



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 14 JUNE 2016
(Section Biological Safety of the Food Chain)**

CIRCABC Link: <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/1bb60a10-64a6-4299-9912-a02f78b2ee9c>

A.01 Information and exchange of views on Chronic Wasting Disease following the two cases detected in Norway.

Norway presented information on the 3 cases of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) detected in one reindeer and two moose in Norway since the beginning of April 2016 and on the actions undertaken following these cases. Finland and Sweden also presented information on the cervid populations in their countries and measures taken in terms of CWD surveillance. The Commission informed that a mandate to the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has been sent by the Commission covering CWD surveillance, risk mitigation measures and whether CWD has a zoonotic potential. EFSA is expected to provide its opinion by the end of 2016 and the Commission intends to follow-up rapidly in 2017. The Commission also recalled that the import of farmed deer urine for hunting lures into the EU is prohibited by the Animal By-Products legislation, and that, when no information is available as to whether the urine derives from farmed or wild animals, the stricter rule should apply i.e. the import should be prohibited. The Commission informed that it is looking for a technical solution so that future new cases of CWD in Norway be notified to all Member States via the EU TSE database rather than by e-mail.

A.02 Information and exchange of views on the letter sent to the CVOs on 29 April (Ref. Ares(2016)2055065) concerning the nomination procedure to appoint Member State's representatives for submitting molecular typing data of non-human origin to EFSA.

The molecular typing project is one of initiatives taken to enhance crisis preparedness. The nomination procedure and eligibility criteria for selecting Member State's representatives for submitting molecular typing data of non-human origin to EFSA was presented by EFSA, as well as the part of the collaboration agreement that ensures that data are published only with the agreement of Member States. Member States welcomed the project. It was pointed out that the data collection is open and Member States could join as soon as they identify the institute/laboratory fulfilling the

eligibility criteria. The Commission called on Member States to appoint laboratories to join the project.

A.03 Corrigendum to Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005 on microbiological criteria for foodstuffs.

Point withdrawn from the agenda.

A.04 Presentation by ESSA (European Salmon Smokers Association) of their EU Guideline on Good Practices for smoked, salted or marinated fishes.

Point withdrawn from the agenda.

A.05 Presentation of draft EU “Food Donation Guidelines” developed by the European Federation of Food Banks (FEBA), FoodDrinkEurope and EuroCommerce.

The draft was presented by the Commission expressing its wish to have the guide endorsed by the Committee later as an EU guide under Article 9 of Regulation (EC) No 852/2004. Consultation at EU level of other colleagues (e.g. dealing with labelling) will occur and was also encouraged at national level. No comments were made at the meeting and final comments can be submitted until 15th July 2016.

A.06 Presentation of the EU Guidelines for Good Hygienic Practice for Distributors and Operators of Plumbed-in (POU - Point of Use) issued by Water Coolers.

The revised version was presented by the Commission. Consultation had already taken place in working groups and comments have subsequently been received from some Member States. No comments were made at the meeting and final comments can be submitted until 15th July 2016.

A.07 AOB - Presentation by the Netherlands of the intended national measure on tetrodotoxins - point added to original agenda.

The Netherlands presented their measure on controls of tetrodotoxins in Dutch waters. The measure was notified to the Commission using the urgency procedure in parallel.

Six Member States intervened stating that such a measure was premature, that an opinion from EFSA as well as an agreed analysis methodology should be the first steps taken. The Commission took note of the discussion and indicated that it would examine the Dutch measure notified under urgency procedure as foreseen by the notification rules.

A.08 AOB - State of play of on-line register for national guides to good hygiene practice - point added to original agenda.

The Commission illustrated the new electronic tool for submitting/updating guides and the new websites for searching national guides. Nine Member States must still

submit contact points. Member States were invited to add the missing information on some guides.

A.09 AOB - Presentation by the Commission of the EU TSE annual report 2014 - point added to original agenda - point added to original agenda.

In accordance with Article 6.4 of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001, the Commission presented the EU report on the monitoring and surveillance of bovine, ovine and caprine animals for Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSE) in 2014. No questions were asked.

A.10 AOB - Croatian delegation request to clarify the obligation to approve reefer vessels storing frozen products other than fish - point added to original agenda.

The Commission confirmed the obligation to approve these vessels regardless of the food of animal origin stored.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2007/453/EC as regards the BSE status of Costa Rica, Germany, Lithuania, Mexico, Namibia and Spain.

The Commission presented a draft amendment to the Annex to Decision 2007/453/EC updating the classification of countries according to their BSE risk status following the resolution concerning BSE risk status classification adopted by the World Animal Health Organisation (OIE) in May 2016. The draft text was discussed and amended.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision concerning the adoption of the financing of the 2016 work programme on training in the field of food and feed safety, animal health and plant health in the framework of the 'Better Training for Safer Food' programme.

The Commission presented the draft BTSF work programme for 2016 and its financing decision. No remarks were made.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

C.01 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Annexes I, IV and X to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down rules for the prevention, control and eradication of certain transmissible spongiform encephalopathies.

The Commission presented a draft amendment to several Annexes to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 covering the following issues:

1. modification of the definition of aquatic animals so as to allow the use of starfish and farmed aquatic invertebrates for the production of fishmeal (for feeding non-ruminant animals);

2. amendment to allow food establishment to provide animal-by products as raw materials for the production of non-ruminant processed animal protein (PAP) for feed for aquaculture animals or for export, provided that these establishments are either dedicated to non-ruminants or use separate production lines and apply measures to avoid cross-contamination;
3. re-introduction in the legislation of requirements at the level of the storage of processed animal protein to ensure the absence of cross-contamination;
4. clarification of the rules for the export of compound feed containing non-ruminant processed animal protein .

Eleven Member States provided technical comments or asked questions on the text, to which the Commission responded. It was agreed that Member States may send their written comments to the Commission by the end of June 2016.

C.02 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation on transitional measures for the application of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the accreditation of official laboratories carrying out official testing for *Trichinella*.

The draft was presented by the Commission. It prolongs the derogation, currently laid down in Regulation (EU) No 702/2013 until the end of 2019, pending the coming into force of the new Regulation on official controls which may provide a permanent derogation. During the new transitional period, administrative burden for food business operators (no need to proceed with accreditation procedure) and competent authorities (no longer annual reporting) has been reduced. Reluctance from three Member States was noted. The Commission announced that the document will be open to stakeholders' feedback during a 4-week consultation in July in line with new rules on transparency.

C.03 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation laying down transitional measures for the application of Regulations (EC) No 853/2004 and (EC) No 854/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

The draft was presented by the Commission. It prolongs the derogation, currently laid down in Regulation (EU) No 1079/2013 until the end of 2019 as regards direct sales of small amounts of meat from poultry and lagomorphs and maintains the current transitional measures on imports of composite products and meat of animal origin for which no conditions are laid down in Annex III of Regulation (EC) No 853/2004. Member States taking the floor supported the proposal. Clarification was provided why there was no reference to the listing of establishments for non-harmonised food of animal origin. The Commission announced that the new transitional period will be used to work out a permanent solution for all issues. Prior to a future vote of the Committee, the document will be open to stakeholders' feedback during a 4-week consultation in July in line with new rules on transparency.