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 28 NOVEMBER 2014

(Section Animal Health & Welfare)

CIRCABC Link: https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/16a0de3c-03d7-49be-8a52-68372458082a

A.01 Information to the MSs on the outcome of the evaluation procedure of eradication, control and surveillance programmes submitted by Member States for Union financial contribution for 2015 and following years.

The Commission presented a document with the list of the programmes technically approved and proposed for co-financing (as by Article 13 (2) of EU Regulation No 652/2014) and the provisional amount allocated to each programme. Being a new procedure, several Member States requested further explanation on the whole procedure under the new Regulation and the reason for the prioritisation of the diseases and the co-financing rate applied. The Commission replied to all questions. Romania requested additional funds in order to be able to vaccinate the susceptible population against bluetongue and to avoid the spread of the disease to other Member States. The Commission is considering this possibility should financial resources become available. The Commission announced that the final list of the programmes approved for EU financial contribution will be presented at the PAFF Committee on 13-14 January 2015 (as by Article 13 (3) of EU Regulation No 652/2014).

A.02 Template for a Grant Decision approving national programmes and associated funding.

Member States welcomed the template that was presented in detail by the Commission and no specific issues were raised.

A.03 Template grant decision for EU Reference Laboratories

Member States were informed of the template which will be used for grant decisions concerning the EURLs and no specific issues were raised.

A.04 Follow up on situation on avian influenza in Germany, the Netherlands and the UK.

Please see point A.05.

A.05 Information from Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom on the situation as regards highly pathogenic avian influenza of the subtype H5N8 in poultry and wild birds.

Germany reported on the completion of culling of the poultry in the turkey fattening holding located in Heinrichswalde, Land Mecklenburg Western-Pomerania where HPAI H5N8 was detected on 5/11/2014. Cleaning and disinfection was finalised as well. On 21/11/2014 a common teal (wild duck) shot on the island of Rügen - at a distance of about 150 kilometres from where the outbreak in turkeys had occurred - tested positive for HPAI H5N8 virus.

The Netherlands reported on the first outbreak of HPAI H5N8 on its territory detected on 21/11/2014 in a laying hen holding in Hekendorp, province of Utrecht. Zoning was established and tracing is going on. A temporary standstill was ordered for the whole country to quickly assess the epidemiological situation. On 21/11/2014 the virus was also confirmed in a second laying hen farm in Ter Aar, province of Zuid Holland and another standstill was ordered. A further outbreak was detected in Kamperveen, province of Overijssel, in a broiler breeder holding and a H5 positive duck farm in closed proximity was culled pre-emptively. Screening of all duck farms in the country was ordered. The country was divided (regionalisation) in four parts in order to minimise contacts and limit transport for slaughter and feed. A ban for restocking was implemented.

The United Kingdom reported on the detection of HPAI H5 on 16/11/2014 in a duck breeder holding. H5N8 subtype was confirmed on 18/11/2014. Depopulation and safe disposal was completed and preliminary cleaning and disinfection finalised by 21/11/2014. Tracing investigations were negative and there is to date no evidence for spread of infection.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a Draft Implementing Decision approving certain amended programmes for the eradication, control and monitoring of animal diseases and zoonoses for the year 2014 and amending Implementing Decision 2013/722/EU as regards the Union financial contribution for certain programmes approved by that Decision.

Member States welcomed this annual financial reallocation exercise and no specific issues were raised.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion on the Committee on draft Commission Implementing Decision on the adoption of a financing decision regarding the

Union contribution to emergency measures to combat African swine fever in Poland/ Latvia/ Lithuania/ Estonia in 2014

No discussion took place.

Vote postponed

B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Commission Implementing Decision No 2014/C 244/06 of 24 July 2014 establishing the work programme for the year 2015 on financial contribution to the European Union reference laboratories.

No specific issues were raised.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.04 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a Draft Commission Implementing Decision concerning certain protective measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza of subtype H5N8 in Member States.

No draft Decision presented (was meant to be a safeguard point). Therefore no vote taken.

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

The Commission presented the document relating to new procedures in detail. Member States welcomed the document and the explanation.