



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 13 SEPTEMBER 2016 - 14 SEPTEMBER 2016  
(Section Controls and Import Conditions)**

*CIRCABC Link:* <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/d36ff9ae-0fd1-41e0-8ee0-8fec085e3c37>

**A.01 General Information related to Third Countries.**

No item raised.

**B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on the evolution of animal diseases in Third Countries.**

No item raised.

**B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 93/195/EEC by adding Qatar to the list of third countries from which Member States authorise the re-entry into Union territory of registered horses which have been temporarily exported for a period of less than 90 days to take part in International Group/Grade meetings.**

The representative of the Commission presented a draft Decision on the amendments of Decision 93/195/EEC. Those amendments relate to Qatar which is already listed in Annex I to Decision 2004/211/EC for the re-entry of registered horses after temporary export for a period of less than 30 days and is assigned to Sanitary Group E in that Annex and in Annex I to Decision 93/195/EEC. Lately, Qatar has qualified their races to be part of International Group/Grade meetings of high performance level that require registered horses to visit consecutively more than one of the countries already listed for this purpose, before they return to the EU after less than 90 days of their departure. In April 2016, Qatar provided the necessary guarantees in respect of the separation from equidae of a lower health status of registered horses from the EU which participate in International Group/Grade meetings, and requested the listing in Annex VIII to Decision 93/195/EEC along with Australia, Canada, United States of America, Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore and the United Arab Emirates.

Member States had no comments to the presented draft Decision.

**Vote taken:** favourable opinion.

**B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending the model certificates for imports into the Union of meat preparations, meat products and treated stomachs, bladders and intestines, as well as fresh meat of domestic solipeds set out in Decisions 2000/572/EC and 2007/777/EC and Regulation (EU) No 206/2010 as regards public health requirements for residues.**

The Commission presented Draft Regulation amending the model certificates for imports into the Union of meat preparations, meat products and treated stomachs, bladders and intestines, as well as fresh meat of domestic solipeds set out in Decisions 2000/572/EC and 2007/777/EC and Regulation (EU) No 206/2010 as regards public health requirements for residues.

As the proposal had been discussed on several occasions, and it was well known at technical level by the Member States, there was only a brief discussion on the Member States' intention for vote.

*The following written statements have been transmitted to the Commission:*

The Netherlands:

"The Netherlands welcome and support the Commission's proposal which is an improvement for the protection of public health in comparison with the actual situation. However the Netherlands would like to see the Commission's engagement in bringing the import of horse meat in due time fully into line with the EU legislation on banned substances.

With regard to guarantees for welfare of horses in feedlots, we expect the Commission to put this issue on the agenda for a coming working group with Canada."

The United Kingdom:

"The UK still has concerns due to current EU controls being stricter than Third Countries' ones but we understand that the proposal will bring an improvement with regards to imports from Third Countries and so it is a step in the right direction. The Commission has said that this will not be easy, but has committed on various occasions, for example various PAFF Committees, the July EU CVOs' Meeting, and in writing in the Commissioner's letter to the EP Vice-President, to address this inconsistency by reviewing the rules applicable to Member States. Therefore, on balance and on the basis of these assurances, the UK supports the proposal at this stage."

**Vote taken:** favourable opinion.

**B.04 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2010/381/EU on emergency measures applicable to consignments of aquaculture products imported from India and intended for human consumption.**

EU Member States have endorsed the draft Commission proposal adapting the measures of Decision 2010/381/EU in respect of all aquaculture products intended for human consumption imported from India.

The obligation for strengthening the mandatory testing at EU borders for the presence of pharmacologically active substances (as defined in Article 2(a) of Regulation (EC) No 470/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council), and in particular of chloramphenicol, tetracycline, oxytetracycline and chlortetracycline and of metabolites of nitrofurans. Official samples are to be taken from 100% of consignments intended for export from India and from at least 50% of consignments presented for import at EU Member States border inspection posts (instead of 10%). In the absence of official sampling in India, a 100% control frequency continues to apply at EU Member States border inspection posts.

