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Health and Food Safety Directorate General

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Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed

Section *Animal Health and Welfare*

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SUMMARY REPORT

A.01 General information by Member States.

No item raised.

A.02 Presentation of Swiss developments in the field of animal health.

Switzerland presented the state of play of the dynamic adjustment of their national legislation with the EU animal health legislation. They have also updated on the most recent situation with regard to health statuses.

A.03 Information from the Member States on African swine fever.

Poland, Italy, Slovakia, Germany and Greece gave a presentation on the ASF situation on their territories, on the implementation and revision of the regionalization control measures and on the surveillance activities in place. Croatia gave a presentation on the ASF preparedness activities, in particular at the border with affected countries. The presentations of Bulgaria (on ASF epidemiological situation), Austria and Slovenia (on preparedness activities) were postponed.

A.04 Information from Spain on sheep pox and goat pox.

Spain presented an update of their SGP epidemiological situation. In Castilla-La Mancha one new outbreak was confirmed, on 21 March 2023, in Ciudad Real, very close to the previous outbreak in the same province. Exact source of this outbreak remains unknown (epidemiological investigation ongoing). The outbreak was detected in the framework of active surveillance and Spain has established a new protection zone (5km) and surveillance zone (20 km) around it. All restricted zones established in relation to the previous (3) outbreaks of this year in Castilla-La Mancha (protection, surveillance and further restricted zones) remain in place. The reason why the last outbreak occurred now, almost 1.5 months after the previous one in the same area, remains unclear. In view of this new outbreak the Commission is currently revising the measures of Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/2333 concerning certain emergency measures relating to sheep pox and goat pox in Spain.

A.05 Commission update on reports received on infection with SARS CoV 2 in minks and other animals of the family Mustelidae and in raccoon dogs.

The Commission informed the Committee on the reports on a new outbreak received from Poland. It also informed the Committee that Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/788 expired at the end of March 2023.

A.06 ADIS Union reporting.

The Commission provided an update on the progress in entering Union Reporting data in ADIS for 2022 and invited Member States to submit outstanding reports as per requirements of Article 4 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2002. The module for reporting eradication programmes in ADIS was also updated in ADIS. In terms of Union Surveillance Programme (Article 6 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2002) the Commission clarified that the results of Union Surveillance Programme were to be submitted to EFSA as in previous years; EFSA was invited to present how their data collection for this issue was structured.

A.07 Information from Member States on highly pathogenic avian influenza.

France, Hungary and Italy presented the updated situation with HPAI. Poland also informed about confirmation of two new outbreaks of HPAI in fattening ducks establishments.

A.08 Information from the Commission on state of play of obligations of Member States to make publicly available certain information related to identification and registration of certain terrestrial animals.

The Commission summarized what Member States must make public via their national websites as regards certain information for the implementation of the EU rules on animal identification and registration. The Commission collects and displays Member States' links on its own site. The Commission urged those Member States which have not done so, to send in their key web link and informed them that outdated information will be removed from the Commission pages very soon.

A.09 Presentation from EFSA on the assessment of the Avian Influenza epidemiological situation during December 2022 – March 2023.

EFSA presented the main conclusions and option for response resulted from the assessment of the epidemiological situation with HPAI in Europe and Worldwide during period 3 December 2022-3 March 2023. The report has been published by EFSA on 13 March 2023.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on the evolution of animal diseases in the Union.

No item raised.

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Annexes I and II to Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/260 as regards the national measures which apply in Denmark concerning bacterial kidney disease (BKD) and infectious pancreatic necrosis (IPN) and the national measures which apply in the United Kingdom (Northern Ireland) concerning Ostreid herpesvirus-1 μ var (OsHV-1 μ var).

The draft proposes amendments to the Annexes to Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/260, concerning BKD and IPN free compartments in Denmark and OsHV-1 μ var in the UK (NI).

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/605 laying down special control measures for African swine fever.

In order to take account of the recent developments in the epidemiological situation of African swine fever in the Union, and in order to combat the risks associated with the spread of that disease in a proactive manner new restricted zones of a sufficient size were demarcated in Italy, Poland and Slovakia and listed as restricted zones I, II and II.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.04 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending the Annex to Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/641 concerning emergency measures in relation to outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza in certain Member States.

EU regionalization has been amended due to new outbreaks of HPAI in certain Member States.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.05 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Commission Implementing Decision on the adoption of the work programme for year 2024 for the implementation of veterinary programmes for animal diseases and zoonoses and phytosanitary programmes for plant pests.

The Commission presented the amendment to the 2024 work programme for veterinary and phytosanitary programmes resulting from the discussions with Member States on the re-prioritization of the co-financing of expenditure.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

M.01 Vet programmes funding - state of play.

HaDEA presented the state of play and next steps for the funding of the veterinary programmes for 2022, 2023, and 2024. All grant agreements for 2023 have been signed. The applications for the 2024 veterinary programmes will be opened by end of April and an information session for all Member States will take place beginning of May.

M.02 FMD Vaccines provided to Türkiye.

The Commission informed the Committee on the FMD situation with respect to SAT-2 serotype in Türkiye and informed that the vaccines have been dispatched to Türkiye and already been received by the Turkish authorities. The discussion of the Committee focused on the risk this represented for the Union and on the measures already in place to increase awareness and preparedness.

M.03 Information from the Commission on the new ASF Regulation.

The Commission informed the Committee about the publication of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/594 and next steps concerning the transition of EU-ASF regionalisation measures as of 21 April 2023.