



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

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**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED
SECTION PLANT HEALTH ON
26 – 27 MARCH 2015**

Chair: Harry Arijs

A.1. Miscellaneous.

The Committee discussed the requirement of freedom from peduncles for citrus fruit originating in third countries (point 16.1 of Annex IV part A Section I of Directive 2000/29/EC) or for internal movement for protected zones of the Union for Citrus tristeza virus (point 31 of Annex IV part B of Directive 2000/29/EC). The Committee agreed that a peduncle up to 2 mm may be acceptable in those cases.

A.2. Presentation by the Commission of the preliminary conclusions of the audit carried out in South Africa from 24 February to 6 March 2015 in order to evaluate the system of official controls and the certification of citrus fruit for export to the European Union, followed by an exchange of views concerning the import requirements as in Commission Implementing Decision 2014/422/EU.

The Commission presented the preliminary conclusions of the audit carried out in South Africa. On the basis of the outcome of the audit and the information provided by South African authorities, the Committee agreed to maintain the current phytosanitary requirements of Decision 2014/422/EU for the 2015 import season.

A.3. Exchange of views on a possible amendment of Decision 2006/473/EC as regard the recognition of the magisterial district of Gordonia in the Northern Cape Province of South Africa as being free of *Phyllosticta citricarpa* (McAlpine) Van der Aa.

An initial exchange of views took place. Discussion will continue in a forthcoming meeting of the Committee.

A.4. Presentation by the Commission of the overview report of MS survey results for *Xylella fastidiosa*, in accordance with Article 4 of Commission Implementing Decision 2014/497/EU.

The Commission presented the results of the survey carried out by MS for *Xylella fastidiosa* in 2014.

A.5. Presentation by Spain and Portugal of state of play of the presence of *Trioza erytreae* in their territories and the measures to control it.

Point postponed.

A.6. Presentation by the Commission of the request introduced by Bosnia and Herzegovina for a derogation from the import prohibition for ware potatoes in the European Union, followed by an exchange of views.

Following the presentation by the Commission, an exchange of views took place over Bosnia and Herzegovina's request to export ware potatoes to the EU.

The Committee concluded that, based on information supplied by Bosnia and Herzegovina, that country has improved its sampling methodology and increased the number of samples taken. The Committee can therefore give consideration to recognising Bosnia and Herzegovina as free from potato ring rot. The Commission will communicate the outcome of this discussion to Bosnia and Herzegovina and will continue discussions at a future Committee meeting.

A.7. Exchange of views concerning a possible amendment of the special requirements in Annex IV Part A Section II of Directive 2000/29/EC as regard the certification scheme of certain fruit plants.

An exchange of views took place as regards the draft document for a possible amendment of Section II of Part A of Annex IV of the Directive 2000/29/EC in relation to the certification scheme of fruit plants. Based on the comments provided by Member States, the Commission will present an updated proposal for a possible opinion in a forthcoming meeting of the Committee.

B.1. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision repealing Decision 2007/410/EC on measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Community of Potato spindle tuber viroid.

That Decision would repeal Decision 2007/410/EC on measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Community of Potato spindle tuber viroid. Decision 2007/410/EC concerns measures on specified ornamental plants. Due to the experience gained so far, those measures should be repealed as they are not adequate to prevent the spread of Potato spindle tuber viroid within the Union on the specified plants, while there is no phytosanitary risk concerning the spread of the harmful organism from those plants to other plants.

Vote: Favourable opinion.

B.2. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision as regards measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Union of *Anoplophora glabripennis* (Motschulsky).

That Decision would introduce emergency measures to prevent the further introduction and spread within the Union of *Anoplophora glabripennis* (Asian long horn beetle). The measures include obligations to notify any outbreak, official annual surveys, demarcation of infested areas, monitoring, and removal and destruction of infested plants. The measures also provide conditions on the import and movement of particular plants, wood and wood packaging material which host this harmful organism.

Vote: Favourable opinion.

C.1. Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2014/497/EU as regards measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Union of *Xylella fastidiosa* (Well and Raju).

On the basis of the Scientific Opinion on *Xylella fastidiosa* published by the European Food Safety Authority in January 2015, and the findings of the audits carried out in 2014 by the Commission's Food and Veterinary Office (FVO) in the affected area in southern Italy, the Committee discussed a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending the current EU emergency measures on *Xylella fastidiosa*. Based on the comments provided by Member States, the Commission will present an updated proposal for a possible opinion at the forthcoming meeting.

C.2. Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on the adoption of the work programme for the year 2016 for the Union financial contribution for the survey programmes of the Member States for pests.

The Committee discussed a draft Decision based on Regulation (EU) N° 652/2014, the financial framework in the Food and Feed area, that would establish the Commission Work Programme for 2016 for the survey of plant pests, with the *ad hoc* priorities, objectives, expected results and criteria for eligibility of programmes introduced by Member States, and criteria for award of EU co-financing to them. The opinion of the Committee will be sought on 16 April 2015 in the Standing Committee of Plants, Animals, Food and Feed, Section Animal Health and Welfare.