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Health and Food Safety Directorate General

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Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed

Section *Controls and Import Conditions*

25-26 February 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.

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 minimum requirements for border control posts and on the listing of border control posts and control points.

In relation to the abstentions of some Member States, it would appear that the main reason is the requirement that prohibits the use of certain border control post (BCP) facilities like for example unloading areas/rooms, inspection areas/rooms and storage areas/rooms for the performance of official controls and other official activities on consignments of animals and goods for export or for intra-Union trade in those BCPs designated for the categories of animals and goods respectively referred to in Article 47(1) (a) and (b) of Regulation (EU) 2017/625. The Commission explained that this is a current requirement and in order to avoid any risk of cross-contamination it needs to be retained.

Vote Postponed

B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2011/163/EU on the approval of plans submitted by third countries in accordance with Article 29 of Council Directive 96/23/EC.

The Commission presented the modification of Decision 2011/163/EU. As follow-up of the favourable evaluation of the RMP plan and guarantees provided to the recommendations of the 2018 audit, South Africa has been proposed to be listed for farmed game, with the limitation to ratites. One Member State raised the question of reciprocity, but supported the decision, whilst another Member State commented the

lack of Commission consistency as it was agreed in the past to include only the entry subject to the decision and not the entire table.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.04 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 standard model form to be used in the annual reports submitted by Member States.

The revised version of the draft was presented, namely the changes made following the outcome of the PAFF Committee on 16/01/2019 and additional written comments sent by Member States. Five Member States indicated their intention to support the document while outlining the need for some flexibility in the reporting and to avoid multiple reporting. One Member State asked for clarifications concerning the section on welfare requirements for animals of the annual report. Two Member States abstained and one was against the document on the grounds of uncertainty in relation to the data.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.05 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation on prior notification of consignments of certain categories of animals and goods entering the Union.

After a short introduction by the Commission, in which Member States were reminded of the technical vote on 11 December 2018 (where the draft had been supported, with a modification of a recital as proposed by one Member State) and updated as regards the result of the on-line public consultation, the draft Implementing Regulation on prior notification of consignments entering the Union was put to the vote without any debate.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

C.01 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Annex II to Decision 2007/777/EC as regards the entries for Bosnia and Herzegovina and Russia in the list of third countries or parts thereof from which the introduction into the Union of meat products and treated stomachs, bladders and intestines is authorised.

The Commission informed and asked the views of Member States on the content of a draft Implementing Decision amending Decision 2007/777/EC as regards the entries of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Russia in the list of third countries or parts thereof from which the introduction into the Union of meat products and treated stomachs, bladders and intestines is authorised. In particular, the proposed amendment concerns the authorisation of Bosnia and Herzegovina for the import into the Union of meat products of poultry and the amendment to the authorisation of Russia to request that meat products of poultry are subjected to treatment “D” instead of treatment “A” as it is currently, due to the confirmation of highly pathogenic avian influenza outbreaks on the territory of the country. Member States did not express any comments.

M.01 Personal consignments – import controls. Communication to Member States regarding Regulation (EC) No 206/2009 personal imports of meat / meat products and dairy / dairy products.

The Commission reminded Member States of their obligations related to the control of personal consignments of products of animal origin under Regulation (EC) No 206/2009.

With the current animal health threats such as Foot-and-Mouth Disease or African swine fever, it is important that Member States make extra efforts to ensure that the relevant competent authorities responsible for customs controls perform the required official controls on personal consignments as required by the above legislation. Member States should inform passengers and travellers about import conditions for personal consignments of products of animal origin and for this purpose, they could make use of two new posters published on the Commission webpage (https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animalproducts/personal_imports/poster-keep-animal-diseases-out-eu_en) after the publication of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/1729.

Member States were also informed about the obligation to report activities related to the control of entries into the Union of personal consignments in relation to their number and nature of those controls, third countries and number of passengers targeted, volumes of products of animal origin confiscated, etc. completing Annex V of Regulation (EC) No 206/2009. The completed Annex V should be returned to the Commission via email SANTE-CONSULT-G2@ec.europa.eu.

M.02 France – Imports of aquaculture products from India.

France has expressed its deep concerns on the aquaculture products arriving from India, especially in relation to the presence of residues of forbidden substances. France called for further measures, including ban for India. The Commission replied indicating that the situation is under monitoring and added that:

1. The Indian reply letter to the January Commission one is under evaluation by Directorate F;
2. The new Indian plan should include other substances (from 1 Jan 2019);
3. A Sustained Training Mission (STM) is ongoing in India and the Commission is awaiting the results;
4. Only 1 RASFF notification has been triggered in 2019;
5. DG SANTE continues with the de-listing policy.

Member States, although alerted to increase controls at BIPs (WG on import controls Feb 2019), did not react on this proposal. One Member State indicated that controls at BIP should be increased. France appeared satisfied by the Commission's reply.