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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 - 14 February 2020

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SUMMARY REPORT

A.01 General information by Member States.

No item raised.

A.02 EFSA opinions on the welfare of rabbits: slaughter and killing.

EFSA presented a summary of the main hazards, conclusions and recommendations related to the slaughter and on-farm killing of rabbits. The representative of the Netherlands thanked EFSA for the excellent work and reiterated the importance of EFSA opinions on animal welfare. The Commission also thanked EFSA for the good quality of the recently published animal welfare opinions.

A.03 Report on the EUVET mission on African swine fever to Hungary (28-30 January 2020).

One of the experts presented the main outcomes and recommendations to the Member State to increase early detection and management of the disease in wild boar.

A.04 Report on the EUVET mission on African swine fever to Germany (8-10 January 2020).

The Commission presented the main findings and outcome of the mission. In particular recommendations on enhanced early in wild boar and management of African swine fever in case of occurrence in wild boar.

A.05 Information on African swine fever in Member States.

Several Member States (Hungary, Poland, Latvia, Slovakia and Greece) provided an update on the African swine fever situation in their countries respectively.

A.06 Revision of the Strategic approach to the management of African swine fever for the EU.

The Commission presented a new draft Annex to the strategic approach on African swine fever (concerning National Control Plans on wild boar management) for discussion. Member States broadly supported this new initiative. Written comments were requested from Member States before 20 February 2020.

A.07 EU research funding on African swine fever: State of play and plan (presented by AGRI).

A representative of DG AGRI gave a detailed presentation on ongoing and planned projects are subject to EU research funding with regard to African swine fever.

A.08 Declaration from France in relation to freedom from VHS/IHN and KHV in the zone "Durdent" in the department of Seine Maritime (76).

Please see under Point A.09.

A.09 Declaration from France in relation to commencement of a surveillance program concerning VHS and IHN in the dependent compartment of "Vire" in the departments of Calvados (14) and Manche (50).

Points A.08 and A.09:

The two declarations above comply with the format and data requirements of the EU Decision 2009/177/EC. Annex IV and II respectively. The declarations are published on the relevant EU Commission website: https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/live_animals/aquaculture/declarations_en with link to the relevant website of French authorities: <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/maladies-des-animaux-aquatiques>.

A.10 Information from Norway on the follow-up concerning the "Final report of the EFTA's Surveillance Authority's mission to Norway from 20 to 29 May 2019 in order to evaluate animal health controls in relation to aquaculture".

Norway confirmed that the voluntary ban on certification of live aquaculture animals will remain in place until all the recommendations made by the Authority have been satisfactorily addressed. It was however, confirmed by Norway that three consignments of live molluscs had been certified between 23 July and 18 November 2019 (two to the UK and one to Spain) but that the voluntary suspension should also have covered such movements. Since 15 December however, the NFSA has imposed a suspension of the disease-free status for *B.ostreae* and *M.refringens* for the entire coastline of Norway. Following a question from a Member State as to when the voluntary ban would be lifted, Norway responded that it was expected that a small number of compartments and zones would be ready to re-start trade within one week. Norway was requested to inform the Commission if the voluntary ban is to be lifted so that the Committee can be informed.

A.11 Information on highly pathogenic avian influenza in Member States.

Updated situation on highly pathogenic avian influenza was presented by Poland and Slovakia. The Czech Republic and Germany each reported on outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza confirmed in one small holding where poultry had been kept.

A.12 Report on the EUVET mission on highly pathogenic avian influenza to Poland (29-31 January 2020).

The report of the EUVET mission was presented, highlighting the conclusions and recommendations for the Polish authorities.

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.

Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision concerning certain protective measures relating to African swine fever in Greece.

The draft Commission Implementing Decision concerning certain protective measures relating to African swine fever in Greece was presented to the Committee. This Decision will replace interim protective measures established by Commission Implementing Decision 2020/181.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision approving the plan for the eradication of African swine fever in feral pigs in certain areas of Slovakia.

According to Article 16 of Directive 2002/60, Member States have to submit to the Commission within 90 days of the confirmation of a primary case of African swine fever in feral pigs a written plan on the measures taken to eradicate the disease in the area defined as infected, and of the measures applied in the holdings in that area. Slovakia had the first case in wild board in August 2019 and provided its plan on 25 November 2019. The plan was considered in line with the Commission's strategic approach and legislation. Slovakia presented a summary of the plan to the Committee.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending the Annex to Implementing Decision 2014/709/EU concerning animal health control measures relating to African swine fever in certain Member States.

The African swine fever regionalisation measures were reviewed based on ASF epidemiological situation in the EU.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.04 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending the Annex to Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/47 on protective measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza of subtype H5N8 in certain Member States.

The Commission presented an updated overview of the situation with highly pathogenic avian influenza of H5N8 subtype in EU, with an emphasis on the location of the new outbreaks confirmed from the last meeting of the Committee. Information about the updated results of the phylogenetic analyses of the virus that is circulating in the affected Member States, provided by the EURL and where this information is available to all the NRLs was also presented. Then, the Commission presented the draft for the new amendment of the Annex to Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/47 on protective measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza of subtype H5N8 in certain Member States, due to the confirmation of the disease in holdings where poultry were kept in Ostrodzki district in Poland and in Hohenlohe district in Germany. The amendment of the Annex was for updating regionalisation at Union level to include the new protection and surveillance zones established by Poland and

Germany, in accordance with Directive 2005/94/EC, and the duration of the restrictions applicable therein.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

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 of the Council with regard to the approval of germinal product establishments, traceability and animal health requirements for movements within the Union of germinal products of certain kept terrestrial animals.

The proposed Regulation will establish rules for the uniform implementation of the requirements set out in Regulation (EU) 2016/429 in relation to the provision of information by operators in their application for approval of germinal product establishments for bovine, porcine, ovine, caprine and equine animals and the time-limits for providing that information. In addition, it will provide the technical requirements and specifications for marking of germinal products of bovine, porcine, ovine, caprine and equine animals and operational requirements for their traceability.

The Commission presented changes introduced in the document already presented during the Standing Committee on PAFF of 16 January 2020. Member States were requested to provide their written comments to the document by the end of March 2020.

M.01 Presentation of the 2018 Report on the introduction into the Community of personal consignments of products of animal origin (Regulation 206/2009).

The Commission presented an overview and comparison of the data for 2017 and 2018 with regard to personal imports of animal origin (meat/meat products and milk/milk products).

M.02 Slovenia- trade of unskinned bodies of feral pigs.

Slovenia asked for clarification in relation to the trade of unskinned bodies of feral pigs.

The Commission presented a detailed explanation, referring to the rules set out in Directive 2002/99 (Article 3), Commission Implementing Decision 2014/709 (Article 15) and Commission Implementing Regulation 636/2014 (a model certificate).