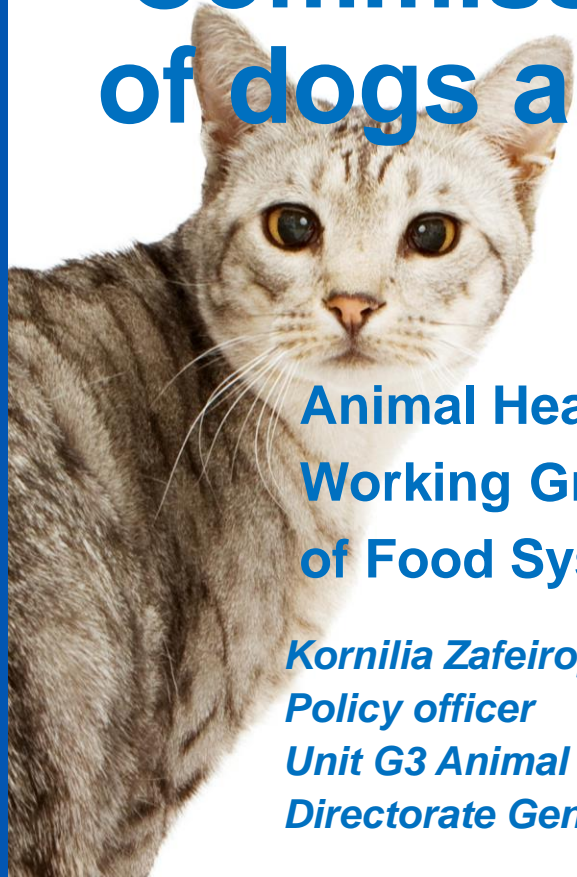


Commission proposal on the welfare of dogs and cats and their traceability

**Animal Health Advisory Committee
Working Group of the Advisory Group on Sustainability
of Food Systems, Brussels, 11 June 2024**

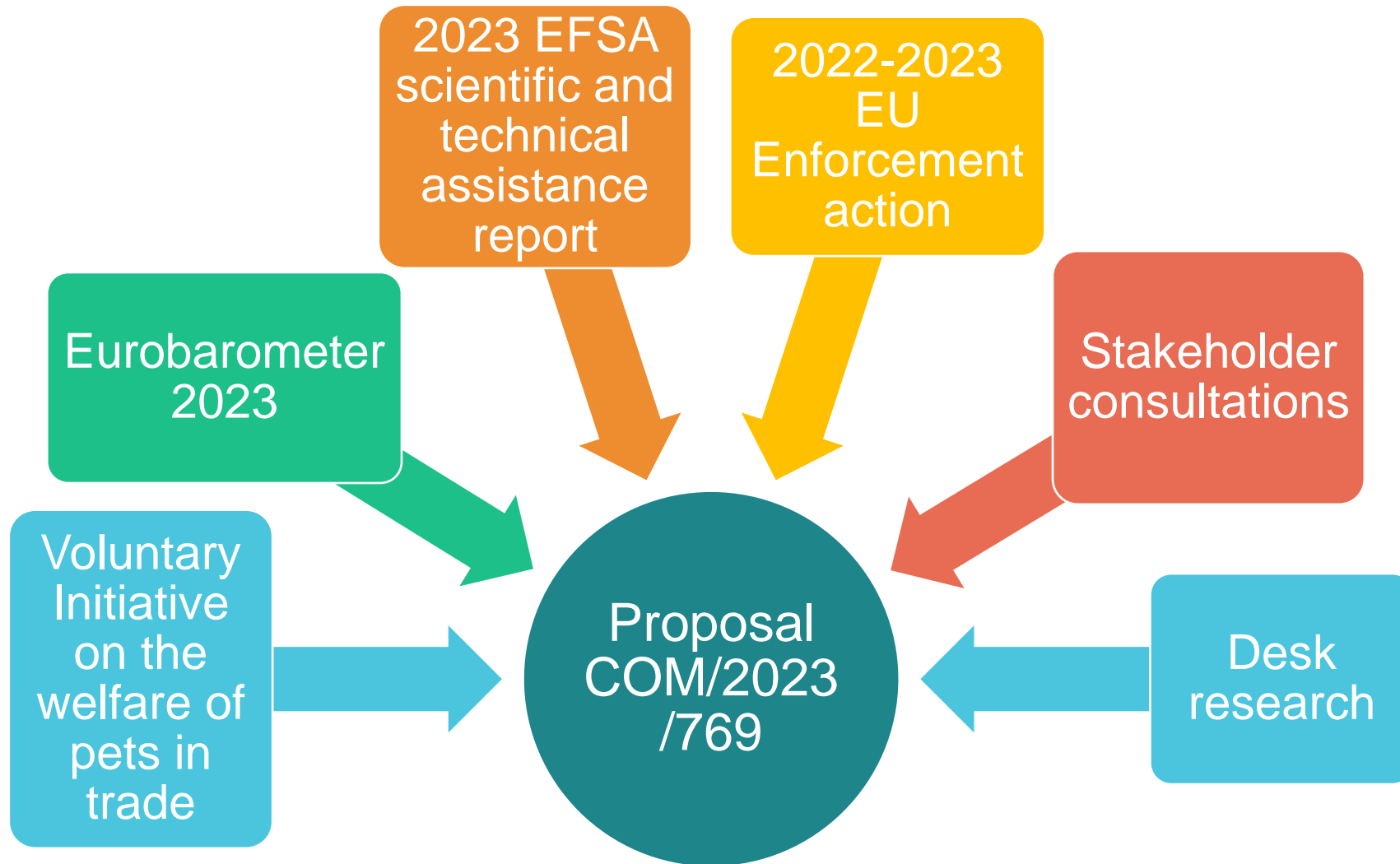
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Presentation

