

## AVIAN INFLUENZA (AI) - Response to Outbreaks in third countries in 2004/2005

### CHRONOLOGY OF MAIN EVENTS AND LIST OF DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION<sup>1</sup>

#### PART I : 12 December 2003 to 31 December 2005

##### DG SANCO.E2: Animal health and welfare, zootechnics

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<b>FRI 12/12/ 2003</b>	The veterinary authorities from the Republic of South Korea <a href="#">report to the OIE</a> <sup>2</sup> a confirmed outbreak of HPAI <sup>3</sup> .	European Commission monitors the evolving animal situation, but agrees that no action is necessary as South Korea is not authorised for the importation of live poultry or poultry meat into the EU.	H5N1 initially isolated from 1 farm in the central part of the country.
<b>WED 17/12</b>	Republic of South Korea <a href="#">report a second outbreak</a> of HPAI to the OIE.		The second outbreak affects two farms and is located 2.5 km from the first affected farm.
<b>THU 8/1/ 2004</b>	The Vietnamese veterinary authorities <a href="#">report to the OIE</a> a confirmed outbreak of HPAI in three farms.	European Commission monitors the evolving animal health situation, but agrees that no action is necessary as Vietnam is not authorised for the importation of live poultry or poultry meat into the EU.	First outbreak in Vietnam- H5 subtype isolated from three farms.

<sup>1</sup> This document summarises very basic information on the outbreaks of avian influenza (AI) in third countries and related Community action. This focuses on the animal health aspects. For additional information, please refer to the Decisions in the Official Journal, to the Commission's [avian influenza webpage](#), including associated [press releases](#) . For more general animal health information, please refer to the Commission's [Animal Health](#) web-pages.

For public health information, please refer to the Influenza pages from the Commission's [public health](#) unit, or [AI pages](#) from the World Health Organisation (WHO)

<sup>2</sup> OIE- The World Organisation for Animal Health is an intergovernmental organisation set up to monitor and report on global animal health

<sup>3</sup> HPAI- High Pathogenic avian influenza

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
MON 12/1	The Japanese Veterinary authorities <a href="#">report to the OIE</a> a confirmed outbreak of HPAI in three farms.	European Commission monitors the evolving animal health situation, but agrees that no action is necessary as Japan is not authorised for the importation of live poultry or poultry meat into the EU.	First outbreak in Japan- H5N1 subtype isolated from one farm in the Yamaguchi prefecture.
TUES 13/1- WED 14/1	Meeting of the SCFCAH <sup>4</sup>	<p>The evolving situation in South East Asia is discussed. It was agreed that because no imports of live poultry or poultry products take place from any of the countries affected by AI, a safeguard measure was not necessary.</p> <p>In addition, because live birds other than poultry have to undergo 30 day quarantine and must be subjected to laboratory testing for avian influenza in accordance with <a href="#">Commission Decision 2000/666/EC</a>, they could still be imported from this region. However the Commission stressed that it would continue to monitor the epidemiological situation.</p>	<a href="#">OIE press release</a> on AI situation in South East Asia.
WED 15/1			FAO <sup>5</sup> <a href="#">press release</a> expressing concern about the spread of AI in Asia.
THU 16/1		<a href="#">Press release</a> - Commissioner Byrne offers help in avian influenza crisis to Vietnam (IP/04/64)	

<sup>4</sup> Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health - It is a Regulatory Committee, chaired by the Commission, including veterinary experts from all MS's governments

<sup>5</sup> FAO- The Food and Agriculture Organisation is a specialist agency of the UN focusing on agriculture and food supply- see [here](#) for its work in relation to AI

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
TUES 20/1	The Taiwanese authorities <a href="#">report to the OIE</a> a confirmed outbreak of AI (low path. AI).	European Commission monitors the evolving animal health situation, but agrees that no action is necessary as Taiwan is not authorised for the importation of live poultry or poultry meat into the EU.	First outbreak in Taiwan- Low pathogenic H5N2 subtype isolated from two farms, one in Changhwa Prefecture and the other in Chiayi Prefecture.
WED 21/1			<a href="#">OIE press release</a> updating AI situation Vietnam, including work of the WHO/OIE/FAO task force.
FRI 23/1	The Thai authorities <a href="#">report to the OIE</a> a confirmed outbreak of HPAI.	The Commission adopts <a href="#">Decision 2004/84/EC</a> <sup>6</sup> to suspend imports into the EU from Thailand of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fresh meat from poultry, ratites, farmed and wild feather game,</li> <li>• meat preparations and products consisting of or containing meat from those species,</li> <li>• raw petfood and unprocessed feed material from these species,</li> </ul> from poultry slaughtered after 1 January 2004, and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• eggs for human consumption.</li> </ul>	First outbreak in Thailand- H5 subtype isolated from a single farm in Supanburi Province.  <a href="#">OIE press release</a> on situation in Thailand.  Commission action is summarised in a <a href="#">Press release</a> (IP/04/95)
SAT 24/1	The Cambodian authorities <a href="#">report to the OIE</a> a confirmed outbreak of HPAI.	European Commission monitors the evolving animal health situation, but agrees that no action is necessary as Cambodia is not authorised for the importation of live poultry or poultry meat into the EU.	First outbreak in Cambodia - H5N1 subtype isolated from the infected farm.
MON 26/1	The Hong Kong authorities <a href="#">report to the OIE</a> that HPAI has been isolated in a single falcon found dead within its territory.	European Commission monitors the evolving animal health situation, but agrees that no action is necessary as Hong Kong is not authorised for the importation of live poultry or poultry meat into the EU.	

<sup>6</sup> OJ L 17, 24.1.2004, p.57.

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
TUE22 7/1	The Laos authorities <a href="#">report to the OIE</a> a confirmed outbreak of HPAI.	European Commission monitors the evolving animal health situation, but agrees that no action is necessary as Laos is not authorised for the importation of live poultry or poultry meat into the EU.	<p>First outbreak in Laos- H5 subtype isolated from a single farm close to Vientiane.</p> <p><a href="#">OIE press release</a> on evolving AI situation in Asia.</p> <p><a href="#">OIE press release</a> on initial information from the joint WHO/OIE/FAO<sup>7</sup> mission to Vietnam.</p> <p>FAO- <a href="#">first summary report</a> on AI epidemic.</p>
WED 28/1	<b>Meeting of the SCFCAH</b> (Section- Biological Safety of the Food Chain)	<a href="#">Commission Decision 2004/93/EC</a> <sup>8</sup> adopted by the Commission following agreement in SCFCAH. The Decision suspends imports of birds other than poultry, including pet birds from South East Asia.	Commission action is summarised in a <a href="#">Press release</a> (IP/04/123).
	The Pakistani authorities <a href="#">report to the OIE</a> a confirmed outbreak of HPAI (H7 subtype).	European Commission monitors the evolving animal health situation, but agrees that no action is necessary as Pakistan is not authorised for the importation of live poultry or poultry meat into the EU.	Three outbreaks in Sindh province in Pakistan - the first Pakistani outbreaks during the epidemic. H7 subtype isolated.
	<a href="#">OIE press release</a> reporting the notification by the Chinese authorities of a confirmed outbreak of HPAI in ducks.	European Commission monitors the evolving animal health situation, but agrees that no action is necessary as China is not authorised for the importation of live poultry or poultry meat into the EU.	First outbreak reported in China- H5N1 subtype isolated from infected ducks in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, SW China.

<sup>7</sup> WHO- World Health Organisation is a specialist agency of the UN and its primary role to improve global public health – see [here](#) for its work on AI and public health

<sup>8</sup> OJ L 27, 30.1.2004, p.55.

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
THU 29/1		In response to requests from WHO/OIE/FAO, an EU official flies to Vietnam to provide assistance in tackling the AI outbreak in the area. See Commission <a href="#">press release</a> (Midday express).	<a href="#">OIE press release</a> requesting Indonesia to confirm reports made by Ministry of Agriculture of AI outbreaks in Indonesia (see 3 Feb.).  <a href="#">FAO- second summary report</a> on AI epidemic in Asia.
FRI 30/01			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Cambodia</a> , <a href="#">Pakistan</a> , <a href="#">Hong Kong</a> (wild bird) and <a href="#">Laos</a> .
MON 2/2-TUE 3/2/ 2004	Meeting of the SCFCAH	<a href="#">Commission Decision 2004/122/EC</a> <sup>9</sup> adopted by the Commission following agreement in SCFCAH. The Decision consolidates and prolongs for 6 months (until 15 August 2004) the measures adopted in relation to AI in Asia regarding the suspension of imports of both poultry meat and 'other' live birds, and repeals <a href="#">Decision 2004/84/EC</a> and <a href="#">Commission Decision 2004/93/EC</a> .	Commission action is summarised in a <a href="#">Press release</a> (IP/04/160)  <a href="#">FAO- third summary report</a> on AI epidemic in Asia.
TUE 3/2	The Indonesian authorities <a href="#">report to the OIE</a> confirmed outbreaks of HPAI.	European Commission monitors the evolving animal health situation, but agrees that no action is necessary as Indonesia is not authorised for the importation of live poultry or poultry meat into the EU.	127 outbreaks reported in Indonesia - caused by H5N1 subtype. 20.2M birds slaughtered since mid-December 03. Vaccination programme introduced
WED 4/2	OIE receive updated <a href="#">report</a> on AI situation in China.		

<sup>9</sup> OJ L36, 7.2.2004, p.59.

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
TUE 3/2- THU 5/2	A joint FAO/OIE/WHO <a href="#">meeting</a> on Avian influenza at FAO headquarters in Rome.		<a href="#">OIE press release</a> and <a href="#">FAO press release</a> summarising outcome of the joint meeting in Rome, including recommendations to manage the crisis.
THU 5/2			Article in <a href="#">Nature</a> news section on AI epidemic in Asia.
FRI 6/2			FAO <a href="#">press release</a> - No evidence that swine are assisting the spread of AI in Vietnam.  OIE- publication of the <a href="#">second follow-up report</a> of AI situation in Thailand.
SUN 8/2			FAO- <a href="#">fourth summary report</a> on AI epidemic in Asia.
TUE 10/2		<a href="#">Speech</a> by Commissioner Byrne to the European Parliament (Strasbourg) on the avian influenza situation in Asia and the Commission's response (Speech/04/66).	
WED 11/2		<a href="#">Press release</a> European Commission provides 1 million Euro to combat avian influenza in Vietnam (IP/04/192).	OIE- publication of the <a href="#">first follow-up report</a> of AI situation in China.
THU 12/2		Meeting of EU health ministers- <a href="#">Speech</a> by Commission Byrne on the importance of planning and co-ordination to tackle AI health threat.	<a href="#">Press release</a> – Commission Byrne welcomes ministerial agreement for a co-ordinated approach to Influenza preparedness (IP/04/206).

