



Update on Animal welfare activities

**Animal Health Advisory Committee
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**Denis Simonin
Head of Animal Welfare Sector
Unit G2 Animal Health and Welfare
Directorate General for Health and Food Safety**





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European Court of Auditors report

- *Special report No 31/2018: Animal welfare in the EU: closing the gap between ambitious goals and practical implementation*
- Two major recommendations for DG SANTE
 - **Perform an evaluation of the Strategy 2012**
 - **Strengthen enforcement strategy**



EU Platform on Animal Welfare

- **19 November 2018**

Enforcement

- Outcome of the second subgroup meeting on transport
- Selection process and composition of the pig subgroups



EU Platform on Animal Welfare (2)

Four voluntary initiatives groups

- Responsible ownership and care of Equidae
- Health and welfare of pets (dogs) in trade
- Welfare of fish
- Welfare of pullets (laying hens)



EU Platform on Animal Welfare (3)

Information & knowledge sharing

- Digital Tool
- First EU Reference Centre for Animal Welfare
- A third country experience: New Zealand



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The first EU Reference Centre for Animal Welfare



- Operational since October 2018
- Focus on the welfare of *pigs*
- Work programme 2018
- Mapping out current structures and activities
- Planning 2019-2022 activities



Coordinated Control Plan on online sales of dogs and cats

- Recommendation adopted by the Commission in August 2018
- Non binding but wide support from Member States
- Results of the checks expected firsts half 2019



Pilot project on pig castration

- Pilot project from the European Parliament (budget 2017)
- A study on best practices to prevent surgical castration of pigs (now completed)
- Soon published



EFSA mandate on killing

- The *World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)* started to review the OIE Terrestrial Code Chapters of slaughter and killing
- The Commission
 - is part of the OIE ad hoc group
 - has sent an **EFSA mandate in August 2018**



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Thank you for your attention!



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