

**Minutes of the meeting of the Expert group
to discuss the exercise of the listing of animal diseases relevant for Union
intervention according to the Animal Health Law**

18 December 2017, Brussels

1. Approval of the agenda

A preliminary agenda was circulated prior to the meeting and agreed at the beginning.

2. Nature of the meeting

The meeting was non-public. The Member States' and EEA countries representatives from the competent veterinary authorities were participating in the meeting. The Chair noted the absence of the European Council and the European Parliament.

3. List of points discussed

I. Introduction

The Commission explained that the discussions would be focused on the listing of avian and aquatic diseases and if time allowed the outstanding issues from the last meeting, bee and amphibian diseases, would be taken up.

The Commission insisted on receiving written feedback from the Member States by 10 January 2018 in order to best accommodate their technical views.

II. Presentation on the listing exercise of animal diseases according to the Animal Health Law criteria

The Commission presented the outcome of the listing exercise in the framework of the Animal Health Law (AHL) as regards the avian, fish, mollusc and crustaceans diseases. The Commission provided detailed explanations on its proposals when EFSA opinions delivered a non-consensus in particular criteria.

III. Exchange of views with Member States

As regards the avian diseases, several Member States questioned the lack of compliance with the criteria laid down in the AHL for avian chlamydiosis which led the Commission to suggest delisting the disease from Union intervention. For Newcastle disease, Infection with low pathogenic avian influenza virus (LPAI), Avian mycoplasmosis (*M. gallisepticum* and *M. meleagridis*) and Salmonella infection in poultry (*S. pullorum*, *S. gallinarum* and *S. arizonae*) it was supported that they fulfilled the criteria laid down in the AHL to be considered eligible to be listed.

As regards fish diseases, discussions were focussed on Koi herpes virus disease and whether the diagnostic tools were effective to detect the disease and the risk mitigating measures were sufficient to control the spread of the infection. For Epizootic haematopoietic necrosis (EHN), few experts questioned the significant impacts on environment and the need to take Union measures to control it. No major objections to list Viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS), Infectious haematopoietic necrosis (IHN) and Infection with HPR deleted infectious salmon anaemia were raised during the meeting.

Concerning the mollusc and crustaceans diseases, there was a general support to list the diseases as proposed by the Commission, which includes Infection with *Mikrocytos mackini*, Infection with

Marteilia refringens, Infection with Bonamia ostreae, Infection with Bonamia exitiosa and Infection with Perkinsus marinus, Taura syndrome, White spot disease and Yellowhead disease.

As time allowed, discussion on bee and amphibian diseases were taken up. In addition to those bee diseases already assessed at the 24 November 2017 meeting infestation with Tropilaelaps spp, was considered eligible to be listed. For amphibians, Infection with Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans (Bsal) was considered eligible for listing.

4. Conclusions/recommendations/opinions and next steps

The Commission obtained a favourable feedback for the majority of the diseases presented to be included on the list of transmissible diseases for Union intervention. However further discussions are needed for some diseases. The Commission thanked Member States for their input and constructive approach.

5. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 18 January 2018.