



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

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**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 06 MAY 2015
(Section Controls and Import Conditions)**

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

A.01 Information from the Commission and exchange of views on the avian influenza situation in North America.

The Commission representative gave an update on the situation as regards HPAI of the H5 subtype in Canada and the US. In Canada 13 outbreaks had occurred in the Province of British Columbia and three more recent outbreaks were detected in the Province Ontario, the last on 23/04/2015.

In the US the HPAI H5 epidemic is still ongoing with an increasing number of outbreaks in commercial poultry, mainly laying hens in Iowa State and turkey farms in the State of Minnesota. The infection is now spreading along three of the four flyways in the US (Pacific, Mississippi, Central) while the Atlantic flyway remained without infected farms so far. Wild birds are also found as being infected in several US States including in States where there are no outbreaks detected in poultry and the opposite with States that only found poultry infected. It becomes evident that besides single point introductions of the virus, lateral virus spread between commercial farms plays a crucial role. The zoning proposals at county or State level as requested by the US are presented.

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 issues raised.

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Annex IV to Implementing Regulation (EU) No 577/2013 as regards the models of animal health certificate and of written declaration for dogs, cats and ferrets moved into a Member State from a territory or a third country for non-commercial purposes.

Member States considered the proposed system to authorize the movement of dog separately (more than five days) from the one of the owner/authorised person too burdensome. Further reflection on alternative solutions is needed.

Vote postponed

B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Annex I to Decision 2004/211/EC as regards the entry for Brazil, Israel, Libya and Syria in the list of third countries and parts thereof from which the imports into the Union of live equidae and semen, ova and embryos of the equine species are authorised and adapting Decisions 92/260/EEC, 93/195/EEC, 93/196/EEC, 93/197/EEC accordingly for Israel, Libya and Syria.

The representative of the Commission presented a draft Decision on regionalisation of Brazil, clarification of the territorial coverage of the certificates for Israel and delisting of Libya and Syria. This draft Decision will allow the participation of European horses to the Olympic Games in Rio, Brazil, in 2016 by recognizing an equine disease-free zone within the state of Rio de Janeiro. In addition the amendment of BR-1 region will be done in order to reflect the current animal health situation relating to glanders in Brazil. The draft Decision will also clarify the territorial coverage of Israel, as it is currently done for all legislation where this third country is listed. In addition the draft Decision will delist Libya and Syria as those countries cannot provide the guarantees in relation to animal health situation because of the lack of disease reporting to the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE).

There were no comments from Member States on the draft Decision.

Vote postponed

B.04 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2002/994/EC concerning certain protective measures with regard to the products of animal origin imported from China.

The draft decision has been presented to Member States. Some Member States raised concerns on the possible presence of metabolites of forbidden substances (chloramphenicol and nitrofurantoin, etc.) in some food supplements. Other MSs asked for the insertion of L-Cystine in the list of the authorised substances, request that has been challenged by other Member States. The question of the lack of a proper risk assessment carried out by EFSA in advance to the proposal has been raised as well. The Commission representative provided answers on all those questions.

The draft has been withdrawn from the vote as it needed to be fine-tuned accordingly to the comments received by the Member States.

The vote has hence been reported to the next Committee.

Vote postponed

B.05 Exchange of views and possible opinion on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 798/2008 as regards the entry for the United States in the list of third countries, territories, zones or compartments from which certain poultry commodities may be imported into or transit through the Union in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza following further outbreaks in that country.

The United States (US) is listed in Part 1 of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 798/2008 as a third country from which imports into the Union of poultry and certain poultry products are authorised from certain parts of its territory depending on the presence of HPAI outbreaks. Following several further outbreaks in the States of Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas, North and South Dakota, Montana, Wisconsin and Iowa regionalisation measures were adopted to restrict imports from infected areas, while re-authorising imports from non infected parts of the US territory. Further outbreaks of HPAI of subtype H5N2 were confirmed in poultry flocks in several States for which restrictions on imports are already in place for the entire State. Current import restrictions for the State of North Dakota cover currently only one county in that State and for the State of Missouri four counties. Following HPAI outbreaks in further counties of these two States the US immediately suspended issuing veterinary certificates for consignments of commodities intended for export to the Union from the whole territory of those States. The prohibition for imports into the Union of certain commodities should now be amended to cover the entire States of North Dakota and Missouri. The US has further reported the completion of cleaning and disinfection measures following stamping-out on holdings where outbreaks had been detected in the first quarter of 2015. It is appropriate to indicate the date when these parts of the territory that were placed under veterinary restrictions in relation to these outbreaks may again be considered HPAI free and imports into the Union of certain poultry commodities originating from these areas should be re-authorised.

