

**Minutes of the meeting of the expert group  
to discuss a delegated act on movement and certification of bovine, ovine, caprine,  
porcine and equine animals under Regulation (EU) 2016/429**

**29 June 2018, Brussels**

**1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

A provisional agenda was circulated in advance and agreed at the beginning of the meeting. The working document to be discussed was provided in advance.

**2. NATURE OF THE MEETING**

The meeting was non-public and attended by representatives of the competent veterinary authorities of Member States (MSs) and EEA countries. The Chair noted the absence of the European Parliament and the Council.

**3. INTRODUCTION, OPENING, GENERAL REMARKS**

The Commission recalled the general context of the working document and its place amongst the delegated acts in preparation under Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>1</sup> (AHL).

The Commission informed about the amended structure of the delegated act on supplementary animal health requirements for movement of kept terrestrial animals within the Union, and explained that the working document contains only the part of the delegated act on movement and certification of ungulates.

The Commission highlighted in its presentation the new chapters included in the working document and the main changes to the text introduced after the meeting of the expert group on 17 May 2018, which reflects the outcome of the discussions in the previous meeting and the written comments received from MSs and EEA countries.

**4. DISCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS/OPINIONS**

The main conclusions of the meeting were the following:

- 4.1. Several experts supported to set out requirements for the movement of kept terrestrial animals to another Member State according to whether the intention is that the animals go directly to slaughter or not. Some experts proposed to introduce subcategories to these two groups, when necessary, especially for poultry.
- 4.2. The Commission explained that the requirements in relation to infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24) for the movement of kept terrestrial animals listed for the disease to another Member State will be developed based on the current rules, reflecting the categorisation of this disease in categories C+D+E. Experts were invited to reflect on the needs for supplementary requirements for the movement of animals listed for infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24) between Member States or zones not free or having an approved eradication program regarding the disease.

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on transmissible animal diseases and amending and repealing certain acts in the area of animal health (Animal Health Law) (OJ L 84, 31.3.2016, p. 1).

- 4.3. 4.4. The Commission explained that the draft sections on supplementary animal health requirements for the movements of ovine and caprine was split, as was suggested in a previous meeting, in order to reflect the fact that the category of some diseases is different for each of these species. The experts proposed to merge the sections to avoid problems in certifying sheep and goats as one consignment.
- 4.5. Most of the experts welcomed the proposed requirement at establishment level for demonstrating freedom from infection with Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex (*M. bovis*, *M. caprae* and *M. tuberculosis*) in camelid and cervid animals. The experts suggested including biosecurity measures in addition to a surveillance program in the requirements for establishments from which camelid and cervid animals can be moved to another Member State.
- 4.6. The Commission presented the draft text for assembly operations taking into account current provisions and the maximum number of 3 assembly operations provided for in the AHL. The proposed text aims at clarifying the role of the assembly operation in the Member State of transit and at describing the establishment on which assembly operations are carried out as an intermediate and final destination. The Commission explained the difficulties to accommodate under the term "establishment on which assembly operations are carried out" the different concepts in current legislation of "assembly centre" and "dealer with premises". The main difference in current legislation is the period during which assembly operations may be carried out in assembly centres (6 days) and in dealers premises (less than 30 days) and the procedures for certification. Certain MSs emphasised the need for dealers with premises, notably in small structured animal husbandry, while others considered the period of 3 times 6 days in 3 consecutive assembly operations as too long. The draft text also incorporated the assembly in means of transport in the chain of assembly operations. The discussion will be continued at the next meeting.

## **5. NEXT STEPS**

The Commission invited experts to provide written comments to the presented working document by 13 July 2018.

The outcome of the discussion and opinions provided by the participants of this expert group as well as written comments/suggestions received will be used by the Commission to improve the text of the working document.

## **6. NEXT MEETING**

During the next meeting of this expert group planned on 6 September 2018, the intention is to present a revised version of the entire delegated act. This document will consist of texts that are already discussed in separate expert group meetings for poultry, horses and other ungulates, supplemented by new chapters.