (OsHV-1  $\mu$ Var).**

Due to a recent outbreak of OsHV-1  $\mu$ Var in Compartment 6 in Poulmasharry Bay, the geographical demarcation of the disease-free areas is to be updated by deleting the affected compartment.

**Vote taken:** Favourable opinion.

**B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/2008 concerning animal health control measures relating to lumpy skin disease in certain Member States and Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/2009 approving the vaccination programmes against lumpy skin disease submitted by the Member States.**

The aim of this act is to remove the entire territory of Croatia from the list of "areas free with vaccination" regarding Lumpy Skin Disease and the list of countries with an approved Lumpy Skin Disease vaccination programme, given that vaccination against the disease has not been practised in Croatia since the beginning of 2018 and the results of Lumpy Skin Disease surveillance ever since demonstrated the absence of the disease.

Croatia formally complained and regretted that the Commission did not present the Decision for vote at this PAFF Committee. The Commission apologised and explained that this was due to a requirement by the Legal Service and indicated that it was foreseen to present it at the PAFF of December.

**Vote Postponed**

**B.04 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending the Annex to Implementing Decision 2014/709/EU concerning animal health control measures relating to African swine fever in certain Member States.**

The aim of this draft is to review African swine fever regionalisation measures for Poland, Lithuania, Latvia and Belgium.

**Vote taken:** Favourable opinion.

**B.05 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision approving the plan for the eradication of African swine fever in feral pigs in certain areas of Romania.**

Romania presented its eradication programme, informed that they were in contact with DG AGRI to include African swine fever in the rural development programme and thanked the Commission for the good cooperation.

**Vote taken:** Favourable opinion.

**M.01 Information declaration from Norway on disease free status for Infectious Salmon Anaemia (ISA) of an independent compartment: Rimstad.**

The Commission briefly reminded that in the PAFF meeting of July a pragmatic approach to recognise freedom of ISA in compartments was proposed and agreed. In September the declaration for Rimstad was presented in PAFF and the 60 days for comments from MSs started. Three MS sought clarifications related both to the legal context, the pragmatic approach to be followed and additional technical information. Norway and the Commission clarified bilaterally all the issues raised by the 3 MSs. The Commission informed the Committee that the declaration should take effect as from the time of this announcement to the Committee. The Commission also asked the Member States in similar cases to seek bilateral contacts with the country making the original declaration (in line with the Article 50(2)(c) of Directive 2006/88/EC ) as soon as possible for the benefit of all and to avoid unnecessary delays.

The Commission reiterated that the same approach followed for Rimstad will be in future applied to similar situations.

**M.02 EUVET-mission on African swine fever - Belgium.**

An EUVET expert made a presentation on the findings of the recent EU Veterinary emergency team (EUVET) mission on African swine fever in Belgium.

**M.03 EUVET-mission on African swine fever - France.**

An EUVET expert made a presentation on the findings of the recent EU Veterinary emergency team (EUVET) mission on African swine fever preparedness in France.

#### **M.04 African swine fever - Strategic approach and principles for regionalisation.**

The Commission presented a new revision of the Strategic approach to African swine fever (ASF) management in the EU. This revision includes new Annex II (main measures for prevention, early detection and preparedness in free Member States) to the Strategic approach. The revision was supported by the Committee. In addition, the Commission presented additional possible criteria to be applied for ASF regionalisation. Following comments from Member States, the Commission informed that further fine-tuning of the relevant document might be needed and that the final discussion will have to take place in the future.

#### **M.05 Pilot project: African swine fever - preparedness.**

The Commission (SANTE – Unit F2) has initiated a project, which includes fact-finding missions to 4 Member States on preparedness for African Swine Fever. These missions will be to Austria, Germany, Slovakia and Spain, with a focus on preventive measures and early detection of the disease in wild boar. These missions will evaluate inter alia, wild boar population management, biosecurity, surveillance, coordination and communication with other competent authorities and stakeholders. Individual missions will not be followed by reports but instead, the intent is to produce an overview report by the end of March.