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
FRI 13/2			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">China</a>, <a href="#">Korea</a> and <a href="#">Thailand</a>.</p> <p>FAO <a href="#">press release</a>- AI is not yet under control in several affected countries.</p>
SAT 14/2			<p>FAO- <a href="#">fifth summary report</a> on AI epidemic in Asia.</p>
MON 16/2			<p><a href="#">OIE press release</a> –H5N1 is not spreading to other countries.</p>
WED 18/2			<p><a href="#">FAO press release</a>- Disease prevention should be based on proper control and surveillance systems in poultry flocks and not on the killing wild birds.</p>
FRI 20/2			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">China</a>, <a href="#">Japan</a> and <a href="#">Thailand</a>.</p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
MON 23/2	<p>The USA veterinary authorities <a href="#">report to the OIE</a> a confirmed outbreak of HPAI in a poultry farm.</p> <p>The USA authorities also maintain specific <a href="#">webpages</a> on the AI outbreak in the US.</p>		<p>First outbreak in the US- H5N2 reported on farm in Gonzalez County in the State of Texas.</p> <p>A <a href="#">press release</a> from the USDA<sup>10</sup> confirms details of the outbreak.</p> <p>FAO- <a href="#">sixth summary report</a> on AI epidemic.</p>
TUE 24/2		<p>In response to the AI outbreak in the USA, the Commission adopt <a href="#">Commission Decision 2004/187/EC</a><sup>11</sup> to suspend imports into the EU of live poultry, eggs, pet birds, and fresh meat, meat products and preparations from poultry, ratites and feathered game from the US until 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2004.</p>	<p>Commission action is summarised in a <a href="#">Press release</a> (IP/04/257).</p>
WED 25/2			<p>FAO <a href="#">press release</a> stating that control campaigns against AI in Asia should continue.</p>
THU 26/2- SAT 28/2		<p>Commission participation at FAO/OIE emergency regional meeting in Bangkok on “Avian Influenza Control in Asia”.</p>	<p><a href="#">Report</a> of the FAO/OIE meeting on AI control in Asia, including Situation, Notification, Achievements, and Recommendations.</p>
FRI 27/2			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Vietnam</a>, <a href="#">Thailand</a> and <a href="#">US</a>.</p>

<sup>10</sup> USDA- United States Department of Agriculture

<sup>11</sup> OJ L57, 25.2.2004, p.35



Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
TUE 2/3/ 2004			<p>WHO <a href="#">summary report</a> following the meeting in Bangkok on 26-28 Feb: Consideration of the situation (poultry) in Asia: need for a long-term response and comparison with previous outbreaks.</p> <p>FAO- <a href="#">seventh summary report</a> on AI epidemic.</p>
TUE 2/3- WED 3/3	Meeting of the SCFCAH	<p>SCFCAH reconfirm the measures adopted by the European Commission on 24 February after an outbreak of AI in Texas, USA. <a href="#">Commission Decision 2004/256/EC</a><sup>12</sup> therefore repeals and replaces Commission Decision 2004/187/EC (see24/2) and the import into the EU of live poultry, eggs and pet birds from the US remains suspended until 23 March. This measure will be reviewed by SCFCAH on 22/3.</p>	<p>Commission action is summarised in a <a href="#">Press release</a> (midday express).</p>
FRI 5/3			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">China</a>, <a href="#">Pakistan</a>, <a href="#">Indonesia</a>, <a href="#">Thailand</a> and <a href="#">US</a>.</p>

<sup>12</sup> OJ L 80, 18.3.2004, p.31

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
TUE 9/3	<p>The Canadian veterinary authorities issue a <a href="#">press release</a> confirming an outbreak of HPAI in a poultry farm.</p> <p>Canadian authorities also maintain specific <a href="#">webpages</a> on the AI outbreak in Canada.</p>		<p>First HPAI outbreak reported in Canada - H7N3 strain has been isolated from a farm in Fraser Valley in British Columbia. LPAI had recently been identified at the farm, but investigations have now revealed that HPAI strains are also present.</p>
WED 10/3	<p>The <a href="#">OIE</a> confirm reports from the Canadian veterinary authorities about the outbreak of HPAI in a poultry farm.</p>		
THU 11/3		<p>In response to the AI outbreak in Canada, the Commission adopt <a href="#">Commission Decision 2004/242/EC</a><sup>13</sup> to suspend imports into the EU of live poultry, eggs, pet birds, and fresh meat, together with certain meat products and preparations from poultry, ratites and feathered game from Canada until 6<sup>th</sup> April 2004.</p>	<p>Commission action is summarised in a <a href="#">Press release</a> (IP/04/325).</p> <p>FAO <a href="#">press release</a> stating that affected countries should not restock flocks too quickly.</p>
FRI 12/3			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Japan</a>, <a href="#">Thailand</a> and <a href="#">Canada</a>.</p> <p>FAO- <a href="#">eighth summary report</a> on AI epidemic.</p>

<sup>13</sup> OJ L 74, 12.3.2004, p.21

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
FRI 19/3			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Pakistan</a>, <a href="#">Cambodia</a>, <a href="#">Vietnam</a> and <a href="#">Thailand</a>.</p> <p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Canada</a>.</p> <p><a href="#">FAO/OIE</a> press release stating caution about declaring victory over AI in Asia.</p>
MON 22/3	Meeting of the SCFCAH	SCFCAH agree to continue the suspension of imports from the US of live poultry, eggs and pet birds, and fresh meat, meat products and preparations from poultry, ratites and feathered game. The continuation of these measures is laid down in SANCO/10150/2004-REV.2 which replaces Commission Decision 2004/256/EC (see 2 March) and will remain in place until 23 April, but can be reviewed in light of the evolving disease situation.	Commission action is summarised in a Press release <a href="#">IP/04/376</a> .
TUE 23/3		Publication of <a href="#">Commission Decision 2004/274/EC</a> <sup>14</sup> prolonging measures against the US (see 22 March).	FAO- <a href="#">ninth summary report</a> on AI epidemic.

<sup>14</sup> OJ L 86, 24.3.2004, p.27

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
FRI 26/3			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">China</a> , <a href="#">Korea</a> and <a href="#">Thailand</a> .
TUE 30/3	<b>Meeting of the SCFCAH</b>	<p>SCFCAH agrees to Commission proposals to limit the suspension of imports of live poultry, poultry meat and products and eggs from the USA and Canada to the areas where the outbreaks of avian influenza occurred and a large surrounding buffer zone.</p> <p>For the USA, SANCO/10204/2004-Rev. 1 limits import restrictions to the State of Texas.</p> <p>For Canada, SANCO/10207/2004-Rev.1 limits restrictions to a part of the province of British Columbia. These measures will remain in force until 23 August and 1 October for the US and Canada respectively, but can be reviewed in light of the evolving disease situation.</p> <p>The adoption of the Decisions is foreseen for 6 April 2004 and their publication by 7 April.</p>	Commission action is summarised in a Press release <a href="#">IP/04/423</a> .
THU 1/4/ 2004			FAO- <a href="#">tenth summary report</a> on AI epidemic.

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
FRI 2/4			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Pakistan</a> , <a href="#">Thailand</a> and <a href="#">Canada</a> .
TUE 6/4		Formal adoption by the Commission and notification to Member States of the Decisions on the US and Canada voted at the SCFCAH of 30 March.	
THU 8/4			FAO- <a href="#">eleventh summary report</a> on AI epidemic.
FRI 9/4			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Indonesia</a>, <a href="#">Thailand</a>, <a href="#">US</a> (final report) and Canada (follow-up report <a href="#">3</a> and <a href="#">4</a>).</p> <p>The US report that the HPAI outbreaks in Texas initially reported on 23 Feb have now been stamped out.</p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p>WED 14/4- THU 15/4</p>	<p>Meeting of the SCFCAH</p>	<p>SCFCAH receive an update on the AI situation in Asia, Canada and US.</p>	<p>In Asia, no new countries have reported disease outbreaks. China has reported the latest outbreaks in mid February and considers the disease eradicated. In Thailand 2 further outbreaks have been reported to OIE by 9 April.</p> <p>USA considers the disease eradicated.</p> <p>Canada reports 38 outbreaks (28 in commercial holdings and 10 in backyard flocks).</p>
<p>FRI 16/4</p>			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Canada</a>.</p> <p>Updated information on the AI situation in Canada can also be found on <a href="#">webpages</a> maintained by the Canadian authorities.</p> <p>FAO- <a href="#">twelfth summary report</a> on AI epidemic.</p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
WED 21/4		<p>Publication of Commission Decision <a href="#">2004/363/EC</a><sup>15</sup> on concerning protection measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza in the United States of America, and Commission Decision <a href="#">2004/364/EC</a><sup>16</sup> concerning protection measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza in Canada.</p> <p>These Decisions were adopted on 6<sup>th</sup> April following discussion in SCFCAH on 30<sup>th</sup> March (see above).</p>	
FRI 23/4			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Taiwan</a> (LPAI) and <a href="#">Thailand</a>.</p>
TUE 27/4			<p>FAO- <a href="#">thirteenth summary report</a> on AI epidemic. Include details of outbreaks in Cambodia, Thailand and Indonesia.</p>
FRI 30/4			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a>.</p>

<sup>15</sup> OJ L 114, 21.4.2004, p.19

<sup>16</sup> OJ L 114, 21.4.2004, p.22

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
WED 5/5/ 2004	Meeting of the SCFCAH	<p>SCFCAH agreed a draft Commission Decision to prolong the protection measures in relation to avian influenza in several Asian countries. In view of the continuing outbreaks, the Decision will amend CD 2004/122/EC (see 2-3 February) to prolong the measures until 15 December.</p> <p>SCFCAH receive an update on the AI situation in Asia, Canada and US.</p>	<p>Asia- 9 countries affected in total with H5N1 strain and more than a 100 million domestic poultry dead or stamped out. However no new country has reported infections for some time.</p> <p>Canada report outbreaks confined to three clusters within 20KM radius control area. Depopulation of farms is continuing, and appears to be slowing the progression of the outbreak.</p>
FRI 7/5			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> and <a href="#">Canada</a>.</p>
THU 13/5			<p>FAO- <a href="#">Fourteenth summary report</a> on AI epidemic.</p>
FRI 14/5			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a>, <a href="#">Vietnam</a> and <a href="#">Indonesia</a>.</p>



Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
FRI 21/5			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- The <a href="#">US</a> submit a final report indicating that the LPAI strain (H7N2) detected in poultry in Delaware, Maryland and New Jersey has been completely eradicated.
THU 27/5			FAO- <a href="#">Fifteenth summary report</a> on AI epidemic; gives details on new reported cases in Thailand and Indonesia.
FRI 28/5			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> .
TUE- WED 8-9/6/ 2004	Meeting of the SCFCAH	SCFCAH receive an update on the AI situation in Asia, Canada and US.	
FRI 11/6			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> - (No new outbreaks reported in Thailand since 25 May).

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
TUE 15/6			<p>FAO- <a href="#">Sixteenth summary report</a> on AI epidemic.</p> <p>Included update on the situation in the US.</p>
TUE 29/6			<p>FAO- <a href="#">seventeenth summary report</a> on AI epidemic. Includes info on Vietnam and the US.</p>
FRI 2/7/ 2004			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Indonesia</a> (4 outbreaks reported in previously affected province between 1-16 Jun) and <a href="#">Vietnam</a> (1 re-occurrence in a previously infected area).</p>
FRI 9/7			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (2 new outbreaks) and <a href="#">China</a> (1 new outbreak).</p> <p>FAO <a href="#">press release</a> warning that the Avian influenza epidemic in Asian countries far from over and virus is still circulating in the region - long-term surveillance and control strategies needed.</p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
WED 14/7	Meeting of the SCFCAH	SCFCAH receive an update on the AI situation in Asia, Canada and US.	FAO- <a href="#">eighteenth summary report</a> on AI epidemic in Asia. New outbreaks of the AI virus H5N1 in China, Thailand and Vietnam confirm that viral activity is still present in the region.
FRI 16/7			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (over 25 new outbreaks reported across 13 provinces), <a href="#">Vietnam</a> (1 new outbreak in a previously infected area) and <a href="#">Japan</a> (<b>Final report-</b> no new outbreaks reported since 5 March, and therefore national restrictions have been removed).</p> <p>FAO <a href="#">press release</a> urging countries in Asia not to cull wild birds in response to recent outbreaks of avian influenza in China, Thailand and Vietnam.</p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>FRI 23/7</b></p>		<p>Adoption of Commission Decision <a href="#">2004/572/EC</a><sup>17</sup> amending Decision 2004/122/EC to prolong certain protection measures in relation to avian influenza in several Asian countries for a further six months until 15 December 2004 (agreed at SCFCAH on 5 May-see above).</p>	<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (45 new outbreaks reported across 17 provinces), <a href="#">Vietnam</a> (3 new outbreaks in a previously infected area), <a href="#">Korea</a> ( <b>Final report</b>- no new cases reported since 21 March-surveillance etc indicated Korea now free of disease), <a href="#">Canada</a> (Final report- no new outbreaks reported since end of May, and therefore national restrictions have been removed, and Canada considered free from infection from 9 July).</p>
<p><b>WED 28/7</b></p>			<p>FAO- <a href="#">nineteenth summary report</a> on AI epidemic, including detailed information on situation in Thailand and Vietnam.</p>