The Commission proposal clarifies that in case a consignment consists of aquaculture products from more than one establishment of origin, samples shall be taken for each individual establishment. It also simplifies reporting requirements for EU Member States control authorities. All expenditure incurred in the application of this Decision remain to be charged to the consignor, the consignee or the agent of either the consignor or the consignee.

The Commission committed to review these measures on the basis of EU Member States controls results, further audits conclusions and on the basis of the possible reactions from the competent authorities of India.

**Vote taken:** favourable opinion.

**B.05 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission implementing Decision amending Annex II to Decision 2007/777/EC as regards the entry for Saint Pierre and Miquelon in the list of third countries or parts thereof from which the introduction into the Union of meat products and treated stomachs, bladders and intestines is authorized.**

Saint Pierre and Miquelon has requested to be authorised for imports of poultry meat products that are treated at temperatures of at least 70C°. It has submitted comprehensive and satisfactory information which was evaluated with positive outcome allowing inclusion of Saint Pierre and Miquelon in the third country list of Decision 2007/777/EC.

**Vote taken:** favourable opinion.

**C.01 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decisions 92/260/EEC, 93/197/EEC and 2004/211/EC as regards temporary admission and imports of registered horses from certain parts of Egypt.**

The representative of the Commission presented a draft Decision on the amendments of Decisions 92/260/EEC, 93/197/EEC and 2004/211/EC. Those amendments aim at authorisation of temporary admission and imports of registered horses from "Equine Disease Free Zone" established by Egypt. Following the outcome of a veterinary inspection carried out in Egypt in June 2010, Decision 2010/463/EEC deleted the entry for Egypt in sanitary group E as listed in Annex I to Decisions 92/260/EEC,

93/195/EEC and 93/197/EEC and amended the entry for Egypt in Annex I to 2004/211/EC. Egypt requested that the Commission reconsider the export status of that third country. An "Equine Disease Free Zone" was established around the Egyptian Armed Forces Veterinary Hospital situated in the eastern outskirts of Cairo under specific veterinary supervision which is free of multiple notifiable equine diseases specified in EU legislation. It appears from the documentation submitted by Egypt that the guarantees offered are sufficient to re-assign Egypt to sanitary group E and to authorise temporary admission and imports of registered horses from the "Equine Disease Free Zone" of Egypt.

One Member State suggested that the guarantees offered by Egypt should be verified by the Commission on-the-spot. The Commission explained that at the moment no audit is planned in Egypt, however such visit could be carried in the future. Nevertheless, the Commission is of the opinion that measures taken by authorities of Egypt are sufficient to protect the health status of horses in the "Equine Disease Free Zone" from diseases specific for Sanitary Group E.

The draft Decision will be presented for vote at the PAFF Committee in October 2016.

#### **C.02 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation on the condition for the introduction of live equidae and imports of semen, ova and embryos of the equine species into the Union.**

The representative of the Commission presented a draft Regulation on introduction of live equidae and imports of semen, ova and embryos of the equine species into the Union.

As regards entry into the Union of equidae, the draft Regulation is going to replace Commission Decisions 92/260/EEC, 93/195/EEC, 93/196/EEC, 93/197/EEC and 2010/57/EC. This draft Regulation aims at:

- i. reduction of number of certificates,
- ii. adaptation of model certificates to be in line with Commission Decision 2007/240/EC,
- iii. placing list of Sanitary Groups in one place,
- iv. adaptation of animal health requirements to the latest recommendations in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) in a framework of Directive 2009/156/EC,
- v. updating some testing methods, i.e. for vesicular stomatitis,
- vi. clarification of the procedure for: temporary admission of registered horses, re-entry of registered horses, imports of equidae for slaughter.

As regards imports of semen, ova and embryos of the equine species, certificates for those commodities were copied to the draft Regulation from lately adopted Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2015/261.

The Commission invited Member States to provide their comments to the draft in writing until 23 September 2016. Based on those comments a revised document will be presented under Section C at the PAFF Committee in October this year.

#### **M.01 UK - South Australian sheep**

In line with Regulation (EU) No 206/2010, Article 3a, Point 1, last indent, the UK informed that the South Australian Research & Development Institute, South Australia has been granted an authorisation for the introduction into and approved body in UK of sheep for scientific purposes.