



Brussels, 9 November 2017

**Minutes of the  
Ad-hoc Meeting of the Advisory Group on the Food Chain and Animal and Plant Health  
on Official Controls on Food of Animal Origin including Import Conditions**

Brussels, CCAB, 7 November 2017

**1) Nature of the meeting**

The purpose of the meeting was to consult European private stakeholders' organisations in view of the development of Delegated and Implementing Regulations related to official controls of food of animal origin and to import conditions. The legal bases for these initiatives are mainly Articles 18(7) and (8), and 126 and 127 of the new official control Regulation (EU) 2017/625 (OCR). These Regulations will largely replace Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 which is repealed by the new OCR from December 2019 on. Invitations to the meeting were sent to the members and observers of the Advisory Group on the Food Chain and Animal and Plant Health (Advisory Group) and a few other relevant European Stakeholders' organisations who expressed interest.

The meeting was chaired by SANTE G4 (Food hygiene Unit), who had invited all participants to present their views in order to encourage a discussion between different stakeholders' organisations.

**2) List of points discussed**

- a) [Presentation by SANTE G4](#) of non-papers on the revision of the official controls in products on animal origin by a possible Delegated and Implementing Regulation based on respectively Article 18 (7) and (8) of the OCR:

No major objections were expressed. Some technical comments and requests for clarification were made on which the Commission replied.

- b) [Presentation by European Livestock and Meat Trades Union \(UECBV\)](#) on its comments related to the revision of the official controls, focussing on (red) meat inspection:

FVE expressed support for the UECBV points. The Commission indicated that all suggestions will be considered and that it will reply to all suggestions.

- c) [Presentation by the Association of Poultry Processors and Poultry Trade in the EU countries \(a.v.e.c.\)](#) on its comments related to the revision of the official controls, focussing on poultry meat inspection:

No comments were made. The Commission indicated that all suggestions will be considered and that it will reply to all suggestions.

- d) [Presentation of the Farmhouse and Artisan Cheese & Dairy Producers European Network \(FACENetwork\)](#) on its comments related to the revision of the official controls, focussing on raw milk and dairy products:

No comments were made. The Commission indicated that all suggestions will be considered and that it will reply to all suggestions.

- e) [Presentation by SANTE G4](#) on the envisaged approach related to the import conditions in view of possible Delegated and Implementing Regulations based on Article 126, 127 and 90 of the OCR:

Clarifications were asked related to transit between third countries, availability of electronic import certificates, imports of Chinese honey into the EU, links with equivalence agreements, delisting of countries and establishments, and timing for other delegated and implementing acts under the OCR, such as live bivalve molluscs. The Commission provided clarification to the extent possible.

### **3) Conclusions/recommendations/opinions**

Overall support was expressed for the proposed revisions. The Commission indicated to consider all specific suggestions. It also provided a provisional timeline for next steps.

### **4) Next steps**

The participants were invited to submit further comments in writing by the end of 2017.

### **5) Next meeting**

A next meeting is not scheduled. Follow-up in future general meetings of the Advisory Group is anticipated and further bilateral exchanges of views welcomed.

### **6) [List of participants](#)**