



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Health and Food Safety Directorate General

sante.ddg2.g.5(2019)7222957

**Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed**  
**Section *Controls and Import Conditions***  
**24 - 25 September 2019**

**CIRCABC Link:** <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/d36ff9ae-0fd1-41e0-8ee0-8fec085e3c37>

**SUMMARY REPORT**

**A.01 General information by third countries.**

No item raised.

**A.02 Information from Belgium concerning the results of controls on personal imports carried out in 2018.**

Belgium reported on the recent exercise on controls on personal imports which was carried out in cooperation with different actors operating at border, and in particular customs, public health and pharmaceutical national authority, CITES. Controls focused on passengers coming from third countries at risk and have shown that important quantities of illegal goods have been detected.

The Commission highlighted the importance of cooperation between different authorities, the need to base the controls on the risk represented by the countries of origin as well as information to passengers on the rules in place.

Some Member States stressed the need to inform the public more efficiently. One Member State explained that informative leaflets are distributed by embassies to people asking for visa to enter that Member State.

**B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on the evolution of animal diseases in third countries.**

No item raised.

**B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation on the temporary increase of official controls and emergency measures governing the entry into the Union of certain goods from certain third countries implementing Regulations (EU) 2017/625 and (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Commission Regulations (EC) No 669/2009, (EU) No 884/2014, (EU) 2015/175, (EU) 2017/186 and (EU) 2018/1660.**

This draft Commission Implementing Regulation lays down the list of food and feed of non-animal origin from certain third countries subject to a temporary increase of official controls at their entry into the Union, established in Annex I, in accordance

with Article 47(2)(b) of Regulation (EU) 2017/625. It also lays down special conditions (emergency measures) governing the entry into the Union of certain food and feed from certain third countries due to the risk of contamination by aflatoxins, pesticide residues, pentachlorophenol and dioxins and microbiological contamination, listed in Annex II, in accordance with Article 53(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002. In addition, it lays down rules on the frequency of identity checks and physical checks for the consignments of food and feed listed in its Annexes I and II, requirements concerning the methods of sampling and analysis, as well as one single model official certificate, adapted to IMSOC, required to accompany consignments of food and feed listed in its Annex II. It will apply from 14 December 2019.

The Commission informed the Committee of the comments received from third countries following the notification of this draft Commission Implementing Regulation in accordance with the WTO/SPS Agreement and of the comments received through the feedback mechanism. The Commission further explained how these comments had been taken into account. It was in particular highlighted that the rules in the draft on the frequency of controls have been amended and clarified. The Commission further explained the changes made to the draft submitted to the Committee compared to the version which received the Technical Agreement of the Committee in the meeting of 12-13 June 2019.

**Vote taken:** Favourable opinion.

**B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/659 on the conditions for the entry into the Union of live equidae and of semen, ova and embryos of equidae.**

The Commission representative introduced the document highlighting and explaining the amendments and corrections. One Member State inquired about the information on Norway, which will be lost for third countries when they certify residence of temporarily admitted registered horses.

**Vote taken:** Favourable opinion.

**B.04 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation establishing the model official certificate and rules for issuing official certificates for goods which are delivered to vessels leaving the Union and intended for ship supply or consumption by the crew and passengers, or to NATO or a United States' military base.**

The Commission provided an explanation for the draft Implementing Regulation presented for vote. The Commission reported on the comment received in the context of the Better Regulation feedback mechanism during the period between 12 July and 9 August 2019 and explained there is no impact of those comments on the draft Implementing Regulation. No further comments from Member States received.

**Vote taken:** Favourable opinion.

**B.05 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the lists of animals, products of animal origin, germinal products, animal by-products and derived products and hay and straw subject to official controls at border control posts and amending Decision 2007/275/EC.**

The Commission presented the outcome of the SPS notification and the public feedback received. Their comments, which mainly revolved around definitions and matters such as composite products and food supplements, did not result in any need to modify the text of the draft Regulation. In addition, the Commission presented the written comments received from two Member States, further to the latter a modification to the text act has been made in order to maintain the current definition of “dairy” in Commission Decision 2007/275/EC. Other than that, the draft Regulation remained identical to the version submitted to the technical vote in the PAFF Committee meeting on 18 July 2019. However, one Member State considered that there is a conflict between the current definition of composite products in Commission Decision 2007/275/EC and the one established in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/625 (which will become applicable in 2021).