1. Data taken into account to draft proposal
2. Content of the proposal
3. Next steps

Data input for proposal



Commission Staff Working Document summarizing supporting evidence (SWD(2024)88)

1 - establishments keeping/breeding

Breeders, Pet shops, Shelters

- Main operators that place on the market

Threshold to exempt small operators

- Different for each type of operator

Requirements based on welfare principles

- Tailored to each type of operator

1 - establishments - general requirements

Caretakers

- Sufficient number
- Competent

Animal welfare visits

- Annual advice by a vet
- Recording of findings and follow-up

Provide information to acquirers

- on welfare
- on responsible ownership

1 - establishments - specific requirements

Feeding and watering

- Frequency
- Colostrum
- Weaning age

Housing

- No keeping in containers (limited derogations)
- Temperatures, lighting, space allowances

Health

- Daily inspections
- Prevention of common diseases
- Onset of reproduction, frequency of pregnancies
- Older animals, retirement

1 - establishments - specific requirements

Behaviour

- No restraining (few exceptions), no tethering
- Socialisation
- Enrichment

Painful practices

- No mutilations (exception for medical reasons)
- Neutering by a vet under anaesthesia and analgesia
- No painful handling practices

1 – breeding establishments

Breeding strategies

- Non harmful
- Prohibition of inbreeding

Approval by competent authorities

- Once, before onset of activities
- On-site inspection
- Certificate of approval

2 - traceability

Obligation for

- Any transfer of ownership of dog or cat in the EU market
- Includes imports

Identification of dogs and cats

- Implantation of a microchip by a vet or assistant

Registration of microchips

- In national databases
- Databases will communicate (interoperable)

2 - traceability

Suppliers must provide to acquirers

- proof of identification and registration
- basic information (species, breed, sex)

Acquirers' power to verify

- Via an EU online system checking the identification and registration
- Online advertisements will signal the possibility of verification

3 - dogs and cats entering the EU

Third countries must

- meet EU or equivalent requirements
- be listed by Commission

Establishments must

- meet EU or equivalent requirements
- be listed by 3rd countries' competent authorities

Animals must be

- accompanied by attestation of compliance (official certificate)
- registered in a national database within 48 hours

Next steps



Proposal : [EUR-Lex - 52023PC0769 - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)

Staff Working Document : https://food.ec.europa.eu/document/download/caf8cd1d-967a-4e60-a0e5-19401be1c6b3_en?filename=aw_awp_leg_dog-cat_sw_d-2024-88.pdf



Thank you!

