

EUROPEAN COMMISSION DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Crisis preparedness in food, animals and plants Unit G.4 Official controls

Minutes Working Group "Official Controls Regulation (EU 2017/625)"

Tuesday 25 June 2024 **10H15** – **12H45** Webex meeting

Chair: Tim Gumbel, Deputy Head of Unit G4

WORKING GROUP The Commission presented a revised version of the Implementing Regulation amending **Implementing** Regulation (EU) 2019/1014 on the requirements for BCPs, which included: (a) introduction of paragraph 3(a) in Article 3 of Reg.(EU) 2019/1014 on the suitability of the drainage system of the border control posts BCPs in relation to the animals and goods handled in each area or room; Exchange of views on (b) new wording of paragraph 4 in Article 3 of the same a draft Regulation, adding used agricultural and forestry Commission machinery to the goods included in the derogation from **Implementing Regulation amending** the requirement of the unloading area to be covered by a 10:15-1 **Implementing** 11:45 roof: **Regulation (EU)** (c) new wording of paragraph 5 of Article 6 of the same Regulation, specifying the use of live fish, frogs and 2019/1014 on invertebrates as regards human consumption requirements for excluding hatching eggs from the specific derogation. border control posts The Commission explained the reasoning to these amendments as provided in the draft recitals and responded to questions from Member States. After the discussion, the Commission invited Member States to provide written comments on the draft by 6 September 2024.

2	11:45- 12:30	Updates on guidance on the Official Controls Regulation	Following the closing of the Interservice consultation, the Commission shared the final text of the OCR guidance with the Member States and informed them that it is currently under translation, to be finalised by the end of September 2024. Some Member States posed questions on the entry of consignments into the Union, regarding: (a) the definition of the point of entry (b) the CN codes used in the official certificate and in the CHED (c) the assessment of risks (d) attempts for re-entry of non-compliant consignments. The Commission replied to these questions and invited Member States to send them in writing. There was a brief discussion on the enforcement actions for the containment of risks in the plant health sector upon entry of consignments in the Union. The Commission also informed the participants on its views on other OCR issues, which had been raised during bilateral exchanges with Member States.
3	12:30– 12:45	Update on border checks for organic products	The Commission provided updates on ongoing activities on border checks for organic products. Main issues were the correct implementation of the procedure for transfer of the consignments for organic checks at control points, the correct filling out of box 10 of the Certificate of Inspection (COI) and other issues related to the import into the Union of organic products; those issues were discussed in the last two GREX meetings chaired by DG AGRI. The Commission asked Member States to update the lists of border control posts/control points as regards organic controls.