



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

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**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED
SECTION PLANT HEALTH ON
25 – 26 NOVEMBER 2014**

Chair: Harry Arijs

All Member States were present except Luxembourg (on 26 November 2014). All absent Member States were represented at the moment of the vote. Switzerland was present as observer.

A.1. Miscellaneous.

The Commission provided an overview of the outbreaks of harmful organisms reported by the Member States from 24 October to 20 November 2014.

Concerning the recent interceptions of the regulated harmful organism *Xylella fastidiosa* in ornamental *Coffea* L. plants originating in Costa Rica and Honduras, the Commission informed the Member States that it will send letters to those countries expressing deep concern for these interceptions and requesting that appropriate pre-export measures are put in place to certify that all plants to be exported to the EU are free of *X. fastidiosa*.

The Commission clarified that a heat treatment certificate instead of a phytosanitary certificate under the provisions of Commission Decisions 93/363/EEC, 93/422/EEC and 93/423/EEC for the import of coniferous wood originating in Canada and the United States of America cannot provide for additional declarations. In cases where such declarations are needed, a normal phytosanitary certificate needs to be issued.

A.2. Presentation by the Commission of the final report of an audit carried out in India from 02 to 12 September 2014 in order to evaluate the system of official controls for the export of plants and plant products to the European Union, followed by an exchange of views.

Following the presentation by the Commission of an audit carried out to evaluate the system for the export of plants and plant products to the EU, an exchange of views took place in relation to the revision of the Decision 2014/237/EU prohibiting the import of certain fruits and vegetables from India. Further discussion will take place in a forthcoming meeting of the Committee.

A.3. Presentation by the Commission of the report and the recommendations of the Commission working group meeting of 30-31 October 2014 concerning the listing of harmful organisms of Annex IIAII to Directive 2000/29/EC, followed by an exchange of views.

The Commission presented for exchange of views the recommendations prepared by the working group and further activities foreseen as regards: (1) *Paysandisia archon*, (2) *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *vesicatoria*, (3) *Clavibacter michiganensis* ssp. *Michiganensis*; (4) *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *pruni* (remaned *Xanthomonas arboricola* pv. *pruni*); (5) *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *persicae*; (6) *Plenodomus tracheiphilus* [syn. *Phoma tracheiphila*]; (7) Strawberry vein banding virus; (8) Elm phloem necrosis mycoplasma; (9) *Eotetranychus lewisi*; (10) *Diaporthe vaccinii*; (11) Arabis mosaic virus; (12) Rasberry ringspot virus; (13) Strawberry latent ringspot virus; (14) Tomato black ring virus and (15) *Xanthomonas fragariae*. The Committee discussed as well the future import requirements for the Union quality pests under the new plant health legislation.

A.4. Presentation by the Commission of an overview of Member States plant health checks between 1 April and 30 September 2014 on wood packaging material actually in use in the transport of specified commodities originating in China, in line with Decision 2013/92/EU, followed by an exchange of views on the future of this Decision.

The Commission presented an overview of the number and results of plant health checks submitted by Member States in accordance with Decision 2013/92/EU. A summary of the results will be communicated to the Chinese Authorities. Following a discussion on the future of this Decision, the Committee proposed that these measures should be prolonged and consideration should be given to including further commodities. The Committee also agreed that this issue should be raised in an IPPC forum and to consider using the results of the plant health checks in a future scientific publication.

A.5. Presentation by the Commission of the list of eligible survey programmes for 2015 proposed for Union co-financing, as a follow-up to the programmes submitted by Member States by 30 April 2014 under Article 23.6 of Directive 2000/29/EC.

The Commission presented the result of the evaluation of the 17 national programmes presented this year by Member States for implementation in 2015. The Commission also gave an overview of the content of the dossiers and of the breakdown of the overall expenditure according to the priority survey areas proposed by the Commission for 2015. It also informed Member States that legislation would be prepared in the near future to allow co-financing of those programmes.

A.6. Presentation by France of a pest risk analysis for *Plasmopara halstedii*, followed by an exchange of views.

POSTPONED

A.7. Presentation by the Commission on the use by Member States of temporary derogations from certain provisions of Council Directive 2000/29/EC in respect of:

- a) **oak logs (*Quercus* L.) with bark attached, originating in the United States of America (Decision 2005/359/EC).**

The Commission presented the results for the import seasons 2012/2013 and 2013/2014. Commission and Member States will continue the monitoring of the use of this derogation.

- b) **bark-free sawn wood of *Quercus* L., *Platanus* L. and *Acer saccharum* Marsh., originating in the United States of America (Decision 2013/780/EU).**

The Commission presented the results of the use of the derogation from January to July 2014. In several consignments residual bark was found. USA has implemented corrective actions to ensure bark freedom. Commission and Member States will continue monitoring the use of this derogation.

- c) **naturally or artificially dwarfed plants of cypress (*Chamaecyparis* Spach), juniper (*Juniperus* L.) and pine (*Pinus* L.), originating respectively in Japan (Decision 2002/887/EC) or in Korea (Decision 2002/499/EC).**

The Commission presented the results of the use of these derogation for the import seasons 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 from Korea and Japan. Several Member States made use of these derogations. Commission and Member States will continue monitoring the use of these derogations.

- d) **soil contaminated by pesticides or persistent organic pollutants for decontamination purposes (Decision 2005/51/EC).**

The Commission presented the results for 2012 and 2013; only one Member State made use of the derogation. Commission and Member States will continue monitoring the use of this derogation.

- e) **trial or scientific purposes and work on varietal selections (Directive 2008/61/EC).**

The Commission presented the reports for 2013. Some Member States requested that a harmonized format of the report be developed by the Commission as of the next reporting period, so as to improve the comparability of the reports and facilitate trace-back where needed.

- f) **plants of strawberry (*Fragaria* L.) intended for planting, other than seeds, originating respectively in Argentina (Decision 2003/248/EC) or in Chile (Decision 2003/249/EC).**

The Commission presented the results for 2013; no Member State has made use of these derogations. Commission and Member States will continue monitoring the use of these derogations.

g) seed potatoes originating in certain provinces of Canada (Decision 2003/61/EC).

The Commission presented the results for the 2013/2014 import season; only one Member State made use of the derogation. Commission and Member States will continue monitoring the use of this derogation.

B.1. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision authorising Member States to provide for a derogation from certain provisions of Council Directive 2000/29/EC in respect of wood packaging material of conifers (Coniferales) in the form of ammunition boxes originating in the United States of America under the control of the United States Department of Defence (doc SANCO/11497/2014) (Legal Base: Article 15(1) of Council Directive 2000/29/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure).

The Committee discussed a proposal providing for a temporary derogation as regards the import of wood packaging material of conifers in the form of ammunition boxes originating in the United States. The derogation is subject to conditions ensuring the boxes do not present any risk of spreading harmful organisms and expires on 31 December 2017.

Vote: favourable opinion.

C.1. Exchange of views on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision 2012/535/EU as regards the definition of susceptible wood and requirements on actions to be taken in demarcated areas (doc SANCO/12074/2014) (Legal Base: Article 16(3) of Council Directive 2000/29/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure).

An exchange of views took place as regards the draft Commission Implementing Decision concerning the definition of susceptible wood and requirements on actions to be taken in demarcated areas as part of the Pine Wood Nematode emergency measures. Based on the comments provided by Member States, the Commission will present an updated proposal for a possible opinion at the forthcoming meeting.