**Vote taken:** Favourable opinion.

**B.06 Exchange of views and possible technical opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation establishing rules for the uniform application of frequency rates for identity checks and physical checks on certain consignments of animals and goods entering the Union.**

Implementing Regulation presented for a technical vote to allow to proceed with the adoption process. Member States provided comments concerning frequency rates for certain categories of goods listed in Annex I. For certain categories Member States propose to increase the frequency rates in Annex I. Most of comments received were taken into account and the Annex I of the draft Implementing Regulation has been amended. The revised draft was presented to Member States for technical vote.

**Technical Agreement.**

**B.07 Exchange of views and possible technical opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation establishing detailed rules on the operations to be carried out during and after documentary checks, identity checks and physical checks on animals and goods subject to official controls at border control posts.**

The Commission provided an explanation for the draft Implementing Regulation presented for a technical vote to allow to proceed with the adoption process. Member States provided comments in particular for recital 2 and Annex III. The Commission gave an explanation to the questions asked by Member States. Recital 2 and reference to Regulation (EC) No 1756/2004 in point 4(c) of Annex III have been revised. The revised draft was presented to Member States for technical vote.

**Technical Agreement.**

**B.08 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation on the procedures at border control posts for a coordinated performance by competent authorities of intensified official controls on products of animal origin, germinal products, animal by-products and composite products.**

The Commission presented the outcome of the SPS notification and the public feedback received from stakeholders, and third countries. Their comments mainly touched on matters which have already been agreed by Member States, such as the conditions under which the intensified controls and imposed checks could be ended, and did not result in any need to modify the text of the draft Regulation. No questions were raised by Member States.

**Vote taken:** Favourable opinion.

**B.09 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on temporary animal health requirements for consignments of products of animal origin for human consumption originating in and returning to the Union following a refusal of entry by a third country.**

The Commission briefly presented both the broader legal context and the key elements of the draft. Several Member States sought some clarifications as regards particular, smaller elements, all of which was given.

**Vote taken:** Favourable opinion.

**B.10 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 798/2008 as regards the entry for Japan in the list of third countries, territories, zones or compartments from which certain poultry commodities may be imported into and transit through the Union.**

The Commission informed Member States on the content of a draft Implementing Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 798/2008 as regards the entry for Japan and in particular the authorisation of Japan for the import into and transit through the Union of meat of poultry, taking into account the positive outcome of the last audit carried out by the Commission services and reflecting the current animal health situation.

**Vote taken:** Favourable opinion.

**B.11 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 as regards imports of petfood from Saudi Arabia.**

The draft Commission Implementing Regulation revises the list of third countries authorised for the importation of petfood and adds Saudi Arabia to the list of third countries from where processed petfood of poultry origin may be imported into and transit through the Union.

**Vote taken:** Favourable opinion.

**C.01 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 as regards requirements for animal by-products and derived products originating from, and returning to, the Union following refusal of entry by a third country.**

The text is still subject to internal discussion and therefore the Commission only provided a presentation with the most important elements of the new draft: traceability of a consignment refused by a third country and confirmation of the competent authority at the place of destination to accept the consignment. The text will be presented for technical discussion in the Working Group meeting on animal by-products on 7 October 2019.

**M.01 The detection of Infectious Hypodermal Haematopoetic Necrotising Virus in warm water prawns imported into the UK from the USA for farming purposes.**

The UK gave a clear and concise presentation outlining the first detection of this disease in the EU. All animals have been culled and the infected establishments have been cleaned and disinfected. Re-population of one of the establishments has commenced and all imports will be tested post arrival. There was one question in relation to the discharge of effluent from the infected establishments. The UK delegate confirmed that both establishments are located at a significant distance from the sea and all water had been treated before discharge.

**M.02 Latvia informed on Salmonella spp. in egg products imported from Ukraine.**

Latvia referred to recent findings of salmonella in egg products from Ukraine (UA), since April this year, for which RASFF notifications have been circulated, and queried whether additional controls from the Commission should take place, also regarding the UA's salmonella surveillance program. The Commission informed that UA had timely suspended exports from the plant concerned, but that meanwhile trade has resumed and that the first 10 consignments, checked under the reinforced control program, had not revealed additional findings of non-compliances. The Commission highlighted that four SANTE audits had taken place in 2018 and 2019, of which three on poultry products with eggs included, that had noted satisfactory outcomes. The Commission further referred to the approximation process in which UA is currently engaged under the EU-UA Association Agreement, alligning the country with our SPS legislation.