



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

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**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 15 SEPTEMBER 2015
(Section Biological Safety of the Food Chain)**

CIRCABC Link: <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/3875316a-3ecb-48dc-9dc4-c53ee4bc0e03>

A.01 Information from Italy on derogating domestic pigs from Trichinella testing.

One Member State is applying the derogation from Trichinella testing in domestic pigs originating from holdings or compartments officially recognised as applying controlled housing conditions. The derogation is based on historical data demonstrating a prevalence below 1 in a million and absence of infection in all pigs for at least 3 years. The Commission explained the conditions for the derogation and confirmed that all conditions are fulfilled. Some Member States asked the Member State concerned if it had contacts with export partners on this derogation.

A.02 Discussion and possible endorsement of a revision of the register of national guides for good practice, introducing a more user-friendly approach.

The Commission presented a new electronic tool for submitting national guides for good hygiene practice and for making the register of these guides more user friendly. Some minor comments were made on the content, but all Member States supported the approach. The Commission will now develop and present the new tool in the next working group meeting.

A.03 Presentation by EFSA of the recent scientific and technical assistance on the evaluation of the temperature to be applied to pre-packed fishery products at retail level.

The Commission presented the report. A more in-depth discussion on the outcome of the report will be carried out in a dedicated working group.

A.04 Presentation of and discussion on a possible comprehensive EU approach to Campylobacter control, within the frame of the revision of poultry meat inspection.

The Commission presented an approach based on the introduction of a Campylobacter process hygiene criterion, enhanced supervision on Salmonella and Campylobacter checks in slaughterhouses and allowing peroxy-acetic acids (PAA) decontamination of carcasses as a tool. There was overall support from Member States, except for reluctance by some on PAA decontamination. The Commission indicated that the three actions are linked and should be considered as a package. More technical discussion will follow in working group meetings.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Annex III and Annex IV 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 (TSEs).

The Commission presented the text which proposes to remove the obligation for a bilateral agreement when exporting non-ruminant Processed Animal Proteins (PAP) from the EU. Instead, non-ruminant PAP for export will have to be produced in dedicated plants or plants with separated production lines (ruminants/non-ruminants). The text also includes a modification of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 to reflect the transfer of the TSE annual report from the Commission to EFSA.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Decision establishing the sampling procedures and methods of analysis for the determination of drained net weight of glazed fishery products.

The draft Commission Decision establishes a common method of sampling and analysis for the determination of drained net weight of glazed fishery products based on the Welmec guide 6.8 (WELMEC is a co-operation between the legal metrology authorities of the Member States of the European Union and EFTA) where CODEX standards exist they will apply.

After discussion two Member States asked for more time for reflection. Two other Member States were opposed considering that the application of the Welmec guide could present practical problems in comparison with national methods already applied. Vote postponed to the next Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed (PAFF) on 16 October 2015.

Vote postponed

B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision establishing the Administrative Assistance and Cooperation system ('AAC System') pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules.

The Commission presented the draft Implementing Decision and highlighted the minor clarification changes made to the draft following the comments received at the previous PAFF of 13 July 2015. In particular, the clarification concerning the time available to the liaison body to confirm whether or not the AAC procedure is still ongoing and the date of entry into force and application of the Implementing Decision.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

M.01 Multiple identification marking.

One Member State referred to a letter sent recently to the Chief Veterinary Officers (CVOs) indicating that multiple identification marking is not prohibited by EU legislation as long as it does not replace and cannot be confused with EU legislation on identification marking. The Commission indicated that national measures introducing stricter standards than EU provisions must be notified.