

**Minutes of the meeting of the Expert group
to discuss the exercise of the listing of animal diseases relevant for Union
intervention according to the Animal Health Law**

19 February 2018, Brussels

1. Approval of the agenda

A preliminary agenda was circulated prior to the meeting and agreed at the beginning.

2. Nature of the meeting

The meeting was non-public. The Member States' and EEA countries representatives from the competent veterinary authorities were participating in the meeting. The Chair noted the absence of the European Council and the European Parliament.

3. List of points discussed

A. Introduction

The Commission explained that the purpose of the meeting is to confirm Member States positions as regards cattle, sheep and goats, swine and equine diseases (following the same structure than in previous meetings) proposed to be listed for Union intervention.

The Commission thanked Member States for their input and stressed the importance of having their written feedback by 2 March 2018 on the diseases discussed at this meeting, in order to best accommodate their technical views.

B. Presentation on the listing exercise of animal diseases according to the Animal Health Law criteria

The Commission presented the changes made to the initial version of its proposed listing of diseases relevant for cattle, sheep and goats, swine and equine diseases and listed species and explained the reasoning of those changes which were mainly based on the comments and explanations received from the experts of the Member States.

C. Exchange of views with Member States

As regards cattle, there was general support to list for Union intervention enzootic bovine leukosis, infectious bovine rhinotracheitis, bovine viral diarrhoea, infection with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex (*M. bovis*, *M. caprae* and *M. tuberculosis*), contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, trichomonosis, bovine genital campylobacteriosis and lumpy skin disease.

For sheep and goats, sheep pox and goat pox, contagious caprine pleuropneumonia, ovine epididymitis (*O. ovis*) and infection with peste des petits ruminants virus were considered eligible to be listed according to the criteria laid down in the Animal Health Law. On the contrary, Border disease does not fulfil the mentioned criteria.

As regards swine diseases, general support was given to list infection with Aujeszky's disease. However, concerns were raised by experts from several Member States on whether porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome fulfils the criteria on effective risk mitigating measures. Experts also expressed their concerns on the negative effects on trade if the disease is finally

listed. Delisting of vesicular stomatitis and swine vesicular disease was unanimously supported by experts.

Finally, as proposed by the Commission, the following diseases were considered eligible to be listed: equine infectious anaemia, equine encephalomyelitis (eastern and western), dourine, contagious equine metritis, infection with equine arteritis virus, Venezuelan equine encephalitis and glanders. The outcome of the assessment of Borna disease which indicated that the disease does not fulfil the criteria to be listed was supported by all experts.

4. Conclusions/recommendations/opinions and next steps

The Commission obtained a favourable feedback and support for almost all the diseases presented to be included on the list of transmissible diseases for Union intervention. The Commission thanked Member States for their input and constructive approach.

5. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 12 March 2018.