

Brussels, 13 September 2023

**Minutes of the first meeting of the expert group to discuss a draft delegated act amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687 on rules for prevention and control of certain listed diseases**

**E00930**

**on 13 September 2023, Brussels**

## **1. Approval of the agenda**

The agenda approved was as circulated prior to the meeting as part of the invitation.

## **2. Nature of the meeting**

The meeting was non-public. The meeting was organised hybrid (physically Brussels, CCAB) while the remote experts of the Expert Group 00930 on Animal Health attended it via the Interactio platform. The Chair noted the absence of the European Parliament and the Council. Circulated draft: PLAN/2023/2432.

## **3. Points discussed**

### **3.1. Introduction**

The Chair recalled that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the draft Commission Delegated Regulation amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687 on rules for prevention and control of certain listed diseases. (SANTE/2023/2432) (the draft).

The initial version of the draft was circulated prior to the meeting.

The Commission presented the proposed amendments for terrestrial animals and the proposed amendments and corrections for the rules related to aquatic animals. The Commission explained the rationale for all the amendments with the presentation.

The amendments of the rules for diseases of terrestrial animals have been proposed based on:

- the experiences with the implementation of the current rules with the prevention and control of outbreaks confirmed since April 2021, in particular related to: derogation for movements of day-old chicks from surveillance zone when obtained from hatching eggs originated from outside the restricted zone; clarifications to articles related to movement of manure from establishments in the surveillance zone; duration of measures in the restricted zone; rules on repopulation of the affected establishment; marking of fresh meat from restricted zone.
- EFSA recommendations provided in scientific opinions on the assessment of the control measures under Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687 (Delegated Regulation) for each category A disease. These amendments are in particular related to the monitoring period, minimum radiuses of the protection and surveillance zones and minimum duration of the measures in the restricted zones for certain category A diseases.

- EFSA recommendations provided in scientific opinions on the assessment of the control measures as in the Delegated Regulation as regards prohibitions in the restricted zones and risk mitigating treatments for products of animal origin and other materials.

The amendments related to the diseases of aquatic animals have been proposed based on the need for certain clarifications in order to avoid ambiguity in the text, and for the streamlining of text to ensure consistency of terminology within the Delegated Regulation and also with other Regulations. In addition, certain errors have been identified which should be corrected. Details were provided to MS.

### **3.2. Exchange of views as regards possible amendments to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687 on rules for prevention and control of certain listed diseases.**

The experts thanked the Commission for the new possibilities and clarifications brought with the new amendments. The discussions on the draft concerned focussed on the amendments for the diseases of terrestrial animals. raised by some experts:

Some experts raised questions related to the proposed amendment for the duration of the measures in the restricted zone as it may extend the period of movement restrictions for a longer period. The Commission explained that the wording provides for a clarification of obligations, which are already laid down in the Animal Health Law.

Certain experts also asked the Commission to further reflect on adding more clarifications on the new amendment related to lifting of measures when repopulation of the establishment is not intended. The Commission noted the comment and will consider it in the next revision of the draft.

Several experts commented on various modifications to treatments and on the point related to the health mark (modification to Annex IX) and asked the Commission to carefully discuss the latter with colleagues responsible for the hygiene rules.

## **4. Conclusions**

The Commission thanked Member States for their input and invited them to provide any additional feedback in writing by 30 September 2023.

## **5. Next steps**

The Commission will use the outcomes of the discussion and the opinions obtained during this expert group meeting and possible written comments received to develop a revised version of the draft.

The Commission plans to organise a second meeting of the Expert Group during the month of November 2023.