



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Crisis preparedness in food, animals and plants
Unit G.4 Official controls

Minutes
Working Group
"Official Controls Regulation (EU 2017/625)"

Tuesday 19 September 2023, **10H00 – 12H30**

WORKING GROUP

1	10:00 –10:30	Updates on ongoing work on CHED-N	<p>The Commission presented the state-of-play on the CHED-N regulatory package. It informed the Member States that the internal consultation with other Commission services is expected to be closed by end September 2023. A WTO SPS notification will be sent to third countries for 60 days for the draft Delegated Regulation. A vote in the PAFF committee on the draft Implementing Regulation amending the IMSOC Regulation to establish the CHED-N format is planned for November 2023. The adoption of the two initiatives is planned for December 2023.</p>
2	10:30– 11:00	<p>Guidance on several provisions of the OCR –exchange of views on new elements, exchange of views on fees for enforcement action</p>	<p>The Commission presented the state-of-play of the update of Commission Notice 2022/C 467/02. Elements to be included in the update concern Articles 9, 10, 14, 41 64 and 140 of the OCR. In a next step, other Commission Services will be consulted.</p> <p>Regarding the entry of consignments in the Union, the Commission presented its position on Member States' comments on this part of the OCR guidance. The discussion focused on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - multiple certification of consignments of mixed products;

- certification of products of animal origin contained in small quantities in mixed products;
- electronic and paper certificates and storage of certificates in TRACES;
- alignment between the CN codes used by BCP and custom authorities;
- access to operators' documents and systems by competent authorities;
- documentary checks and teleworking;
- measures after the consignments have left the points of entry.

The Commission clarified the steps to be followed by competent authorities regarding:

- the CHED replacement in the case of change of purpose of the consignment;
- the special treatment of consignments in relation to their release and quantity management performed by the custom authorities.

The Commission delivered a non-paper on the collection of fees for enforcement actions in order to consult Member States on this issue.

Member States' practices on the costing of enforcement actions will be reviewed in relation to:

- Art. 79 and 82 OCR on the calculation of mandatory fees for official control;
- Art. 80 OCR on other types of fees;
- Art. 138(4) OCR on operators' expenditure.

Member States were also requested to provide examples of expenses borne by the operators under Art. 138(4) OCR.

	11.00 - 11:30	Presentation on EU CSW-CERTEX	The Commission presented the state-of-play on the EU CSW-CERTEX programme, which interconnects the IT systems of Member States customs authorities with TRACES system for automated real time verification of CHED documents. The Member States were informed where the quantity management records from customs can be viewed in the TRACES system..
3	11:30- 12:00	Exchange of views on an amendment to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1158	The main changes through the draft amending Regulation were presented which include the clarification of CN codes concerned. The draft Regulation will be presented to other expert groups before being submitted for a vote in the near future.
4	12:00– 12:30	Updates on ongoing work on implementation of the OCR (Member States’ notifications of national provisions on penalties, e-commerce)	<p>The Commission proposed that information on adopted national rules regarding penalties is presented on each Member State’s national website, links which can then be placed on the Commission’s website.</p> <p>The Commission presented points for discussion raised by Member States as well as by the Heads of Food Safety Agencies (HoA) regarding challenges in implementing official controls and enforcement in the e-commerce sector. The discussion will be continued in future working group meetings.</p>