<sup>17</sup> OJ L 253 , 29/07/2004 P. 22

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>FRI 30/7</b></p>			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (18 new outbreaks reported across 13 provinces) and <a href="#">Cambodia</a> (2 outbreaks reported, but no new outbreaks since 1 April).</p> <p>FAO <a href="#">press release</a> announcing that the launch of three sub regional veterinary networks for Asia.</p>
<p><b>WED- THU 4/8-5/8/ 2004</b></p>	<p>Press reports that suspected cases of avian influenza have been found in three ostrich farms in the Eastern Cape province within the Republic of South Africa (ZA).</p>	<p>European Commission monitors the situation, and contacts the South African delegation for further information.</p>	<p>Reports indicate that authorities in neighbouring Western Cape Province have put in place a ban on the movement of birds from Eastern Cape.</p>
<p><b>FRI 6/8 (am)</b></p>	<p>No official information on the cause of disease is available pending the results of laboratory analysis from the suspected cases.</p>	<p>European Commission sends a fax updating MS on the current situation.</p>	

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>FRI 6/8 (pm)</b></p>	<p>South African authorities confirm HPAI<sup>18</sup> (H5N2 virus strain) has been isolated from two ratite (ostrich) farms in the Eastern Cape Province.</p> <p>The South African authorities suspend exports of all live poultry, pigeons, ratites (ostriches) and other birds, and meat, eggs and other products from these species to all trading partners, including the EU, from the whole of the territory with immediate effect.</p>	<p>European Commission sends a fax informing the MS of the official confirmation of HPAI, and give details of measures taken by South Africa in regard to exports.</p>	<p>First confirmed outbreak in South Africa.</p> <p>South African Agriculture Department issues a press release giving details of the outbreak, and control measures put in place in the affected area.</p> <p>OIE<sup>19</sup> submits an <a href="#">alert message</a> giving details of the confirmed outbreak.</p>
<p><b>FRI 6/8</b></p>			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (11 new outbreaks reported across 8 provinces) and <a href="#">Indonesia</a> (1 outbreak reported in a previously infected area- during the epidemic a total of 15 provinces have been affected).</p>

<sup>18</sup> HPAI- Highly Pathogenic avian influenza

<sup>19</sup> OIE- The World Organisation for Animal Health is an intergovernmental organisation set up to monitor and report on global animal health

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>MON 9/8</b></p>		<p>Commission drafts a Decision laying down safeguard measures against South Africa.</p>	<p>FAO- <a href="#">twentieth summary report</a> on AI epidemic- One month has past since what appeared as a “second wave” of avian influenza (AI) in several Asian countries. The report includes detailed reports on the situation in Vietnam and Thailand.</p> <p>The summary report includes information on the situation in South Africa.</p>
<p><b>TUE 10/8</b></p>		<p>The Commission adopts a Decision to suspend imports into the EU from South Africa of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Live ratites, hatching eggs etc</li> <li>• Ratite meat and meat products and preparations consisting of or containing meat from Ratites</li> <li>• Pet birds</li> </ul> <p>The suspension comes into force immediately and will remain in place until 1 January 2005.</p>	<p>Commission action is summarised in a <a href="#">Press release</a> IP/04/1024</p> <p>South African Department of Agriculture <a href="#">press release</a> giving additional information on control measures within the country.</p>
<p><b>WED 11/8</b></p>	<p>In accordance with Community rules on safeguard measures adopted unilaterally by the Commission, Article 18 of 91/496/EC and Article 22 of 97/78/EC, state that the “SCOFCAH shall have, within 10 working days, the matter referred to it, with a view to the extension, amendment or repeal of the measures”.</p>	<p>The Commission invoked the written procedure as foreseen in SCOFCAH rules to ensure that action taken by the Commission is fully ratified by SCOFCAH. The Commission sends a fax to Member States requesting agreement for a draft decision to ratify the measures that were laid down by the Commission at short notice.</p>	

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
THU 12/8		Publication of <a href="#">Commission Decision 2004/594/EC</a> <sup>20</sup> adopted by the Commission on 10 August to suspend imports of ratites and ratite meat etc from South Africa.	South African Department of Agriculture <a href="#">press release</a> giving exemptions for self-imposed export ban of poultry and ratites products.
FRI 13/8			OIE- weekly disease information bulletin- contains detail on the initial disease outbreak in <a href="#">South Africa</a> .
WED 18/8			South African Department of Agriculture <a href="#">press release</a> confirming that HPAI had been confirmed in three farms within the 30km quarantine area around the original outbreak. However the disease had not been identified outside the 30km zone.

<sup>20</sup> OJ L 265, 12.8.2004, p.9.



Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>THU 19/8</b></p>	<p>The Malaysian authorities report a confirmed outbreak of HPAI.</p>	<p>The Commission confirms to the MS by fax that the draft Decision submitted last week has been agreed unanimously using the written SCFCAH procedure. MS were informed that the new Decision would be adopted in the next week.</p> <p>In separate fax, the Commission also passes on to the MS further information from the South African authorities confirming that the disease remains confined to the Blue Crane Municipal District in the Eastern Cape Province and that all poultry within a 30 km radius are being slaughtered and destroyed as a precautionary measure.</p>	<p>First outbreak in Malaysia- H5 subtype isolated from a single farm in Kelantan State.</p>
<p><b>FRI 20/8</b></p>	<p>Following outbreaks of AI in the <a href="#">US</a> earlier in the year, the US report to the OIE that because 6 months have elapsed after the last outbreak, it considers itself officially free of HPAI.</p>	<p>The Commission adopts <a href="#">Commission Decision 2004/606/EC</a><sup>21</sup> to suspend imports of feathers and pet birds into the EU from Malaysia following the outbreak of HPAI. (This amends CD 2004/122/EC to add Malaysia to the list of countries where certain protection measures apply).</p>	<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin <a href="#">Malaysia</a>- confirms primary outbreak of HPAI (H5) in the country, in Kelantan State.</p>
<p><b>SAT- MON 21/8- 23/8</b></p>			<p>FAO Expert meeting on surveillance and diagnosis of AI in Asia- in Bangkok.</p> <p>Report on <a href="#">Guiding principles for HPAI Surveillance and Diagnostic networks in Asia</a>, subsequently published based on discussions at the meeting.</p>

<sup>21</sup> OJ L 273 , 21/08/2004 P. 0021 - 0022

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<b>MON 23/8</b>		<p>Commission <a href="#">press release</a> (IP/04/1041) giving details of the Commission Decision to suspend imports of feathers and pet birds from Malaysia.</p> <p>Commission Decision <a href="#">2004/363/EC</a><sup>22</sup> limiting exports from certain areas of the US in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza (adopted on 6 April- see above) expires. In view of the positive measures taken by the US, and the declaration by the US authorities that the whole territory is now classified as officially free from disease, no additional action is necessary, and hence exports for the whole of the US can recommence.</p>	<p>Commission informs Member States by fax that Commission Decision 2004/363/EC has now elapsed.</p> <p>OIE issue <a href="#">press release</a> regarding recent scientific work in China on the presence of H5N1 AI virus in pigs. The OIE confirm that further enquiries are continuing, but that no virus has been isolated from field samples taken from pigs during the current epidemic in China.</p>
<b>TUE 24/8</b>		<p>Adoption of <a href="#">Commission Decision 2004/614/EC</a><sup>23</sup> agreed by SCFCAH maintaining the measures taken against South Africa until 1 January 2004, and repealing CD 2004/594/EC (see 19/8).</p>	
<b>THU 26/8</b>		<p>Commission <a href="#">press release</a> (midday express) confirming the prolongation of the import embargo on poultry products and pet birds from several Asian countries (Thailand, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Pakistan, China, South Korea and Vietnam) until 15 December.(see 23/7)</p>	

<sup>22</sup> OJ L 114, 21.4.2004, p.19

<sup>23</sup> OJ L 275 , 25/08/2004 P.20-22

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
FRI 27/8			<p>FAO- <a href="#">Twenty-first summary report</a> on AI epidemic. The report includes detailed reports on the situation in Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia and China.</p> <p>OIE - weekly disease information bulletin- contains details on the disease outbreak in <a href="#">South Africa</a>.</p>
WED 1/9/ 2004	<p>OIE issue a further <a href="#">press release</a> regarding Chinese work AI virus in pigs. The OIE confirm that H5N1 strain was isolated from 2 samples taken from pigs in 2001 and 2003, but no isolates have been recovered from pigs during the current epidemic. However the OIE urged AI-affected countries to increase their epidemiological surveillance to better understand the implications of the existence of H5N1 virus in pigs.</p>		

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
FRI 3/9			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (61 new outbreaks reported across 22 provinces).
FRI 10/9			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Malaysia</a> (Confirms H5N1 strain with 97% homogeneity to strain isolated elsewhere in Asia. Also report of new outbreak in previously affected state)
TUE 14/9	<b>Meeting of the SCFCAH</b>	SCFCAH receive an update on the AI situation in Asia, Canada and South Africa.  Commission presents a draft Decision for vote to amend 2004/122/EC for the third time in order to prolong the protection measures for Asia. (Published on 15 Dec 04-see below)	
			FAO- <a href="#">Twenty-second</a> summary report on AI epidemic. The report includes detailed reports on the situation in Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia and South Africa.  The Summary report also includes consideration of surveillance and post-epidemic rehabilitation activities, including enhanced biosecurity at poultry farms and associated premises.

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
WED 15/9			Commission <a href="#">press release</a> (midday express) summarising the latest Commission response agreed at SCFCAH on 14/9 to the ongoing AI situation on Asia, South Africa, US and Canada
FRI 17/9			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Malaysia</a> (Confirms H5N1 strain with 97% homogeneity to strain isolated elsewhere in Asia. Also report of new outbreak in previously affected state), and <a href="#">Thailand</a> (28 new outbreaks reported across 18 provinces)
FRI 24/9			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (21 new outbreaks reported across 13 provinces), <a href="#">Cambodia</a> (single outbreak in a broiler farm) and <a href="#">Vietnam</a> (9 outbreaks)  <a href="#">Korea</a> declared themselves free of HPAI to OIE- the last confirmed case was on 20 March 2004

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
MON 27/9			<p><a href="#">Joint OIE/FAO press release</a> providing an update on HPAI Control Methods in Asia including the use of Vaccination.</p> <p>OIE/FAO consider that the virus will not be eradicated in the near future.</p> <p>FAO publish full report on <a href="#">Recommendations on the Prevention, Control and Eradication of HPAI in Asia</a></p>
FRI 1/10/ 2004		<p>Commission Decision <a href="#">2004/364/EC</a><sup>24</sup> concerning protection measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza in Canada, adopted on 6<sup>th</sup> April following discussion in SCFCAH on 30<sup>th</sup> March (see above), expires.</p> <p>In view of the positive measures taken by the Canadian Authorities, and the declaration that the whole territory is now classified as officially free from disease, no additional action is necessary, and exports for the whole of Canadian territory can recommence.</p>	
			<p>OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (46 new outbreaks reported across 21 provinces), and <a href="#">Malaysia</a> (2 outbreaks in Kelantan State)</p>

<sup>24</sup> OJ L 114, 21.4.2004, p.22

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>MON 4/10</b></p>			<p>FAO - <a href="#">Twenty-third</a> summary report on AI epidemic. The report includes detailed reports on the situation in Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia and South Africa.</p> <p>The Summary report also makes recommendations on prevention, control and eradication of HPAI in Asia, and includes consideration of Surveillance and Post-epidemic rehabilitation activities, particularly in Vietnam and Cambodia.</p>
<p><b>FRI 8/10</b></p>			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (37 new outbreaks reported across 19 provinces), and <a href="#">Indonesia</a> (2 outbreaks).</p>
<p><b>TUE- WED 11/10- 12/10</b></p>	<p><b>Meeting of the SCFCAH</b></p>	<p>SCFCAH receive an update on the AI situation in Asia and South Africa.</p> <p>Committee agree a draft Commission Decision to amending Decision 2004/614/EC to prolong the protection measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza in the Republic of South Africa until 31 March 2005.(Decision published on 23 Dec 04-see below)</p>	

