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**Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed**

**Section *Biological Safety of the Food Chain***

**17 December 2018**

**CIRCABC Link:** <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/5c4864e2-f3e5-4ab7-807b-57d92829b3f0>

**SUMMARY REPORT**

**A.01 Information on the updated list of approved facilities for the treatment of foods and food ingredients with ionising radiation in the Member States.**

The Commission presented the updated list of approved facilities for the treatment of foods and food ingredients with ionising radiation in the Member States. It will replace that published in the Official Journal of the European Union C 405/05 in 2016.

**B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation laying down uniform practical arrangements for the performance of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council.**

The Commission summarised the outcome of the public consultation and the SPS notification on the official controls on products of animal origin. The draft Regulation lays down the practical arrangements for controls of products of animal origin, including meat inspection. The requirements will largely replace Regulation (EC) No 854/2004. The Committee provided a favourable opinion by qualified majority.

**Vote taken:** Favourable opinion.

**B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation establishing lists of third countries and regions thereof authorised for the entry into the Union of products of animal origin intended for human consumption and amending Regulation (EU) 2016/759.**

The Commission summarised the outcome of the public consultation and the SPS notification for all Regulations related to the import conditions. The draft Regulation lays down lists of countries and regions thereof allowed to import certain food, mainly of animal origin and, where existing, simply making cross-references to lists for animal health reasons. The requirements will largely replace the lists in Regulation (EC) No 2016/759, but additional lists are added e.g. insects, reptile meat to anticipate the end of the transitional measures on import conditions. The Commission explained changes made since the technical agreement on 5 October 2018. They are editorial or

for clarification. Also a sentence from Decision 2006/766/EC (being repealed) was introduced to maintain a status-quo and a correlation table with the repealed act introduced. The Committee provided a favourable opinion by unanimity.

**Vote taken:** Favourable opinion.

**B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation laying down model official certificates for the entry into the Union of certain animals and goods.**

The draft Regulation lays down model official certificates, mainly for products of animal origin and, where existing, simply making cross-references to existing models jointly used for public and animal health attestation. The requirements will replace the models in Regulation (EC) No 2016/759, but additional models are added e.g. insects, reptile meat to anticipate the end of the transitional measures on import conditions. In addition, the template to be used in future for all certificates to be consistent with TRACES is introduced as well as model certificates in case of ante-mortem inspection outside the slaughterhouse. The Commission explained changes made since the technical agreement on 5 October 2018. They are mainly editorial or for clarification but also some issues brought up during the public consultations or SPS notification were addressed. The Committee provided a favourable opinion by qualified majority.

**Vote taken:** Favourable opinion.

**B.04 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation laying down transitional measures for the application of public health requirements of imports of food containing both products of plant origin and processed products of animal origin (composite products).**

The draft proposes a last extension of transitional measures for composite products for four months until Regulation (EU) 2016/429 enters into force on 21 April 2021. Once applicable, the Regulation will set out requirements for the entry into the Union of animals, germinal products and products of animal origin from third countries and territories. A Member State requested clarity on what was exactly covered by the proposed derogations. The Committee provided a favourable opinion by unanimity.

**Vote taken:** Favourable opinion.

**C.01 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation possibly revising Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 as regards TSE eradication measures in goats and endangered breeds.**

The Commission recalled previous discussions in working groups and PAFF meetings. Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 requests the killing and complete destruction of all animals in a holding after the confirmation of a case of scrapie. Currently there is a derogation of that obligation for sheep that are genetically resistant to scrapie. This text introduces a similar derogation for goats, after the publication of an EFSA scientific opinion in July 2017, justifying this approach. It also intends to align some definitions to Regulation (EU) 2016/1012 that entered into force on 1 November 2018. The Commission will revise the text and rediscuss it with TSE experts. A new version will be circulated. Member States will provide their comments before 18 January 2019.

**C.02 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Annex IV and Annex X to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down rules for the prevention, control and eradication of certain transmissible spongiform encephalopathies.**

The draft lays down rules for export of organic fertilisers or soil improvers composed of or containing processed animal protein derived from ruminants and limits the discriminatory testing process in case of positive TSE cases in ovine and caprine animals to the index case. The last changes to the draft were explained and following the discussion, Member States were asked to provide their comments before 18 January 2019.

**C.03 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005 as regards *Salmonella* in reptile meat.**

Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005 established microbiological criteria in foodstuffs. In 2017, EFSA provided an opinion on public health risks involved in the consumption of reptile meat highlighting *Salmonella* as a potential risk. The presented draft proposes laying down a food safety criterion for *Salmonella* in reptile meat. Some editorial changes and clarifications were requested by Member States. The Commission clarified that the proposed regulation should not affect the novel food authorisations. Member States were asked to submit their comments by 18 January so that a technical vote can be taken subsequently, ahead of an SPS notification.

**M.01 Letter from PROFEL**

As a follow-up of the outbreak of listeriosis by frozen vegetables last summer, PROFEL proposes to develop an EU guidance document for good hygiene practices for the production of frozen vegetables and herbs. This initiative was welcomed by the Committee. The Commission informed the Committee on two other initiatives related to this kind of production: a mandate to EFSA to provide a risk assessment and challenge tests that will be carried out on the growth of *Listeria monocytogenes* after defrosting of frozen products.