



# Evaluation of the animal health law (AHL)

**PAFF 19<sup>th</sup> March**

*European Commission, DG SANTE G2*

# Animal Health Law

- Regulation (EU) 2016/429 on transmissible animal diseases ('Animal Health Law') (AHL)
  - adopted by the European Parliament and the Council in March 2016
  - Entry into force from 21 April 2016
  - Entry into application from 21 April 2021



# Evaluation is a legal obligation

- Art. 282 of the AHL:

The **Commission shall evaluate this regulation (...)**

and submit the results to the European Parliament and to the Council

**no later than 22 April 2026.**

# Evaluation as a tool for better regulation

- assess the functioning of the AHL: is it ...
  - an adequate frame to **prevent and control animal diseases**?
  - ensuring **safe operation with animals and animal products** in the EU single market?
  - **effective, proportionate, coherent and easily applicable**?
  - of **EU added value**?

and – last but not least:

# Evaluation as a tool for better regulation

The evaluation aims to identify

- **opportunities to reduce the administrative burden**
- **potential for simplification**

# Who will be consulted?

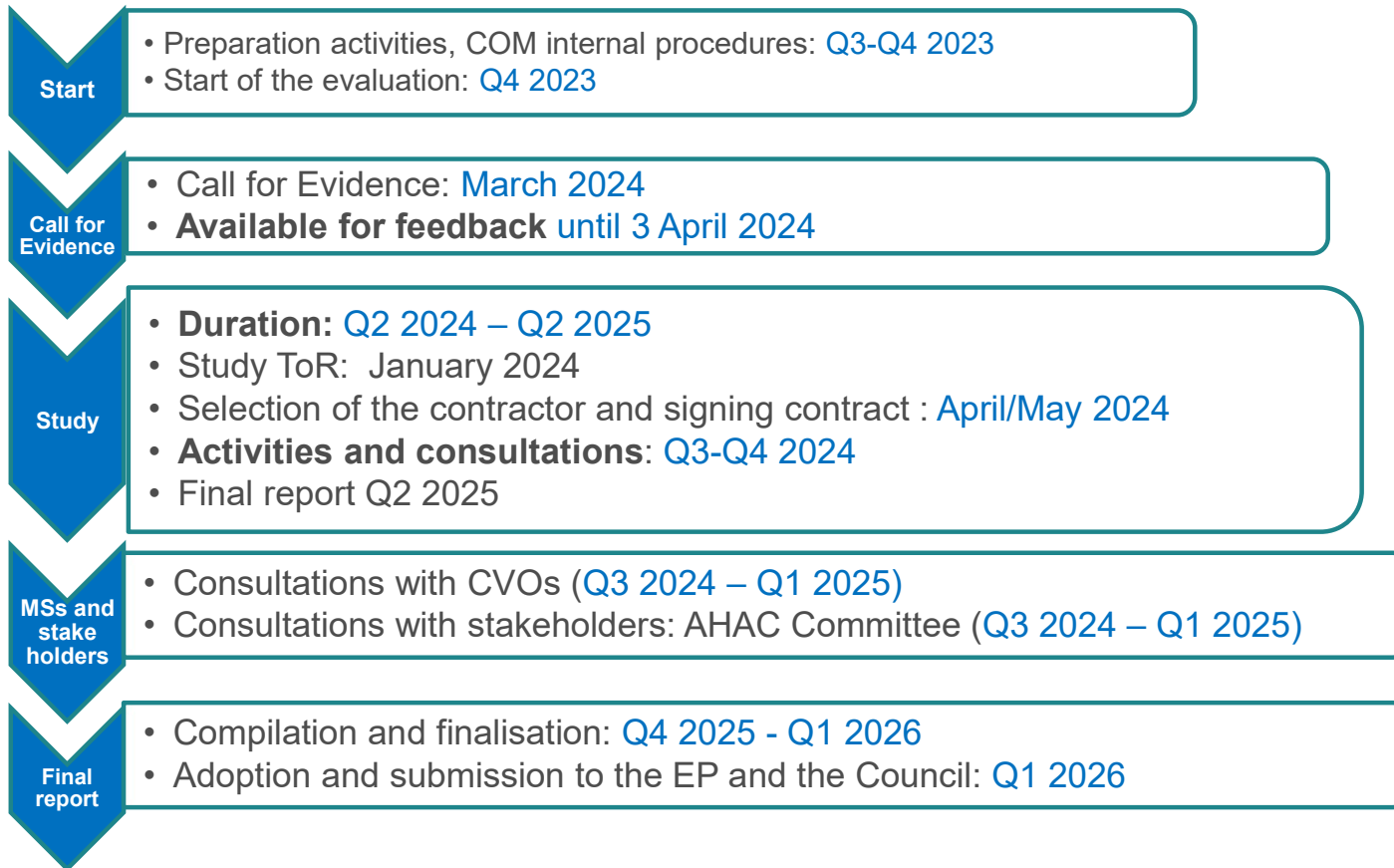
- Consultation strategy will focus on targeted consultation:
  - Mainly EU Member States' competent authorities – via e.g. surveys, interviews, case studies
  - Members of the Animal Health Advisory Committee (AHAC) – via e.g. surveys, interviews
- The general public via the Call for Evidence on the “have your say”-webpage: [Animal Health Law – evaluation \(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu/animal-health-law-evaluation)

open for feedback until **03 April 2024**

# Who will consult and how?

- Through a **supporting study** including data collection by
  - desk research
  - surveys, interviews, focus groups, case studies and
  - validation workshops
- Budget: **300.000 EURO**
- Timeframe: **one year** - Final study report May 2025

# The process





# Next steps

- Study:
  - early April – selection of the contractor by an evaluation committee
  - early May – signing of contract
- Interviews and surveys and will start after the summer break
- We will keep you informed about the updates and next steps in the process

# Thank you

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**Targeted surveys:** competent authorities, livestock farmers, meat operators and their respective associations, international organisations, research institutes, NGOs shall be consulted through a targeted survey  
clear selection criteria to justify which groups will be invited  
Different stakeholders will receive adjusted different questionnaires

**Targeted interviews:** minimum 40 interviews with CA, AHAC members, other stakeholders where needed to better understand views expressed during the targeted surveys and tackle certain points in more detail.  
clear selection criteria to select the interviewees  
list of interviewees will be agreed with the Commission. interview questions tailored to the target group with open and closed questions.

**Focus groups** at least 5 focus groups (meetings) comprised of ideally livestock farmers and / or veterinarians to gather opinions about the implementation of the AHL.  
the contractor is expected to present partial findings of the work carried out

**2 case studies**, covering for example: Implementation / enforcement of the AHL in a representative sample of Member States  
specific themes e.g. digitalisation, reporting obligations, management of a specific disease, implementation in accession countries  
define robust criteria to select appropriate case studies. The case studies shall inform how effective the AHL has been in view of its objectives and provide a basis for identifying good practices in implementation of the legislative framework and in promoting compliance.