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>FRI 15/10</b></p>			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (54 new outbreaks reported across 17 provinces)</p>
<p><b>FRI 22/10</b></p>	<p>Report from <a href="#">Thailand</a> of mortality in a zoo population of tigers caused by HPAI.</p>		<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Vietnam</a> (3 outbreaks).</p> <p>FAO- <a href="#">Twenty-fourth</a> summary report on AI epidemic. The report includes detailed reports on the situation in Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, Indonesia, and Malaysia. Furthermore, it reports also a summary of recent published report on FAO recommendations for the prevention, control and eradication of HPAI in Asia.</p>



Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>FRI 29/10</b></p>			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (167 outbreaks reported across 30 provinces) and <a href="#">South Africa</a>.</p> <p>Follow –up report to OIE from <a href="#">Thailand</a> on further mortality in a zoo population of tigers caused by HPAI.</p>
<p><b>FRI 5/11/ 2004</b></p>	<p>Report to OIE of AI in a wild bird (grey heron) in <a href="#">Hong Kong</a>.</p>		<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (43 outbreaks reported across 19 provinces) and <a href="#">Malaysia</a> (summary of action taken following previous outbreaks- no new cases reported).</p> <p>Follow–up report to OIE from <a href="#">Thailand</a> on further mortality in a zoo population of tigers caused by HPAI.</p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
THU 11/11	Meeting of the SCFCAH	SCFCAH receive an update on the AI situation in Asia and South Africa.	<p><a href="#">Joint FAO, OIE and WHO</a> press release highlighting the dangers posed by domestic ducks in relation to AI. Studies indicate that ducks may act as 'silent reservoirs' for H5N1 strains of AI and apparently healthy ducks may infect other poultry populations</p>
FRI 12/11			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (117 outbreaks reported across 27 provinces).</p> <p>Follow-up report to OIE from <a href="#">Thailand</a> on mortality in a zoo population of tigers caused by HPAI. (No new deaths reported since 28 October).</p>
THU 18/11			<p>FAO- <a href="#">Twenty-fifth</a> summary report on AI epidemic. The report includes detailed reports on the situation in Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia and Hong Kong. Notes that no cases reported in Cambodia or Malaysia during the preceding month.</p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
FRI 19/11			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (37 outbreaks reported across 9 provinces).</p> <p>Follow-up report to OIE from <a href="#">Thailand</a> on mortality in a zoo population of tigers caused by HPAI. (No new deaths reported since 28 October).</p>
FRI 26/11			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (17 outbreaks reported across 9 provinces) and <a href="#">Vietnam</a> (1 outbreak).</p> <p>Follow-up report to OIE from <a href="#">Thailand</a> on mortality in a zoo population of tigers caused by HPAI. (No new deaths reported since 28 October-report on further surveillance carried out at the zoo).</p> <p>As no outbreaks have occurred for six months, <a href="#">Canada</a> is declared free of HPAI to OIE.</p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>FRI</b> <b>3/12/</b> <b>2004</b></p>			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (43 outbreaks reported across 19 provinces) and <a href="#">Malaysia</a> (Single case of AI found during surveillance).</p>
<p><b>TUE</b> <b>7/12</b></p>	<p><b>Meeting of the SCFCAH</b></p>	<p>SCFCAH receive an update on the AI situation.</p> <p>Commission presents a draft Decision to amend 2004/122/EC for the fourth time in relation to lifting the protection measures against Avian influenza for Japan, South Korea and Pakistan in relation to imports of wild birds.</p> <p>Provisions for other Asian countries would be prolonged until September 2005.</p> <p>SCFCAH agree in principle, and a formal vote on the proposal is scheduled for Jan 2005.</p>	
<p><b>FRI</b> <b>10/12</b></p>			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (no new outbreaks reported between 2-9 December)</p>
<p><b>WED</b> <b>15/12</b></p>		<p>Publication of Commission Decision <a href="#">2004/851/EC</a><sup>25</sup> amending CD 2004/122/EC for the third time in order to prolong the protection measures for Asia (voted in SCFCAH in September 04-see above).</p>	

<sup>25</sup> OJ L 368, 14.12.2004, p.48

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
FRI 17/12			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (27 outbreaks reported across 9 provinces), <a href="#">South Africa</a> and <a href="#">Hong Kong</a> (wild bird).
MON 20/12			FAO- <a href="#">Twenty-sixth</a> summary report on AI epidemic. The report includes detailed reports on the situation in Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia and South Africa. (Also contains info on AI strains isolated in migratory or native birds in China, Korea and Hong Kong).
THU 23/12		Publication of Commission Decision <a href="#">2004/892/EC</a> <sup>26</sup> amending CD 2004/614/EC to prolong the protection measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza in the Republic of South Africa until 31 March 2005. (Decision agreed in SCFCAH in October - see above).	
FRI 24/12			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (12 outbreaks reported across 5 provinces) and <a href="#">Vietnam</a> (7 outbreaks).  Report of LPAI case (H5N2) in <a href="#">Korea</a> (Rep.of K.) during identified during a campaign of heightened surveillance).

<sup>26</sup> OJ L 375, 23.12.2004, p. 30

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p>FRI 7/1/ 2005</p>			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand (1)</a> (6 outbreaks reported across 3 provinces), <a href="#">Thailand (2)</a> (7 outbreaks in 2 provinces), <a href="#">Vietnam</a> (8 outbreaks) and <a href="#">Malaysia</a> (State of Kelantan no longer considered an HPAI-infected zone).</p>
<p>TUE- WED 11/1- 12/1</p>	<p>Meeting of the SCFCAH</p>	<p>SCFCAH receive an update on the AI situation in Asia and South Africa.</p> <p>Committee vote on a draft Decision originally presented in SCFCAH in December 2004) to amend 2004/122/EC for the fourth time in relation to lifting the protection measures against Avian influenza for Japan and South Korea in relation to imports of wild birds.</p> <p>Protective measures concerning other Asian countries (Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Pakistan, Thailand and Vietnam) would be prolonged until 30 September 2005.</p> <p>Commission <a href="#">press release</a> on the “Review of the avian influenza situation in Asia”.</p>	
<p>FRY 14/01</p>			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (1 outbreak), <a href="#">Hong Kong (1)</a> (additional information on H5N1 virus isolated on 03/11/2004) and <a href="#">Hong Kong (2)</a> (1 outbreak).</p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
FRY 21/01			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (2 outbreaks in 1 province).
FRY 28/01			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (2 outbreaks across 2 provinces).</p> <p>FAO - <a href="#">Twenty-seventh</a> summary report on AI epidemic. The report includes detailed reports on the situation in Thailand and Vietnam, with regards also to the human cases reported in Vietnam. (Also contains info on AI strains isolated in a heron found dead in Hong Kong and in chickens in Pakistan).</p>
TUE 01/02/ 2004			<p>OIE – <a href="#">press release</a> on a joint statement FAO/OIE on the need to direct more efforts and resources to containment of the virus in animals in rural areas in Asia.</p> <p>FAO – <a href="#">press release</a> on “Bird flu control measures working in worst hit province of Viet Nam”.</p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>WED- THU 02- 03/02</b></p>	<p><b>Meeting of the SCFCAH</b></p>	<p>SCFCAH receive an update on the AI situation in Asia, with particular regards to the situation in Cambodia, Vietnam and Thailand. In particular, attention is focused on human cases of AI: in Vietnam the number of human deaths due to AI is increasing and in Cambodia 2 cases of death are highly suspected to derive from AI.</p> <p>SCFCAH receive information on the programmes for the implementation of surveys for AI in poultry and wild birds during 2004/05 and revision of the guidelines for 2005/06.</p> <p>Committee vote on a draft Decision to amend for the second time 2004/614/EC as regards the period of application of protection measures relating to avian influenza in South Africa. Indeed, the situation regarding avian influenza in ratite flocks in South Africa is not yet clear, and, even if it appears to be under control, no detailed information have been provided by South Africa.</p>	
<p><b>FRY 04/02</b></p>			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (3 outbreaks across 2 provinces).</p>



Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>FRY</b> <b>11/02</b></p>			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (10 outbreaks across 3 provinces).</p> <p>OIE – <a href="#">press release</a> which supplies with the agenda of the “FAO/OIE Second Regional Meeting on avian influenza Control in Animals in Asia, Ho Chi Minh City, 23-25 February 2005”</p>
<p><b>TUE</b> <b>15/02</b></p>			<p>FAO - <a href="#">Twenty-eighth</a> summary report on AI epidemic. The report includes detailed reports on the situation in Thailand, Vietnam and Cambodia, with regards also to the first human case reported in Cambodia.</p>
<p><b>FRY</b> <b>18/02</b></p>			<p>OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (4 outbreaks across 2 provinces).</p>
<p><b>MON</b> <b>21/02</b></p>			<p>OIE – <a href="#">press release</a> providing information about the next “OIE-FAO International Conference on Avian Influenza”, which will be held in Paris, France on 7-8 April 2005.</p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>WED-FRI 23-25/02</b></p>	<p>“Second FAO/OIE Regional Meeting on Avian Influenza Control in Asia” Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam</p> <p>In collaboration with Government of Vietnam (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development) and World Health Organization.</p>		<p>FAO – <a href="#">Report</a> on the Meeting.</p> <p>OIE (25/02) – <a href="#">press release</a> summarising the outcome of the “FAO/OIE Second Regional Meeting on Avian Influenza Control in Animals in Asia, Ho Chi Minh City, 23-25 February 2005”:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- animal/human vaccines;</li> <li>- regional cooperation;</li> <li>- new worldwide AI Network.</li> </ul>
<p><b>FRY 25/02</b></p>			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (9 outbreaks across 5 provinces) and <a href="#">Hong Kong</a> (additional information on H5N1 virus from a heron reported on 14/01/2005).</p>
<p><b>WED 02/03/ 2004</b></p>	<p><b>Meeting of the SCFCAH</b></p>	<p>SCFCAH receive an update on avian influenza situation, including report on FAO/OIE meeting in Vietnam on “Avian Influenza Control in Asia” (23-25/02/2005 – see above).</p>	
<p><b>FRY 04/03</b></p>			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Vietnam</a> (73 outbreaks in 21 different locations) and <a href="#">Thailand</a> (8 outbreaks across 4 provinces).</p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
THU 10/03		Publication of Commission Decision <a href="#">2005/194/EC</a> <sup>27</sup> amending for the fourth time Decision 2004/122/EC concerning certain protection measures in relation to avian influenza in several Asian countries. (Decision agreed in SCFCAH in 11-12/01/2005 – see above).	
FRY 11/03			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (3 outbreaks in 1 province) and <a href="#">Indonesia</a> (1 outbreak).
TUE 15/03		Publication of the Commission Decision <a href="#">2005/210/EC</a> <sup>28</sup> amending for the second time Decision 2004/614/EC as regards the period of application of protection measures relating to avian influenza in South Africa. (Decision agreed in SCFCAH in 02-03/02/2005 – see above).	
FRY 18/03			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand (1)</a> (correcting the 11/03 report) and <a href="#">Thailand (2)</a> (1 outbreak).

