

Comments received from the Spanish CA on 26/01/2016 in response to the REPORT OF THE TASK FORCE ON THE CONTROL OF PINE WOOD NEMATODE IN PORTUGAL AND SPAIN OPERATING BETWEEN NOVEMBER 2014 AND OCTOBER 2015

**From:** Sanidad Vegetal [mailto:SanidadVegetal@magrama.es]

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 26, 2016 9:29 AM

**To:** \* *Please note that it has been necessary to delete this text in order to respect the provisions of Article 339 of the Lisbon Treaty as regards confidentiality*

**Cc:** \*

**Subject:** Please note the new *working title for administrative purposes 'Report of the Task force on the control of pine wood nematode in Portugal and Spain operating between November 2014 and October 2015*

**Importance:** High

Dear Mr. Michael Scannell

I would like to thank the great effort developed by the Task Force during the last year with the goal of helping us in the control and prevention of spreading of PWN.

We were aware about the work carried out in close contact with the regional and national staffs in Spain and the proactive and honest exchange of views and analysis of the problem taking into account the reality of the situation on the ground and the possible future scenarios.

In this context we have been started to work in the line of the preliminary findings identified by the Task Force in two main lines:

- The development of a new National Contingency Plan, based in the experience acquired, the scientific knowledge and the Task Force recommendations
- The contact with our Portuguese colleagues looking for a more effective way of coordination in the procedures to apply close to the border line
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The new National Contingency Plan that includes adapting to our national reality the recommendations of the Report is almost ready. An English translation will be finish soon and send to the Task Force members, FVO and EC colleagues of Sant Unit in one or two weeks. Also we had a bilateral meeting with the Portuguese colleagues last December where we agreed in to carry out a coordination group for the PWN issue when affecting both countries.

Those actions and a detail study in order to implement as soon as possible all the conclusions and recommendations done by the report will be executed after the February Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed taking into account the exchange of comments with the EC and other countries during this meeting.

Yours sincerely

Jos María Cobos

Subdirector General de Sanidad e Higiene Vegetal y Forestal

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