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Health and Food Safety Directorate General

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Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed
Section *Animal Health and Welfare*
13 July 2021

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SUMMARY REPORT

A.01 General information by Member States.

No item raised.

A.02 Commission update on reports received on infection with SARS-CoV-2 in minks and other animals of the family Mustelidae and in raccoon dogs.

The Commission provided an update on reporting received on infection with SARS-CoV-2 in minks and other animals of the family Mustelidae and in raccoon dogs based on Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/788 of 12 May 2021. These updates addressed the outbreaks in Poland and Spain as well as genetic sequencing analysis of some earlier Spanish outbreaks.

A.03 Member States' rules concerning the characteristics and form of the marking of straws and other packages, in which the germinal products are placed, stored and transported.

The Commission explained the content of that information and suggested a way of its transmission. Member States are requested to reflect on the Commission's proposal for transmission of the information as well as to prepare a document explaining the rules as referred to in Article 5(2) of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/999.

A.04 Information from the Commission on the state of play of the Union foot-and-mouth disease virus antigen bank.

The Commission presented an update on the antigens lately delivered and stored in the Union foot-and-mouth disease virus antigen bank.

The Commission also summarised the reporting by Member States on their national FMD antigens/vaccine banks and simulation exercises and remained those who have not yet provided the reports.

A.05 Information about outbreaks of Aujeszky's disease in Hungary.

Hungary informed about an outbreak of Aujeszky's Disease, the results of the epidemiological investigations and the measures taken to follow up the outbreak.

A.06 Information from Spain of an outbreak of Brucellosis in Aragón

Spain informed about an outbreak of infection with *Brucella melitensis* in establishments keeping ovine and caprine animals in the Autonomous Community of Aragon, the results of the epidemiological investigations and the measures taken to follow up the outbreak.

A.07 Information on the state of play and actions related to the implementation of the Animal Health Law.

The Commission informed about the recent legislative developments under the AHL, explained new changes to Working Document SANTE/7104/2021 and the approach for case definitions. As a follow up of the point on the entry into the EU of hay and straw from the previous Committee meeting, the Commission thanked Member States for the feedback and has indicated its intention to proceed with developing animal health requirements for hay and straw. Concerning the changes to Guidance document “Working document providing guidance as regards certification of movements within the EU during the transitional period following the entry into application of the AHL”, the Commission developed revision 4 of SANTE/7104/2021 rev.4. Following Member States' comments, this new revision will be uploaded on the Commission Website.

A.08 Information from Denmark and Germany concerning the aquatic disease IHN.

Denmark and Germany gave comprehensive summaries of IHN outbreaks in their territories. Finland asked about the 47 farms which Denmark had ruled out as suspect cases, and the water temperature at which these samples were taken. Denmark responded that the EURL was confident that the results obtained from samples taken in these establishments were fit for purpose. The Commission undertook to discuss the matter further with Denmark and the EURL. A further update from Denmark will be provided at the September PAFF.

A.09 Information from the Member States on African swine fever.

Germany, Poland and Slovakia provided a didactic presentation of the ASF situation in their territories. While the situation in Germany and Slovakia, although dynamic, seems to be relatively under control, the situation in Poland is increasingly worrying. Italy, illustrated an encouraging state of advancement of the activities and control measures to eradicate ASF in domestic pigs (last outbreak in September 2018) and wild boar in Sardinia.

A.10 Status of establishments and operators indicated in intra-EU certificates in TRACES.

Due to the absence of a legal obligation for Member States to register their establishments and operators, it is impossible for TRACES to prevent the issuance of certificates where the indicated place of destination is in a pre-valid status in TRACES Classic.

A new approach will be implemented soon in light of the activation of the new INTRA module in TRACES NT, in accordance to the new requirements of the IMSOC Regulation amendment for the registration of operators involved in cross border trade of live animals, so that certain operators in intra EU certificates will be selected from pre-made lists maintained in TRACES by Member States' authorities.

The TRACES team clarified that a certain derogation is foreseen for non-business entities / private persons who are not subject to registration/approval.

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

No item raised.

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/605 laying down special control measures for African swine fever.

This item was withdrawn from the Agenda.

C.01 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and the Council with regard to registration of aquaculture establishments and record keeping of operators.

One Member State suggested that the establishments referred to in Article 3(e) and (f) should also be able to source fish from the pet shops referred to in point (d) of that Article. It was explained that the aquatic animals referred to in point (f) are not ornamental animals, but that will be clarified further if necessary. Written comments were requested by 31 July, so that a draft can be prepared for vote in September.

M.01 Bluetongue outbreak – Spain (Balearic Islands).

Spain has reported, on first of July, a primary outbreak, and later 8 secondary outbreaks, of infection with Bluetongue virus (BTV) serotype 4 in the Islas Baleares, previously BTV free zone of Spain. Spain explained the epidemiological situation and measures taken in Islas Baleares.

The Commission clarified issues related to suspension, withdrawal of status and certification.

M.02 Expected date for vote on Draft Commission Implementing Regulation establishing the model identification document for non-commercial movements of pet birds into a Member State from a territory or a third country and repealing Decision 2007/25/EC.

The Commission informed participants that the draft Commission Implementing Regulation establishing the model identification document for non-commercial movements of pet birds into a Member State from a territory or a third country and repealing Decision 2007/25/EC (SANTE/7186/2019) will be provisionally submitted for vote in September. In particular, the Commission noted that the draft was presented at the meeting of 19 May 2021, during which no objections were raised. However, that draft is linked to the draft Delegated Regulation laying down the rules for non-commercial movement of pet birds into a Member State from a territory or a third country. Therefore, the intention is to submit the draft Implementing Regulation for vote after the procedure for the adoption of the Delegated Regulation will have been concluded.