<sup>27</sup> OJ L 063, 10.03.2005, p. 25

<sup>28</sup> OJ L 068, 15.03.2005, p. 43

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>WED 30/03</b></p>	<p>Confirmation of an outbreak of avian influenza in North Korea.</p>	<p>The Commission asks North Korea for further information, informs the MSs and starts to draft a proposal for a Decision concerning certain protection measures in relation to avian influenza in North Korea (see below).</p>	<p>FAO – <a href="#">press release</a> on “Bird flu: FAO sends experts to North Korea”. The aim of the mission was to obtain further information on the extent of the current avian influenza outbreak in the country and to offer assistance to control the bird flu virus.</p>
<p><b>FRY 01/04 /2005</b></p>			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Cambodia</a> (2 outbreaks in 2 provinces).</p>
<p><b>THU- FRY 07- 08/04</b></p>	<p>“OIE-FAO International Conference on Avian Influenza” Paris, France</p>		<p>OIE/FAO – <a href="#">press release</a> on the formal appeal by The Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the international community for assistance in its fight against AI, according to OIE and FAO.</p>
<p><b>FRY 08/04</b></p>			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (no outbreaks), <a href="#">DPR Korea</a> (1 outbreak by a H5 virus, tests are currently under way to determine the N subtype of the virus) and <a href="#">Indonesia</a> (36 outbreaks in 4 provinces).</p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>TUE- WED 12- 13/04</b></p>	<p><b>Meeting of the SCFCAH</b></p>	<p>SCFCAH receive an update on the AI situation in Asia, with particular regards to the situation in Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam. In particular, attention is focused on human cases of AI: in Vietnam, the number of human deaths due to AI is increasing (50 at the moment) and in Cambodia 3 deaths have been confirmed to derive from AI.</p> <p>SCFCAH agree on a Commission proposal to amend for the fifth time CD 2004/122/EC concerning certain protection measures in relation to avian influenza in several Asian countries. The new proposal was drafted in order to add North Korea to the list of eight Asian countries not authorised for importation into the Community of untreated feathers and birds other than poultry. (See Commission <a href="#">press release</a> of 14/04/2005).</p>	
<p><b>TUE 12/04</b></p>	<p><a href="#">Debate</a> on the “Global threat of a flu epidemic” within the plenary session of the European Parliament in Strasbourg.</p>	<p><a href="#">Speech</a> of the Commissioner for Health and Consumer Protection Markos Kyprianou within the debate.</p>	<p>FAO - <a href="#">Twenty-ninth</a> summary report on AI epidemic. The report includes detailed reports on the situation in Thailand, Vietnam and Cambodia, with regards also to the first human case reported in Cambodia.</p>
<p><b>FRY 22/04</b></p>			<p>OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (3 outbreaks in 2 provinces).</p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
MON 25/04			FAO – <a href="#">press release</a> : “The recent outbreak of avian influenza in North Korea (DPRK) has been successfully contained, urging the country to continue surveillance on the affected farms and elsewhere to ensure that no residual infection remains”.
WED 27/04			OIE – <a href="#">press release</a> stating the availability on line of the reports of the meetings of the OIE Specialist Commissions, including the one of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (dealing also with AI).
THU 28/04		<p>Commission <a href="#">press release</a> on “Questions and Answers on Avian Influenza”.</p> <p>The Commission adopts a proposal for a new Directive on avian influenza:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">press release</a>;</li> <li>• <a href="#">proposal for a Council Directive</a> on Community measures for the control of avian influenza;</li> <li>• <a href="#">annex</a> to the proposal.</li> </ul>	
FRI 29/04			OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (no new outbreaks).

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
FRI 06/05/ 2005			OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (no new outbreaks).
THU 12/05			FAO - <a href="#">Thirtieth</a> summary report on AI epidemic. The report includes detailed reports on the situation in Thailand, Vietnam and Cambodia, with regards also to the first human case reported in Cambodia.
THU-FRI 12-13/05	<b>Meeting of the SCFCAH</b>	<p>SCFCAH receive a presentation and an update on the AI situation in Asia by the FAO CVO Joseph Domenech.</p> <p>The Commission reported that the situation regarding avian influenza in South Africa remained unclear and no detailed information had been provided by South Africa. Hence the Committee voted on a draft Decision to extend the period of application of protection measures relating to avian influenza in South Africa by amending for the third time 2004/614/EC</p>	
FRI 13/05			OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (no new outbreaks).
FRI 20/05			OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (no new outbreaks).

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
SAT 21/05		<p>Publication of the Commission Decision <a href="#">2005/390/EC</a><sup>29</sup> amending for the fifth time Decision 2004/122/EC concerning certain protection measures in relation to avian influenza in North Korea.</p> <p>(Decision agreed in SCFCAH in 12-13/04/2005 – see above).</p>	
MON 24/05	<p>OIE – <a href="#">Alert message</a> of an outbreak of HPAI (H5N1) in P.R. China in wild birds (information sent by China to the OIE on 21 May).</p>		
SUN-FRI 22-27/05	<p>73rd Annual General Session of the International Committee of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Paris, France</p>		<p>OIE – <a href="#">press release</a> on the Annual General Session – A new chapter on avian influenza in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code, was adopted, so as to improve transparency and control methods of the disease, protection of human health and provide greater protection for countries importing poultry and poultry products while eliminating unjustified barriers to trade.</p>
FRI 27/05	<p>OIE – further details on the outbreak in <a href="#">China</a> (see above) in wild birds published in the weekly disease information bulletin.</p>		<p>OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Indonesia</a> (2 outbreaks in swines in 1 province) and in <a href="#">China</a> (see the first column).</p>

<sup>29</sup> OJ L 128, 21.05.2005, p. 77



Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>FRI</b> <b>03/06/</b> <b>2005</b></p>			<p>OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (no new outbreaks).</p>
<p><b>TUE-</b> <b>WED 07-</b> <b>08/06</b></p>	<p><b>Meeting of the SCFCAH</b></p>	<p>SCFCAH receive a presentation and an update on the AI situation in Asia.</p>	
<p><b>WED</b> <b>08/06</b></p>	<p>OIE – <a href="#">Alert message</a> of an outbreak of HPAI (H5N1) in P.R. China in geese (information sent by China to the OIE on 8 June).</p>		
<p><b>FRI</b> <b>10/06</b></p>			<p>OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (no new outbreaks), <a href="#">China</a> (1 new outbreak in geese); report on the positive serological findings in <a href="#">South Africa</a> during the surveillance put in place from Dec. 2004 to May 2005 in ostriches.</p>
<p><b>FRI</b> <b>17/06</b></p>	<p>The OIE delegate from <a href="#">Pakistan</a> declares his country free from HPAI.</p>		<p>OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (no new outbreaks).</p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
MON 20/06			FAO – <a href="#">Thirty-first</a> summary report on AI epidemic. The report includes a detailed overview on the situation in China, Cambodia, Vietnam and Indonesia. Information is also provided on strains other than H5N1 and on surveillance and post-epidemic rehabilitation activities.
FRI 24/06			OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">China</a> (1 new outbreak in geese and duck).
SUN 26/06	Outbreak of avian influenza (H5N2) in a poultry farm (chicken) in Japan.		ProMED <a href="#">message</a> on the outbreak in Japan (H5N2).
MON 27/06	OIE receive official information of the outbreak from Japan: LPAI H5N2 virus has been isolated.		

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>TUE 28/06</b></p>	<p>Workshop of EU influenza experts held in Luxembourg by the Commission with the presence of experts from ECDC, EFSA, WHO, FAO and OIE (<a href="#">press release</a>) to discuss the threats of avian and human influenza and possible responses to a pandemic.</p>		<p>The topics on the workshop agenda included the role of various bodies in the fight against the disease and how to improve coordination between avian and human influenza networks.</p>
<p><b>FRI 01/07/ 2005</b></p>			<p>OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Vietnam</a> (1 new outbreak), <a href="#">Japan</a> (1 new outbreak LPAI), <a href="#">Indonesia</a> (9 new outbreaks in 3 provinces), <a href="#">Thailand</a> (no new outbreaks).</p>
<p><b>MON 04/07</b></p>	<p>"FAO/OIE/WHO consultation on avian influenza and human health: risk measures in producing, marketing and living with animals in Asia" started its three-day work in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.</p>		<p><a href="#">OIE</a> / <a href="#">FAO</a> – press releases on avian influenza crisis in Asia. OIE emphasises the importance of the animal health issues in order to prevent and manage the crisis.</p>
<p><b>TUE 05/07</b></p>	<p><b>Meeting of the SCFCAH</b></p>	<p>SCFCAH receive a presentation and an update on the AI situation in Asia.</p>	

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>THU 07/07</b></p>	<p>Conclusion of the three-day work in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.</p>		<p><a href="#">OIE / FAO</a> – press release on the conference in Malaysia. International animal and human health experts (FAO/OIE/WHO) presented a multi-point plan designed to reduce the risk of the H5N1 avian influenza virus spreading from poultry to humans.</p>
<p><b>FRI 08/07</b></p>	<p>OIE receive official information of a new outbreak of avian influenza in Philippines. More tests on the virus strain are being conducted by the avian influenza reference laboratory in Australia.</p>		
<p><b>SAT 09/07</b></p>	<p>OIE receive official information of a new outbreak of HPAI in Thailand.</p>		
<p><b>FRI 15/07</b></p>			<p>OIE – publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (5 new outbreaks in 1 province) and <a href="#">Philippines</a> (1 new outbreak LPAI).</p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>THU 21/07</b></p>	<p>Indonesia confirm the first human death in the country due to H5N1 avian influenza virus.</p>		<p>WHO – <a href="#">press release</a> on the human case in Indonesia. One 38-year-old man and his two daughters (1 and 8-year-old) died. The father is the country's first laboratory confirmed H5N1 positive human case of avian influenza, while tests are being carried out on the samples available from his daughters, who showed clinical signs compatible with H5N1 infection.</p>
<p><b>FRI 22/07</b></p>	<p>Following the further tests performed by the Australian Animal Health Laboratory, the diagnosis of AI in Philippines has been invalidated. Therefore OIE declared the Philippines free of AI infection or disease.</p> <p>OIE receive information on an outbreak of an avian disease in birds of different species in Russia (Novosibirsk Region, in an area bordering Kazakhstan). The results of the laboratory diagnosis are expected for 23<sup>rd</sup> July.</p>		<p>OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (8 new outbreaks in 1 province), <a href="#">Philippines</a> (invalidation of diagnosis) and <a href="#">Russia</a> (suspect avian disease in Siberia).</p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<b>SAT 23/07</b>	The agent responsible for the outbreak in Russia is a H5 avian influenza virus.		ProMED <a href="#">message</a> on the outbreak in Japan (H5N2).
<b>SUN 24/07</b>	OIE receive further information from <a href="#">Russia</a> : the agent responsible of the outbreak is a H5 avian influenza virus. Additional tests are being performed to determine the neuraminidase type.		
<b>TUE 26/07</b>			OIE - <a href="#">Update</a> on avian influenza in animals in Asia (type H5).
<b>FRI 29/07</b>			OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (4 new outbreaks in 2 provinces), <a href="#">Japan</a> (updated information on the LPAI outbreak of June 2005) and <a href="#">Russia</a> (information on the outbreak of last week).

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
TUE 2/08	<a href="#">Kazakhstan</a> confirmed to the OIE an AI outbreak in geese in a farm in the village of Golubovka, Irtysh district, Pavlodar region. Outbreak is caused by an H5 virus.		
WED 3/05		Member States were informed by fax of the outbreak in Russia and Kazakhstan	
FRI 5/08	Russia confirm to OIE that outbreak is caused by H5N1 serotype	The Commission requests Member States to take administrative measures to prohibit the imports of captive birds and untreated feathers from Russia and Kazakhstan following officially confirmed as H5N1, and to vote under Article 9 of the standing committee procedure on a draft decision amending 2004/122/EC to suspend such imports (Decision published on 19/08- CD <a href="#">2005/619/EC</a> ).	OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Indonesia</a> (results of AI surveillance in Tangerang district), <a href="#">Kazakhstan</a> (updated information on recent HPAI outbreak) and <a href="#">Russia</a> (information on the outbreak of last week).
MON 8/08	<a href="#">Mongolia</a> confirms to the OIE that Avian Influenza has been isolated from samples taken from migratory birds		
THU 11/08			OIE releases an <a href="#">update on AI in animals in Asia</a> (Type H5)

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
FRI 12/08			OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> , <a href="#">Mongolia</a> , <a href="#">Russia</a> (additional information) <a href="#">Kazakhstan</a> and <a href="#">China</a> .
FRI 19/08		<a href="#">Decision 2005/619/EC</a> , suspending imports of pet birds and feathers from Russia and Kazakhstan, is published in the Official Journal.	OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> and <a href="#">Mongolia</a> .
THU 25/08	A <a href="#">SCFCAH</a> working group meeting on the avian influenza situation in Asia (Siberia) and the role of migratory birds is held in Brussels.		The results of the meeting are summarised in the <a href="#">EU press release</a> (IP/05/1068). The conclusions of the meeting can be found <a href="#">here</a> .
FRI 26/08			OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Russia</a> , <a href="#">Japan</a> (update on the low pathogenic H5N2 outbreak) and <a href="#">Thailand</a> .



Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>THU</b> <b>1/09/05</b></p>	<p>Commissioner Kyprianou for Health and Consumer Protection sends an <a href="#">information note</a> to the Commission on avian influenza and EU pandemic preparedness (memo/05/295). The note aims at summarising the situation of avian influenza in Asia and the actions taken recently.</p>		
<p><b>FRI</b> <b>2/09</b></p>			<p>OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in wild birds in <a href="#">Mongolia</a> (influenza virus A subtype H5N1 identified) and <a href="#">Thailand</a>.</p>
<p><b>TUE</b> <b>6/09</b></p>	<p>European Commission and EU veterinary, virology and ornithology experts met on 6 September during a <a href="#">SCFCAH</a> working group meeting to discuss how Member States' avian influenza surveillance programmes can be strengthened and improved.</p>		<p>As a result of the meeting "<a href="#">Guidelines for Member States enhanced surveillance for avian influenza viruses in wild birds in the European Union – September 2005 to January 2006</a>" were drawn up (memo/05/304). The meeting was summarised in the <a href="#">midday express</a> of 07/09/05 (EXME05 / 7.9)</p>
<p><b>FRI</b> <b>9/09</b></p>			<p>OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains an update on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a>.</p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>TUE- WED 13-14/09</b></p>	<p><b>Meeting of the SCFCAH</b></p>	<p>SCFCAH receive a presentation and an update on the AI situation in Asia, Kazakhstan and South Africa.</p> <p>The Dutch and German delegation outline measures taken in relation to AI in response to the outbreaks that occurred in Russia (Siberia), including preventative measures to keep free range poultry indoors.</p>	
		<p>The Committee agreed a Commission proposal to extend the requirements for wild bird surveillance, so that wild bird, hunting and other relevant organisations will be obliged to immediately notify national competent authorities of any abnormal mortality or significant disease outbreaks occurring in wild birds. The Decision (<a href="#">CD 2005/731/EC</a>) was published on 20/10</p> <p>The Committee agreed a Commission proposal to approve Member States' individual surveillance plans for avian influenza, and to provide an initial €883.700 in co-funding for the avian influenza surveillance plans of the MSs for the period July 2005 to January 2006. The Decision (<a href="#">CD 2005/732/EC</a>) was published on 20/10.</p>	
<p><b>FRI 16/09</b></p>			<p>OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains an update on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a>.</p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<b>MON 19/09- TUE 20/09</b>	AGRI Council meeting, Brussels.	The Commission updates Ministers of the latest AI situation.	
<b>THU 22/09</b>	Meeting in Brussels of the Chief Medical Officers and Chief Veterinary Officers of the Member States in the presence of Commissioner Kyprianou. The meeting reached the following <a href="#">conclusions</a> and <a href="#">recommendations</a>		The meeting was summarised in the <a href="#">midday express</a> of 22/09/05 (EXME05 / 22.9)
<b>FRI 23/09</b>			OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains an update on the disease situation in <a href="#">Japan</a> (update on the low pathogenic H5N2 outbreak) and <a href="#">Thailand</a> .
<b>MON 26/09</b>	European Parliament- AGRI Committee, Strasbourg.	Commissioner Kyprianou updates the Committee of the latest developments relating to AI, and invites discussion on the current proposal for a new AI Directive.	
<b>WED- THU 28-29/09</b>	Joint Annual Meeting of National Laboratories for Newcastle Disease and Avian Influenza of European Union Member States, Brussels.		

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
FRI 30/09			OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains an update on the disease situation in <a href="#">Kazakhstan</a> (final report), <a href="#">South Africa</a> (final report) and <a href="#">Thailand</a> .
TUE 4/10/05	At the request of the OIE delegate of Russia, the <a href="#">OIE</a> has organised an <a href="#">expert mission</a> to assess the avian influenza situation of wildlife in Russia and the national measures to be taken to minimize the risk of international spread of the disease. The mission will last one week.		
THU 6/10		<a href="#">Commission Decision 2005/692/EC</a> extended and clarified the suspension of certain imports of poultry and poultry products from several affected third countries, and replaced 2004/122/EC. In addition, following AI outbreaks, Mongolia is added to the list of countries from which imports of birds other than poultry and unprocessed feathers are suspended. The Decision will apply from 1 October 2005 to 30 September 2006.	
THU-FRI 6-7/10	International conference in Washington, USA convened to coordinate global action against AI		

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FRI 7/10</b></p>	<p>The Romanian authorities <a href="#">notify</a> to the Commission and to the OIE an outbreak of avian influenza on their territory (positive serology).</p>	<p>Commission notifies MS CVO's of the outbreak in Romania via SMS communication network.</p>	
			<p>OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains an update on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a>.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SAT 8/10/05</b></p>	<p>The Turkish authorities notify to the Commission and to the <a href="#">OIE</a> an outbreak of avian influenza on their territory. The virus has been identified as an influenza virus type A, strain H5.</p>	<p>Commission notifies MS CVO's of the outbreak in Turkey via SMS communication network.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SUN 9/10</b></p>		<p>An EU expert mission is dispatched to Romania to assist the authorities in the control of the outbreak of avian influenza. The team consists of 3 experts, J. Westergaard, former highly experienced Commission official (Deputy HoU in SANCO E2), R. Manvell, from the Community Reference Laboratory for AI, Weybridge, UK, and G. Koch, from the National Reference Laboratory for AI in the NL. They will arrive in Romania on Monday 10 October and will bring with them all necessary laboratory reagents requested by the Romanian authorities.</p>	

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<b>MON 10/10</b>		The Commission adopts an urgent safeguard <a href="#">Decision (2005/705/EC)</a> for Turkey, suspending imports of birds and products for which Turkey is authorised (birds other than poultry and untreated feathers) and which present a direct threat to animal health in Europe.	Commission <a href="#">press release</a> (MEMO/05/362) giving details on the situation in Romania and Turkey.
<b>TUE 11/10</b>			The Commission inform the European Parliament's AGRI Committee about the outbreaks in Romania and Turkey.
			Commission <a href="#">press release</a> (IP/05/1244) giving details on the Commission Decision to suspend imports of from Turkey.
<b>WED 12/10</b>	<b>14.30-18.30: Meeting of the SCFCAH</b>	<p>A Decision is put for a vote to the Committee to prolong the safeguard measures adopted on Monday (10/10) for Turkey for a further 6 months. The proposal was supported by the Committee. (<a href="#">CD 2005/733/EC</a> published on 20/10, repeals the safeguard measure (CD 2005/705/EC), and introduces a ban on imports of birds other than poultry and untreated feathers from Turkey until 30/4/06 )</p> <p>SCFCAH agree a draft Decision to repeal the safeguard measures for South Africa for avian influenza on account of the fact that the last outbreak of disease (H5N2 strain) was in December 2004 and surveillance has shown that virus is no longer circulating. South Africa have now declared themselves free to the <a href="#">OIE</a>. (CD published on 18/11)</p>	

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
	<b>Commission weekly meeting</b> <b>College</b>	Commissioner Kyprianou updates the College of the developments relating to AI outbreaks in Romania and Turkey and the Commission's response	See minutes of the meeting (PV(2005)1718 final-Point 16.3)
<b>THU 13/10</b>	00h.30: The Commission expert team in Romania has found avian influenza virus type H5 in two samples from a chicken and a duck (laboratory results with CRL reagents).		Commission <a href="#">press release</a> (IP/05/1276) on the confirmation of the H5 strain in Romania.
	11.45 H: The strain of bird flu found in Turkey has been identified as the highly pathogenic H5N1 Asia strain by the Community Reference Laboratory for avian influenza in Weybridge, UK.		
		12:15 H: Commissioner Kyprianou holds a press conference on latest developments and the Commission's response.	
	<b>14.30-18.30: Meeting of the SCFCAH</b>	The same measures that have been adopted for Turkey are now proposed by the Commission for Romania. The Committee is asked to vote on a draft proposal suspending all imports of avian species and their products from Romania. The draft safeguard ( <a href="#">Decision 2005/710/EC</a> ) endorsed by the Committee is adopted by the Commission the same afternoon and will apply until 30/4/06.	Commission <a href="#">press release</a> (IP/05/1277) giving more details on the adoption of the safeguard Decision for Romania and further action taken by DG Health and Consumer Protection Commissioner Mr. Kyprianou.

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
			<p><a href="#">OIE press release</a> updating information on Avian Influenza in Turkey and Romania</p>
<p><b>FRI 14/10</b></p>	<p><b>Meeting of the SCFCAH</b></p>	<p>The SCFCAH meeting continues with an evaluation of the risk posed by migratory birds and discussions on preventive measures and increased bio-security to reduce the risk of transmission of avian influenza to the EU.</p> <p>The Committee unanimously agreed on a proposal of the Commission requiring Member States to assess the risk of the H5N1 virus being introduced in poultry holdings. Appropriate measures must than be taken to prevent contact between wild and domestic species as far as that is practical to do. Systems for early detection and prompt reporting of avian influenza should be in place. (<a href="#">Commission Decision 2005/734/EC</a> implementing these measures published on 20/10)</p>	<p>Commission <a href="#">press release</a> (IP/05/1280) giving more details on the adoption of the safeguard Decision for Romania and further preventive action that is being discussed during an on-going session of the SCFCAH.</p>
	<p><b>COREPER: (Afternoon)</b></p>		<p>The Commission informed the COREPER about the developments in Romania and Turkey.</p>
	<p>Romania informs the Commission about of a second outbreak in domestic poultry and the fact that the AI virus H5 has also been identified in swans found dead in the Danube delta</p>		



Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
			<p>OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains an update on the disease situation in <a href="#">Romania</a>, <a href="#">Russia</a>, <a href="#">Turkey</a> and <a href="#">Thailand</a></p> <p>Publication of <a href="#">OIE Mission report</a> on avian influenza situation in Russia following mission on 4/10 (see also <a href="#">OIE press release</a>)</p>
<p><b>SAT</b> <b>15/10</b></p>	<p>16:00 H: The AI CRL at Weybridge, UK confirms that the virus in Romania is the highly pathogenic H5N1 Asia strain</p>	<p>Commission provides regular updates on the evolving situation to MS CVO's via SMS communication network.</p>	<p>Commission <a href="#">press release</a> (IP/05/1290) confirming the presence of H5N1 AI strain in samples taken from Romania</p>
<p><b>SUN</b> <b>16/10/05</b></p>		<p>An EU expert mission is dispatched to Turkey to support the authorities with the control of the outbreak of avian influenza. The team will consist of Dr. E. Stougaard (former CVO Denmark) and Dr. P. Houdart (Federaal Agentschap voor de Veiligheid van de Voedselketen, Belgium).</p> <p>A team of experts is also dispatched to Bulgaria to see with the authorities how best to prepare for possible introduction in Bulgaria of the virus. The team will consist of Dr. G. Cattoli (Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale, Italy) and Dr. C. Poetzsch (Institute of Epidemiology, Germany).</p>	

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<b>MON 17/10</b>	17:00 H: The Commission is made aware of AI suspicion in a turkey on the island of Innusis (Chios nomos), Greece (positive serology). (Subsequent examination by the CRL were negative for HPAI- see 29/10)	Commission provides information to MS CVO's via SMS communication network.  The Commission request that samples are sent immediately to the CRL <sup>30</sup> .	
			<a href="#">OIE press release</a> confirming the detection of H5N1 virus in Romania
<b>TUE 18/10/05</b>	UK Presidency request AI to be included as part of an Extraordinary General Affairs Council (GAERC) meeting, Luxembourg.	Commissioner Kyprianou updates the Council on the development on avian influenza and pandemic preparations.	<a href="#">Press release</a> from the UK presidency summarising the conclusions of discussions in GAERC
<b>WED 19/10</b>	Russia informs the Commission of an AI outbreak (H5N1) in a village in the county of Tula, 200Km south of Moscow.	The Commission maintains close contact with the Russian veterinary services and prepares a draft Decision for discussion in SCFCAH on 20/10 to extend the existing ban on imports of live pet birds and feathers following outbreaks in Eastern Russia earlier in the year- see <a href="#">Decision 2005/619/EC</a>  Commission provides information to MS CVO's via SMS communication network.	

