



Minutes from the Working Group meeting with Member States

"Official Controls on animals and goods (including plants) entering the EU: Implementing acts under Regulation EU 2017/625"

Wednesday 05 December 2018, 10H00 – 13H30

Chair: Tim Gumbel, Deputy Head of Unit G3, European Commission (COM)

Members: EU Member States (MS): AT, BE, BG, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, LV, MT, NL, PL, RO, SE, SI, SK, UK

Observers: CH, NO

	TOPIC	BACKGROUND
1	<p>Art. 65.6: Intensified Controls</p> <p>COM presented a draft implementing regulation, and informed MS about its intention to close the informal discussions of this draft with this meeting.</p> <p>The discussion that followed mainly revolved around the extent to which examples should be given in the recitals as to what is to be considered as "serious" and "repeated" infringements. Some MS also asked for clarification as regards the "favourable outcome" of the intensified controls, and suggested that a deadline for the imposed checks should be considered, to avoid additional administrative burden, as well as for the measures taken by COM.</p> <p>COM provided clarifications and explained that setting a deadline would not be feasible, as coordinated intensified controls only should be terminated once the results are satisfactory and the actions taken by third countries are considered to be sufficient - not at a given moment in time, predicted in advance.</p> <p>The main concern raised had to do with Art. 7, where several MS requested that both the TRACES network's contact points <u>and</u> the competent authorities at the BCPs should be able to request exemptions from coordinated intensified controls. In light of this, COM indicated that Art. 7 will be re-examined.</p>	<p>Draft document shared with Member States ahead of the meeting</p>
2	<p>Art 54.3: Frequencies rates for identity checks and physical checks</p> <p>The COM gave a detailed presentation of a draft working document concerning initial proposals for frequency rates of identity and physical checks on animals, products of animal origin, germinal products, animal by-products, composite products and hay and straw. The COM explained that the rules for the PH sector would be presented at the following meeting of</p>	<p>Draft document shared with Member States ahead of the meeting</p>

<p>19 December. MSs initial comments focused on the frequency rates associated with a categorisation of goods proposed by the COM in Annex I and pointed out the need to further consider both the categorisation and the frequency rates proposed. A number of MSs also highlighted the need to have a regime that would enable the possibility to reduce the frequency rates of identity and physical checks.</p> <p>The COM invited MSs to submit their comments, including comments relating to additional elements of the empowerment in Article 54(3) of the OCR, namely the conditions under which MSs can increase the frequency rates to take account of local risk factors and the procedures for ensuring that the frequency rates are applied in a timely and uniform manner.</p>	
<p>Art 134: IMSOC, including the format of the CHED</p> <p>COM provided the MS with a detailed presentation on the latest developments and state of play of IMSOC.</p> <p>Several MS requested information on the trainings on TNT in 2019.</p> <p>Several MS asked clarifications about the exchange of information with the customs, and the need for digitalization after the controls have been carried out, in order to allow the entry of the goods. COM explained that the preferred method for this purpose be IMSOC and that the drafting of the IA is developed in close cooperation with TAXUD.</p> <p>Comments from MS were made on certain mandatory fields of CHED. COM remarked that information provided by PHYTO might not be sufficient, therefore additional data should be provided in CHED.</p> <p>MS asked information on Quality controls and Reduced frequency checks in CHEDs. COM clarified that the new version already includes both.</p> <p>COM clarified that, as regards personal data, specific provisions will be established for the different components of IMSOC, since they need specific approach.</p>	
<p>Conclusion, end of the meeting</p> <p>COM invited the MS to submit written comments on the matters addressed at the meeting by 31st December 2018.</p>	