Vote taken: favourable opinion

B.06 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 206/2010 laying down lists of third countries, territories or parts thereof authorised for the introduction into the European Union of certain animals and fresh meat and the veterinary certification requirements as regards Bangladesh.

The representative of the Commission presented a draft Regulation amending provisions on introduction into the Union of live ungulates. The amendment relates to the list of third countries, territories or parts thereof from which the introduction into the Union of ungulates is authorised, by adding Bangladesh to the list. The amendment is based on a request from Cyprus, to authorise Bangladesh exclusively for a specific export of ungulates (Elephantidae) from an approved zoo and destined for an approved zoo in Cyprus. The draft limits the authorisation of Bangladesh to the specific introduction from the approved zoo and is valid for two months to allow for the introduction.

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 Canada and the United States of America in the list of third countries or parts thereof from which the introduction of meat products and treated stomachs, bladders and intestines into the Union is authorised in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza.**

Point withdrawn.

- C.02 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 798/2008 as regards the entries for the United States and Canada in the list of third countries, territories, zones or compartments from which certain poultry commodities may be imported into or transit through the Union and veterinary certification requirements in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza.**

Point withdrawn.

- C.03 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) amending Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 798/2008 as regards the entry for Israel in the list of third countries, territories, zones or compartments from which certain poultry commodities may be imported into or transit through the Union in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza.**

Israel has reported a new outbreak of HPAI H5N1 outside the area that is proposed for regionalisation.

Point withdrawn.

- C.04 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Annex II to Decision 2007/777/EC as regards the entry for Israel in the list of third countries or parts thereof from which the introduction of meat products and treated stomachs, bladders and intestines into the Union is authorised in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza.**

Israel has reported a new outbreak of HPAI H5N1 outside the area that is proposed for regionalisation.

Point withdrawn.

- C.05 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) amending Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 798/2008 as regards the entry for South Africa in the list of third countries, territories, zones or compartments from which certain poultry commodities may be imported into or transit through the Union in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza**

South Africa is listed in Part 1 of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 798/2008 as a third country from which imports into and transit through the Union of breeding and productive ratites, hatching eggs and day-old chicks thereof, ratite meat, eggs, egg products and SPF-eggs are authorised. Following HPAI outbreaks of the subtype H5N2 on the South African territory in April 2011, imports of breeding and productive ratites, hatching eggs and day-old chicks of ratites, as well as of ratite meat were prohibited by Commission Regulation (EU) No 536/2011 and two further acts in relation to the evolution of the disease situation. Pending South Africa's declaration of HPAI freedom of its whole territory, imports of ratite meat produced from ratites kept on registered closed ratite holdings was authorised by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 166/2014 and further adapted by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 952/2014. On 2 March 2015, South Africa has submitted information on its HPAI status and declared its whole territory as free from that disease and has requested the authorisation to resume exports of ratite meat to the Union. That information has been evaluated by the Commission services. On the basis of that evaluation and the guarantees provided by South Africa, the Commission services concluded that the imports of ratite meat should again be authorised from the whole territory of South Africa by amending Part 1 of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 798/2008.

C.06 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Annex II to Decision 2007/777/EC as regards the entry for South Africa in the list of third countries or parts thereof from which the introduction of meat products and treated stomachs, bladders and intestines into the Union is authorised in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza

South Africa is listed in Parts 2 and 3 of Annex II to Decision 2007/777/EC as a third country from which imports into and transit through the Union of meat products obtained from poultry, farmed feathered game, ratites and wild game birds are authorised from the whole territory. Following highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) outbreaks of the subtype H5N2 in April 2011, Decision 2007/777/EC was amended by Regulation (EU) No 536/2011 in order to provide that all of the above listed commodities may only be authorised for introduction from South Africa into the Union after being subjected to treatment “D” as set out in Part 4 of Annex II to Decision 2007/777/EC which provides for inactivation of possible virus present in the commodity. On 2 March 2015 South Africa has submitted information on its HPAI status and declared its whole territory as free from that disease. This information has now been evaluated by the Commission. On the basis of that evaluation, as well as the guarantees provided by South Africa, it is appropriate to amend the prescribed treatment for commodities covered by Decision 2007/777/EC in order to take into account the favourable disease situation. Parts 2 and 3 of Annex II to Decision 2007/777/EC should therefore be amended accordingly.