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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*
23 - 24 September 2020

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

SUMMARY REPORT

A.01 General information by Member States.

No item raised.

A.02 Information concerning a declaration from Germany on disease free status for white spot disease (WSD): independent compartment of Suburban Seafood Nebenschutz GmbH, Nebenschutz.

Summary of Points 2-12:

For all the declarations the Commission explained that their format is in accordance with the relevant Annexes to Decision 2009/177/EC and briefly mentioned some of their individual characteristics. In summary the Commission stated that all declarations presented are submitted in accordance with either Article 44 (surveillance) or Article 50 (for freedom) of Directive 2006/88/EC and will automatically take effect 60 days from the day of the meeting unless significant objective concerns are raised in writing from the Member States. The Commission also indicated that a link will be placed to DG SANTE aquaculture site as usual, leading to the national sites where the declarations can be accessed and their further details studied: https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/live_animals/aquaculture/declarations_en.

A.03 Information concerning a declaration from Germany on disease free status for viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS) and infectious haemopoetic necrosis (IHN): zone Schenkenbach.

Please see summary under Point 2.

A.04 Information concerning a declaration from France on disease free status for viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS) and infectious haemopoetic necrosis (IHN): independent compartment of Wimereux.

Please see summary under Point 2.

A.05 Information concerning a declaration from France on disease free status for viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS) and infectious haemopoetic necrosis (IHN): zone Authie.

Please see summary under Point 2.

A.06 Information concerning a declaration from France on disease free status for viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS) and infectious haemopoetic necrosis (IHN): Zone L'Yeres.

Please see summary under Point 2.

A.07 Information concerning a declaration from France on disease free status for viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS) and infectious haemopoetic necrosis (IHN): zone de la Palue.

Please see summary under Point 2.

A.08 Information concerning a declaration from France on disease free status for viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS) and infectious haemopoetic necrosis (IHN): zone du bassin versant de la Valmont.

Please see summary under Point 2.

A.09 Information concerning a declaration from France on a surveillance programme for viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS) and infectious haemopoetic necrosis (IHN): zone de la Vanne.

Please see summary under Point 2.

A.10 Information concerning a declaration from France on a surveillance programme for viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS) and infectious haemopoetic necrosis (IHN): zone de l'Iton amont.

Please see summary under Point 2.

A.11 Information concerning a declaration from France on a surveillance programme for viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS) and infectious haemopoetic necrosis (IHN): dependent compartment of Beuvron aval site n° 858.

Please see summary under Point 2.

A.12 Information concerning a declaration from France on disease free status for viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS) and infectious haemopoetic necrosis (IHN): dependent compartment of Brèche amont.

Please see summary under Point 2.

A.13 Update on the state of play of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 "Animal Health Law".

The Commission presented an overview of developments and planned activities under the new Animal Health Law (AHL) legal framework. The presentation focussed on legislative developments, activities related to support Member States for the application of the new legislation and work with EFSA. Member States delegations taking the floor welcomed the presentation and an overview which they found helpful. A number of

them have repeated their concerns about the date of applicability of the AHL, which they have expressed in the letter to the Commission earlier this year.

A.14 Information on African swine fever by Member States.

Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Germany and Slovakia gave an update on the current ASF epidemiological situation in their domestic and feral pig populations. Romania presented a request for the use provisions according to Article 11.2c) of Directive 2002/60.

A.15 Draft Work Programme for the implementation of veterinary programmes for animal diseases and zoonoses in 2021-2022.

The Commission presented an update on the state of play of SMP-Food strand Regulation still under discussion at Council and EP level and informed on the date of the next planned technical trilogues (middle of October) and political trilogue (28 October). It has been clarified that there will be one Financing Decision (FD) and one Working programme (WP) covering all the activities to be co-funded under SMP Regulation (including the current activities co-funded under the current Regulation 652/2014). The date for the submission of annual-multi-annual programmes to be implemented in 2021-2022 will depend on the adoption date of SMP and on the FD/WP 2021. Member States will be kept informed.

Then the Commission briefly presented the draft Work Programme for the implementation of veterinary programmes for animal diseases and zoonoses in 2021-2022 (that will be part of the SMP FD/WP as Annex) and, in particular, which group of animal diseases will be co-funded in priority, on the basis of the listed criteria. The Commission requested Member States to send their written comment by 15 October. Member States welcomed the presentation and some delegations asked why Blue Tongue (BT) was no longer part of the priorities. It was explained that, as measures to fight BT are not compulsory anymore under Regulation 2016/429 (this last one being the main criteria to prioritise the diseases to be co-funded) , BT will not be co-funded from 2021 onwards.

A.16 Exchange of views on a way of transmission to the Commission and to the other Member States of information on Member States' rules concerning the characteristics and form of the marking of straws and other packages, in which the germinal products are placed, stored and transported – Article 5(2) of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/999.

In accordance with Article 5(2) of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/999 Member States must transmit, to the Commission and to the other Member States, information on their rules concerning the characteristics and form of the marking of straws and other packages, in which the germinal products are placed, stored and transported.

The aim of the discussion was to establish the way of this transmission. The Commission suggested that each Member State should send to the Commission a link to its national webpage where such information is published. Those links will be published at the Commission webpage.

A.17 Intra-Union movement of dogs, cats and ferrets from shelters to private households – necessary documents and TRACES messages.

Please see combined summary under Point 18.

A.18 Re-homing of pets: issues detected in trade.

Summary on Points 17 & 18:

Both of the above points were dealt with by document SANTE/7160/2020/rev1 that underlines the animal health requirements laid down in the EU legislation applicable to the trade of dogs, cats and ferrets. The document concludes that no additional requirements can be requested to those movements. Comments from Member States are expected before the end of September.