<sup>30</sup> Community Reference Laboratory, Weybridge, UK

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
			<p>'Friends of the Presidency' Council working group meeting.  (Overarching group organised by UK presidency on AI prevention and preparedness). The Commission informed the group of the situation in Romania, Turkey, Russia and the suspicion in Greece.</p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
THU 20/10	Meeting of the SCFCAH	<p>Member States endorsed three Commission Decisions aimed at further reducing the threat of avian influenza:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• further biosecurity measures for domestic flocks (Measures laid down in <a href="#">CD 2005/745/EC</a>, published on 24/10, extend measures laid down in CD 2005/734/EC) to prevent contact between wild and domestic species were possible. Measures include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– restrictions on keeping poultry outdoors in high risk areas defined by MS</li> <li>– water sources for poultry protected against contamination from wild birds</li> <li>– restriction on use of certain decoy birds.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• possibility to introduce preventive vaccination of zoo birds where this is considered appropriate (Measures laid down in <a href="#">CD 2005/744/EC</a> published on 24/10, including requirements to be followed if vaccinate is applied).</li> <li>• an extension of the Russian import ban to unprocessed feathers from the whole country with the exception of Kaliningrad<sup>31</sup> and some regions on the border of Finland. (Measures laid down in <a href="#">CD 2005/740/EC</a> published on 21/10, which extend ban laid down in CD2005/693/EC following the earlier outbreaks in Russia).</li> </ul> <p>SCFCAH also issued a statement on the current situation- see press release</p>	<p>Commission <a href="#">press release</a> (IP/05/1326) summarising the discussions in SCFCAH, including information on the draft Commission Decisions to reduce the threat of disease agreed at the meeting, and the statement by the Committee on the current situation.</p>

<sup>31</sup> Kaliningrad Oblast, Leningrad Oblast, Karelia Republic, Murmansk Oblast and St Petersburg (federal city).

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
		<p>Publication of <a href="#">Commission Decision 2005/734/EC</a> implementing increased Biosecurity/Disease prevention measures agreed in SCFCAH on 14/10</p> <p>Publication of <a href="#">CD 2005/733/EC</a>, agreed at SCFCAH on 12/10, which repeals the initial safeguard measure for Turkey (CD 2005/705/EC), and maintains a ban on imports of birds other than poultry and untreated feathers from Turkey until 30/4/06.</p> <p>Publication of Commission Decision <a href="#">CD 2005/731/EC</a> relating to additional surveillance in wild birds, and <a href="#">CD 2005/732/EC</a> approving Member States' individual surveillance plans for avian influenza in 2005 (Agreed at SCFCAH on 13-14/9).</p>	
<p><b>FRI</b> <b>21/10/05</b></p>	<p>Chief Veterinary Officer's (CVOs) meeting, Council</p>	<p>The Commission inform CVO's of latest situation, and summarise action taken to date, including outcomes from the SCFCAH meeting on 20/10.</p>	<p>OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains an update on the disease situation in <a href="#">Romania</a>, <a href="#">Russia</a>, <a href="#">Thailand</a>, <a href="#">China</a> and <a href="#">HPAI in smuggled birds into Taipei</a>, <a href="#">AI surveillance in Lebanon</a>, <a href="#">Pigeon death in Nepal</a></p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
	<p>18:00 H: The UK confirm that H5N1 has been isolated from a parrot being held in quarantine facility. UK authorities report that the bird, imported from Surinam in South America, died on 16/10 and was likely to have been infected whilst in the quarantine station following contact with a consignment of birds imported from Taiwan. All birds in contact with the parrot have been culled (UK disease status NOT affect as infection restricted to the quarantine facility)</p>	<p>European Commission informs MS CVO's via SMS communication network of the situation in the UK quarantine facility</p>	
	<p>Croatian authorities confirm to OIE that Avian influenza virus (H5) found in samples taken from a dead swan in Croatia.</p>	<p>Commission provides information to MS CVO's via SMS communication network</p>	<p><a href="#">OIE disease information</a> reporting outbreak in Croatia</p>
<p><b>SUN</b> <b>23/10/05</b></p>	<p>Swedish authorities confirm that an influenza strain isolated from a duck found in Eskilstuna is <u>NOT</u> infected with HPAI (H5N1) but a milder, low pathogenic AI.</p>	<p>Commission provides information to MS CVO's via SMS communication network</p>	

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<b>MON 24/10</b>		Introduction of an immediate safeguard measure to ban imports of live birds including poultry, wild feathered game meat and unprocessed feathers from Croatia in response to a case of H5 avian influenza virus found in wild birds. <a href="#">CD 2005/749/EC</a> was published on 26/10).	Information on measures taken in relation to Croatia included in <a href="#">Midday Express</a> press information on 25/10
	AGRI Council meeting, Luxembourg.	The Commissioner updates Ministers of the latest AI situation and the measures taken by the Commission to protect EU poultry flocks. The Council congratulates the Commission for its action	See <a href="#">Council press release</a> summarising discussions ( P16)
	HPAI (H5N1) confirmed in another region in European Russia. Tambov, located 400 km (250 miles) south east of Moscow.		
<b>MON- TUE 24-25/10</b>			International Ministerial meeting on Avian influenza preparedness, Ottawa, Canada
<b>TUE 25/10</b>	<b>Commission weekly Strasbourg</b>	<b>College meeting,</b> Commissioner Kyprianou updates the College of the recent developments in relation to AI and the Commission's response	

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
	<p><b>Meeting of the SCFCAH</b></p>	<p>SCFCAH receive an update on the latest AI situation</p> <p>The Committee agree a draft Commission Decision banning the importation of captive birds from all third countries. The ban will apply until 30 November, although derogations apply to allow the importation of captive birds to defined bodies, institutes and centres (zoos). (<a href="#">CD 2005/760/EC</a> published on 28/10).</p> <p>SCFCAH also agree a parallel draft Commission Decision which strengthens import requirements for birds entering the Community when accompanied by their owners. (<a href="#">CD 2005/759/EC</a> published on 28/10)</p> <p>The Committee agree a Decision to prolong the safeguard measures adopted under Decision 2005/749/EC (introduced on 24/10) for Croatia and ban imports of live birds including poultry, wild feathered game meat and unprocessed feathers until 30 April 2006 (<a href="#">CD 2005/758/EC</a> published on 28/10).</p>	<p>Commission <a href="#">press release</a> (IP/05/1351) summarising the discussions in SCFCAH, including information on the ban on the importation of captive live birds from third countries</p>
<p><b>WED 26/10</b></p>	<p>AI strain found in Croatia swans reported on 21/10 is confirmed as H5N1 Asian strain type by CRL.</p>		



Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
	Low Pathogenic AI strain found in Swedish ducks reported on 23/10 is confirmed as H5N3 low pathogenic strain by the national laboratory		
<b>THU 27/10/05</b>		Commission adopts the Decisions limiting imports of: – captive birds – birds accompanied by owners – imports from Croatia agreed at SCFCAH on 25/10.	
<b>FRI 28/10</b>		<p>Publication of <a href="#">CD 2005/760/EC</a> banning the importation of captive birds from all third countries. The ban will apply until 30 November, although derogations apply to allow the importation of captive birds to defined bodies, institutes and centres (zoos). (Agreed at SCFCAH on 25/10).</p> <p>Publication of <a href="#">CD 2005/759/EC</a> which strengthens import requirements for birds entering the Community when accompanied by their owners. (Agreed at SCFCAH on 25/10).</p> <p>Publication of <a href="#">CD 2005/758/EC</a> prolonging the safeguard measures adopted under Decision 2005/749/EC (introduced on 24/10) for Croatia and ban imports of live birds including poultry, wild feathered game meat and unprocessed feathers until 30 April 2006 (Agreed at SCFCAH on 25/10).</p>	

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
			OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains an update on the disease situation in <a href="#">Romania</a> , <a href="#">Croatia</a> , <a href="#">Turkey</a> <a href="#">Thailand</a> , <a href="#">China</a> and <a href="#">report of HPAI in UK quarantine station</a> .
		Commission provides information to MS CVO's via fax on the latest situation in Croatia	
<b>SAT 29/10</b>	CRL confirm that all results from samples taken in birds on Chios, Greece were NEGATIVE for AI (initially reported on 17/10)	Commission provides confirmation to MS CVO's via fax of negative findings from birds in Greece	See <a href="#">press release</a> (IP/05/1389)
<b>MON 31/10/05</b>		Commission provides further information to MS CVO's via fax on the negative findings in Greece.	
<b>THU 3/11/05</b>	CRL confirm that results from samples taken in birds in The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia were NEGATIVE for AI	Commission confirm to MS CVO's via fax of the negative results from birds in The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.	
	Canadian news release reporting AI (H5 virus) in wild ducks. Indications suggest that infection is not HPAI, but a low pathogenic form	Commission faxes the Canadian news release to MS CVO's for information.	

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
FRI 4/11		Commission host an AI laboratory expert group meeting, Brussels. Discussions with representatives from the CRL, NRLs and other scientists from the MS and other European countries.	
		Commission provides information to MS CVO's via fax on the latest situation in Croatia	
			OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains an update on the disease situation in <a href="#">Romania</a> , <a href="#">Thailand</a> and <a href="#">China</a>
SUN 6/11- WED 16/11	Commissioner Kyprianou visits South East Asia, including Thailand, Indonesia, Cambodia and Vietnam		See <a href="#">press release</a> (IP/05/1373- released on 4th Nov 05) giving details of Commissioner Kyprianou's visit to SE Asia.
MON 7/11		The Commission announces €30 million has been earmarked to assist Asian partners in the fight against AI in 2006.	See <a href="#">press release</a> (IP/05/1376)
MON- WED 7-9/11			Joint WHO/OIE/FAO/World Bank Conference to mobilise resources for the control of AI in animals and for the prevention of pandemic influenza in humans, Geneva. OIE <a href="#">press release</a> summarises the main conclusions.

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>THU-FRI</b> <b>10-11/11</b></p>	<p><b>Meeting of the SCFCAH</b></p>	<p>SCFCAH receive an update on the latest AI situation in Third countries.</p> <p>Member States outline measures being undertaken to implement recent Commission Decisions to protect EU poultry from AI, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– additional surveillance in wild birds (under CD 2005/731/EC),</li> <li>– action on identification of high risk areas and enhanced biosecurity for poultry flocks (under CD 2005/734/EC),</li> <li>– measures to prevent the introduction of captive birds, (CD 2005/760/EC) and additional security for imports of birds accompanying their owners (under CD 2005/759/EC).</li> <li>– consideration of possible strategies for vaccination of birds in zoos (under CD 2005/744/EC).</li> </ul>	
	<p>Italian NRL confirm that a low pathogenic strain of AI (H5N1) have been isolated from a duck in Northern Italy.</p>	<p>Commission confirm to MS CVO's via fax of the results from Italy, and stress there is no link between the low pathogenic virus isolated in Italy and the highly pathogenic 'Asian' virus, and no additional Community action is necessary.</p>	
<p><b>FRI</b> <b>11/11/05</b></p>		<p>Commission provides information to MS CVO's via fax on the latest AI situation in Russia</p>	

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
			OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains an update on the disease situation in <a href="#">China</a> and <a href="#">Japan</a> (LPAI outbreak -H5N2 strain)
<b>MON 14/11</b>	Meeting of ORNIS Scientific Working Group (DG ENV group composed of ornithological experts from the national administrations) dedicated to Avian Influenza and migratory birds.		
<b>WED 16/11</b>	<b>Meeting of the SCFCAH</b>	<p>Member States agreed a draft Commission Decision to prolong the measures (agreed at SCFCAH on 25/10) to prevent the introduction of captive birds into the EU (see CD 2005/760/EC) and additional security for imports of birds accompanying their owners (see CD 2005/759/EC) until 31 January 2006. (<a href="#">CD 2005/862/EC</a> published on 3/12)</p> <p>Two draft Decisions were presented by the Commission for discussion only. One proposal on measures that will need to be implemented in case there is a suspicion of HPAI H5N1 Asia strain in the EU in wild birds, and a proposal in case there is a suspicion of HPAI H5N1 Asia strain in poultry.</p>	
<b>FRI 18/11/05</b>		Commission provides information to MS CVO's via fax on the latest AI situation in Russia	

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
		Publication of CD <a href="#">2005/799/EC</a> repealing certain protection measures in relation to HPAI in the Republic of South Africa (agreed at SCFCAH on 12/10).	
			OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains an update on the disease situation in <a href="#">Romania</a> , <a href="#">Turkey</a> , <a href="#">Thailand</a> and <a href="#">China</a>
<b>TUE 22/11</b>	AGRI Council meeting, Brussels.	The Commissioner updates Ministers of the latest AI situation and the measures taken by the Commission to protect EU poultry flocks.	

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
WED 23/11	Meeting of the SCFCAH	<p>Member States endorsed a number of Commission decisions in relation to imports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regionalisation of Turkey- amending CD 2005/733/EC to limit the existing ban on imports of feathers to those areas affected by avian influenza (Province of Balikesir) (<b>NOT ADOPTED – adoption suspended following further outbreaks of AI in Turkey in late December 2005-see 28/12/05</b>)</li> <li>• Regionalisation of Croatia- amending CD 2005/758/EC to limit the existing ban on imports of live birds including poultry, wild feathered game meat and unprocessed feathers imports to the areas where avian influenza was isolated (Counties of Viroviticko-Podravska and Osjecko-Baranjska) (<a href="#">Decision 2006/11/EC</a> published on 12/1)</li> <li>• Regionalisation of Romania- amending CD 2005/710/EC to limit the existing ban on certain products including poultry and feathered game meat and meat products and eggs to those areas affected by avian influenza. (Counties of Tulcea, Constanta, Galati, Braila, Ialomita and Calarasi). Ban on the imports of live poultry, ratites and birds from the whole country will continue to apply. (<a href="#">Decision 2006/23/EC</a> published on 21 January 06)</li> <li>• Regionalisation of Russia- amending CD2005/693/EC to extend the area authorised to import unprocessed feathers, and to prolong the existing measures until 31 March 2006 (<a href="#">Decision 2005/933/EC</a> published on 23/12).</li> </ul> <p>The Standing Committee also voted in favour of a Decision to extend the biosecurity measures laid down in CD 2005/734/EC until 31 May 2006. The same decision also requires MS, as of 1 December 2005, to take into account the latest epidemiological and ornithological situation and re-evaluate High</p>	Commission <a href="#">press release</a> (IP/05/1460) summarising the discussions in SCFCAH.

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
THU 24/11	CVO meeting (Council)	The Commission updates CVOs on the latest AI situation and the measures taken by the Commission to protect EU poultry flocks.	
FRI 25/11		The Commission provides information to MS CVO's via fax on the confirmation of Low Pathogenic AI in Canada. An accompanying news release reports that the H5 virus strain was isolated from a duck on a farm in British Columbia.	
			OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains an update on the disease situation in <a href="#">Romania</a> , <a href="#">Thailand</a> and <a href="#">China</a> , and report of LPAI in <a href="#">Canada</a> .
TUE 29/11		The Commission provides information to MS CVO's via fax on the evolution of the AI situation in Romania.	
THU 1/12/05		The Commission provides information to MS CVO's via fax on a follow-up report from the UK in relation to the case of AI in the UK quarantine centre (reported on 21/10).	
		The Commission continues to ensure MS CVO's via fax are made aware of the latest AI situation in Romania.	



Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
FRI 2/12/05		Publication of <a href="#">CD 2005/855/EC</a> revising biosecurity measures to reduce the risk of transmission of AI from birds living in the wild to poultry and other captive birds and providing for an early detection system in areas at particular risk (agreed at SCFCAH on 23/11).	
			OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains an update on the disease situation in <a href="#">Romania</a> , <a href="#">Thailand</a> , <a href="#">Vietnam</a> and <a href="#">China</a> , a follow-up report on LPAI in <a href="#">Canada</a> , and a report of AI in <a href="#">Zimbabwe</a>
SAT 3/12		Publication of <a href="#">CD 2005/862/EC</a> prolonging the measures to prevent the introduction of captive birds into the EU and introducing additional security for imports of birds accompanying their owners until 31 January 2006 (agreed at SCFCAH on 16/11).	
MON 5/12/05		The Commission provides information to MS CVO's via fax on the evolution of the AI situation in Romania.	
	Ukraine report a suspicion on of highly pathogenic AI in chickens and geese to the OIE (H5 straintype)	The Commission updates CVOs on the latest AI situation and the measures taken by the Commission to protect EU poultry flocks.	

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
TUE 6/12		The Commission provides information to MS CVO's via fax on the suspected outbreak of AI in ratites in Zimbabwe reported to the OIE	
WED 7/12		The Commission provides further information to MS CVO's via fax on the current AI situation in Romania	
THU 08/12	Meeting of the SCFCAH	<p>Member States received an update of the latest situation on AI.</p> <p>Following the suspicion of AI reported in the Ukraine, the Committee endorsed a draft Commission Decision to ban the import of unprocessed feathers from Ukraine until 31 May 2006. (<a href="#">CD 2005/883/EC</a> published on 10/12)</p> <p>The Commission also agree a draft Decision to increase the level of financial assistance to the CRL because of the increase in workload during the year (CD <a href="#">2005/935/EC</a> published on 23/12)</p>	
		The Commission provides to MS CVO's via fax a copy of the final report from Turkey submitted to the OIE following the completion of surveillance and sampling which revealed that the virus is no longer present.	
FRI 09/12		The Commission provides information to MS CVO's via fax following confirmation that the AI outbreak in Zimbabwe is caused by an H5N2 strain- the outbreak is not therefore associated with the Asia strain type.	

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
			OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains an update on the disease situation in <a href="#">Ukraine</a> , <a href="#">Romania</a> , <a href="#">Thailand</a> , <a href="#">Japan</a> and <a href="#">Turkey</a> (final report), a follow-up report on <a href="#">LPAI in Canada</a> , and a report of <a href="#">AI in Zimbabwe</a>
<b>MON</b> 12/12/05	<b>Joint CVO/CMO meeting</b>	European Chief Medical Officers (CMO) and Chief Veterinary Officers (CVO) discussed the global AI situation and the continued threat to both EU livestock and human populations. The meeting included discussions on influenza pandemic preparedness planning and the protection of poultry workers against avian influenza (AI). Detailed information on the conclusions can be found on the Commission website at the <a href="#">following page</a> .	Information on the discussion and outcome of the meeting are included in the <a href="#">Midday Express</a> press information on 12/12.
<b>TUE</b> 13/12/05	<b>CVO meeting</b>	The Commission updates CVOs on the latest AI situation and the measures taken by the Commission to protect EU poultry flocks.	
<b>WED</b> 14/12/05	CRL confirm that the AI strain found in Ukraine (reported on 5/12) is a highly pathogenic H5N1 strain.		
<b>THU</b> 15/12/05		The Commission provides information to MS CVO's via fax on the AI situation in Romania, including an update of the disease status and the protection measures taken by the Romanian competent authority.	

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>FRI</b> <b>16/12/05</b></p>			<p>OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains an update on the disease situation in <a href="#">Croatia</a>, <a href="#">Romania</a>, <a href="#">Thailand</a>, <a href="#">China</a> and a further follow-up report on LPAI in <a href="#">Canada</a>.</p>
<p><b>MON-THU</b> <b>19/12-22/12/05</b></p>		<p>A Community expert mission is sent to Ukraine to provide advice on disease control measures for the control of the avian influenza outbreaks in the Crimean region. The mission experts are Dr. E. Stougaard, former CVO of Denmark, and Dr. P. Houdart, Belgian epidemiologist.</p>	
<p><b>TUE</b> <b>20/12</b></p>	<p><b>Meeting of the SCFCAH (Section-Biological Safety of the Food Chain)</b></p>	<p>The Commission circulates an overview of the AI situation in Romania, including a summary of outbreaks and protection measures taken by the Romanian competent authority.</p> <p>The Committee support a draft Commission Decision to extend the area from which imports of fresh poultry meat and other poultry products are prohibited to take account of new infections in Romania. The prohibited areas now include parts of the country lying south and east of the Carpathian Mountains. (<a href="#">Decision 2006/24/EC</a> published on 21 January 06).</p>	
	<p>AGRI Council meeting, Brussels.</p>	<p>The Commission updates Ministers of the latest AI situation and the measures taken by the Commission to protect EU poultry flocks.</p> <p>The Council adopt the proposal for a Directive updating EU control measures for avian influenza.</p>	<p><a href="#">Press release</a> announcing adoption of the new AI Directive (FR)</p>

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
WED 21/12		The Commission provides information to MS CVO's via fax on the AI situation in Romania provided by the Romanian competent authority.	
FRI 23/12/05		Publication of <a href="#">Decision 2005/933/EC</a> concerning certain protection measures in relation to AI in Russia (agreed at SCFCAH on 23/11).	
		Publication of <a href="#">Decision 2005/935/EC</a> increasing the level of Community financial assistance to the EU Community Reference Laboratory for AI in the UK in view of the increase in work that has been required during the year (agreed at SCFCAH on 8/12).	
		The Commission reminds all MS CVO's via fax that updated information relating to AI can be found on the Commissions webpages under the following link;  <a href="http://europa.eu.int/comm/dgs/health_consumer/dyna/influenza/index.cfm">http://europa.eu.int/comm/dgs/health_consumer/dyna/influenza/index.cfm</a>	
			OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains an update on the disease situation in <a href="#">Romania</a> and <a href="#">Thailand</a> .

Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<p><b>TUE</b> <b>27/12/05</b></p>	<p>The Turkish authorities inform the Commission (and the OIE) of an outbreak of AI in backyard poultry in the eastern Province of Igdir, close to the border with Armenia, Azerbaijan and Iran. The region is along one of the main routes used by migratory birds during their annual migration between Central Asia and Siberia, and the Middle-East and Africa.</p>		
<p><b>WED</b> <b>28/12/05</b></p>		<p>The Commission provide an emergency report to MS CVO's via fax on the AI situation in Turkey that had been provided by the Turkish competent authority.</p> <p>The Commission also informed the MS CVO's via fax that the process to adopt a draft Decision to regionalise Turkey (agreed at SCFCAH on 23/11) would be suspended. This ensures that the current version of <a href="#">CD 2005/733/EC</a> remains in place and imports of poultry, birds other than poultry, poultry products and untreated feathers remain prohibited from the entire territory of Turkey.</p>	
<p><b>FRI</b> <b>30/12/05</b></p>			<p>OIE - publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains an update on the disease situation in <a href="#">Turkey</a>, <a href="#">Romania</a>, <a href="#">Ukraine</a> and <a href="#">Russia</a>.</p>