A.19 Presentation of Swiss developments in the field of animal health and adjustments of the national legislation taking into account Regulation (EU) 2016/429 and the Delegated and Implementing Acts in order to maintain the equivalence with the EU legislation.

The Swiss delegation presented their national animal health legislation and the adjustments with the new EU Animal Health Law (AHL) framework with a view to maintain their equivalence with the EU rules by the date of applicability of the AHL. Switzerland is progressing well in adjusting their legislation with the AHL and its supplementing legislation.

A.20 Information from Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia on the results of the implementation of their rabies eradication programmes in 2019.

Each of the above Member State delivered a presentation on the 2019 EU co-financed rabies eradication programme. A short discussion took place, regarding the challenges faced as well as interpretation of the results of oral vaccination monitoring (biomarker and serological tests in wildlife).

A.21 Result of review exercise of methodology to determine unit costs for animal health monitoring and eradication programmes. Presentation of JRC.

The Commission presented the final result of the review exercise of the methodology for calculating unit costs for Veterinary Monitoring and Eradication Programmes and Emergency Measures. No further questions were raised by Member States and the Commission informed the Member States that this was the last round of consultation. It also informed Member States of its intention to submit, for information, the Commission Decision laying down this methodology at the Standing Committee's meeting of November 2020, in order to be implemented on 2021 programmes.

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.

Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision concerning certain protective measures relating to African swine fever in Germany (SANTE/7228/2020).

Reviewing the epidemiological data presented by Germany, the Commission considered that the African swine fever infected area should be maintained and presented the Commission Implementing Decision concerning certain protective measures relating to African swine fever in Germany.

Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending the Annex to Implementing Decision 2014/709/EU concerning animal health control measures relating to ASF in certain Member States - Poland (SANTE/7236/2020).

The Draft Commission Implementing Decision was presented to the Member States to give the possibility to ask any questions, in particular with regards to the reversion of certain areas of Poland from Part III to Part II. There were no questions.

Vote Postponed: Written Consultation

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision 2013/764/EU concerning animal health control measures relating to classical swine fever in certain Member States.

Latvia presented the epidemiological situation and the measures in place in the country in relation to classical swine fever (CSF). Considering the positive epidemiological situation as well as the positive implementation of the measures, the good surveillance data and the positive outcome of the latest audit report carried out by SANTE in Latvia, the Commission proposed to remove CSF restrictions from Latvia. To this end it presented the Draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision 2013/764/EU concerning animal health control measures relating to classical swine fever in certain Member States.

Vote Postponed: Written Consultation

B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Annexes I and II to Decision 2004/558/EC as regards the disease-free status of the Czech Republic and the approval of the eradication programme in several regions of France regarding infectious bovine rhinotracheitis.

France gave a short presentation of its national programme for the control and eradication of infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR) covering the French metropolitan departments, except for Corsica. Czechia gave a short presentation as regards the history of the eradication, the current epidemiological situation and measures intended to be applied in the future for the maintenance of the free-status for IBR in that Member State. The experts replied to two clarifying questions from the Netherlands and Belgium. No comments from the other Member States. The Commission presented draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Annexes I and II to Decision 2004/558/EC as regards the disease-free status of the Czech Republic and the approval of the eradication programme in several regions of France regarding infectious bovine rhinotracheitis.

Vote Postponed: Written Consultation

B.04 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 as regards conditions for exports of certain organic fertilisers and soil improvers containing Category 2 materials.

The Commission presented the draft for discussion and possible vote. The Commission provided clarifications explained scope, structure and content of the draft as regards

rules on exports of certain organic fertilisers and soil improvers of Category 2 materials. Some Member States disagree with the draft and asked for stricter measures to prevent the feed use of exported fertilisers in third countries. Other Member States disagree with the strict measures on channelling and checks at border exit point of exit. The issue will be further discussed in Working Group meetings.

Vote Postponed

B.05 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 as regards conditions for exports of meat-and-bone meal as a fuel for combustion.

The Commission presented the draft on exports of meat-and-bone meal of Category 1 as a fuel for combustion in certain third countries for discussion and possible vote. Some Member States disagree and asked stricter measures to prevent the feed use of exported meat-and-bone meal of Category 1 in third countries. The issue will be further discussed in Working Group meetings.

Vote Postponed

C.01 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to Union notification and Union reporting of listed diseases, to formats and procedures for submission and reporting of Union surveillance programmes and of eradication programmes and for application for recognition of disease-free status, and to the computerised information system.

The draft was presented following the public consultation that took place in summer. The intention of the Commission is to present it for a formal vote in October's PAFF. Comments from Member States are expected by the end of September.

M.01 Infectious haemopoetic necrosis (IHN) – Germany.

The Commission explained that according to new information from Germany, there were errors in the relevant presentation made by Germany for PAFF in June under any other business, because affected operators did not break biosecurity rules, contrary to what the previous presentation implied. Another presentation clarifies epidemiological links and will be uploaded on the web for further details following the meeting.

M.02 Chronic Wasting Disease – Reindeer/Norway.

Norway reported on a single case of chronic wasting disease in a reindeer.

M.03 Export of pigs to Serbia – Denmark.

Denmark informed that a consignment of live pigs from Denmark has been rejected at the Serbian border, due to transport via Germany.

From information obtained, it seemed that Serbia considers the whole of Germany as an ASF infected area and consequently banned imports from the whole territory of Germany, including consignments transported through Germany. No other Member State had similar experiences. Commission Services would contact Serbia for clarification.

M.04 BTV – Luxembourg.

Luxembourg reported on a single case of BTV8 in a bovine on a farm close to the Belgian border. Although, in a small herd of 11 animals – no other animals in that herd tested positive.