



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Health and Food Safety Directorate General

sante.ddg2.g.5(2020)7703819

Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed
Section *Controls and Import Conditions*
15 - 16 July 2020

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

SUMMARY REPORT

A.01 General information by third countries.

No item raised.

A.02 Information on imports of certain birds into the Union during 2018 and 2019 - Regulation (EU) No 139/2003, Article 17.

The Commission presented information received from Member States according to Article 17 of Regulation (EC) No 139/2003 on imports of certain birds from third countries into the Union in 2018 and asked Member States to submit the relevant information for the year 2019 until 30 September 2020.

In addition, the Commission drew the attention of Member States on the definition of captive birds under Regulation (EU) 2016/429 and the rules that will apply for such imports under Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692 as of 21/4/2021.

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

No item raised.

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 as regards imports of petfood from Georgia.

Following a request of Member States on further details as regards the audit in Georgia, the Commission provides the following clarification:

'In March 2019, the Georgian competent authority requested the Commission to include Georgia in Table 2 of section 1 of Chapter II of Annex XIV to Regulation (EU) No 142/2011, which would authorise Georgia to export processed pet food to the EU, using raw materials from EU approved establishments. Georgia currently has access to the EU market for fishery products and honey only.

In October 2019 DG SANTE audited the processing of processed pet food (other than canned pet food) to determine whether the control system in place was sufficient to allow for reliable certification that EU requirements were met. The audit team evaluated the implementation of the Georgian Resolution 605, which is aligned with

relevant parts for the production of such processed pet food laid down in Regulations (EC) No 1069/2009 and (EU) No 142/2011. During the audit, official controls on traceability and channelling were taken into account.

The published final report on the Commission's website concluded that, notwithstanding positive aspects of controls on manufacturing (such as reliable laboratory performance), overall, the controls carried out by the National Food Agency were insufficiently robust to allow for reliable certification of pet food as meeting applicable EU requirements.

However, it is essential to realise that the final report reflects the situation found by the audit team at the time of the audit. The report has to be read in conjunction with the corrective actions proposed by the Georgian National Food Agency in response to the two recommendations made in the report (dealing with improving documented control procedures and providing adequate training to the control staff said recommendations). The said corrective actions are also publicly available on the Commission's website.

DG SANTE confirms that the audit team has concluded that the National Food Agency has provided a satisfactory response to the above-mentioned recommendations, taking into account the conclusions and findings on which the recommendations were based. In addition, at the audit team's request, the agency has provided a recent report of an official control carried out at the only establishment proposed for listing. No non-compliances were identified during the control visit.

On this basis the Commission considers that it is justified to propose Georgia to be added to Table 2 of section 1 of Chapter II of Annex XIV to Regulation (EU) No 142/2011. This would authorise Georgia to export pet food (in particular pet food other than canned pet food) to the EU.'

Vote Postponed: Vote will be taken by written consultation.

B.03 Exchange of views and possible technical agreement of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning model official certificates for certain categories of animals and goods and repealing Directive 98/68/EC, Decisions 2000/572/EC, 2003/779/EC and 2007/240/EC, Regulation (EC) No 599/2004, Implementing Regulations (EU) No 636/2014 and (EU) 2019/628.

The Commission presented and explained scope, structure and content of the legal act. The Commission provided clarification regarding connection of the draft Regulation establishing principles of issuing of official certificates, establishing models of official certificates and declarations for certain categories of animals and goods together with other two draft Implementing Regulations also presented during the meeting. This draft Regulation was presented for technical agreement to allow to proceed with the information of trading partners about the state of play of preparations of the certificates.

Vote Postponed: Technical Agreement.

B.04 Exchange of views and possible technical agreement of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning model official certificates, official attestations and model declarations for certain categories of terrestrial animals and germinal products thereof and repealing Commission Decisions 2010/470/EU and 2019/294/EU.

The Commission presented and explained scope, structure and content of the legal act. The Commission provided clarification regarding connection of this draft Regulation establishing principles of issuing of official certificates, establishing models of official certificates and declarations for terrestrial animals and germinal products together with the draft presented before. This draft Regulation was presented for technical agreement to allow to proceed with the information of trading partners about the state of play of preparations of the certificates.

Vote Postponed: Technical agreement.

B.05 Exchange of views and possible technical agreement of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning model official certificates and a model declaration for certain categories of aquatic animals and certain products thereof and repealing Commission Regulation (EU) No 1251/2008.

The Commission presented and explained scope, structure and content of the legal act. The Commission provided clarification regarding the connection of the draft establishing principles of issuing of official certificates and establishing models of official certificates and declarations for certain categories of aquatic animals and certain products thereof with the draft presented before. This draft Regulation was presented for technical agreement to allow to proceed with the information of trading partners about the state of play of preparations of the certificates.

Vote Postponed: Technical Agreement

B.06 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on measures to prevent the introduction into the Union of the foot-and-mouth disease virus from Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey.

Several Member States raised comments concerning the need to better define the competent authorities, the difficulties to control vehicles returning empty to the EU in points of entry without BCPs, not clear legal basis to control empty vehicles returning to the EU and the need to involve the shipping companies in the scope of the draft.

Two Member States made suggestions to lay down rules to ensure that the staff involved in the loading/unloading of animals do not spread the infection and as regards the cost related to the inspection of vehicles transporting feed.

The Commission will present this text again at a later stage.

Vote Postponed

B.07 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/466.

The Commission presented the draft. Several Member States asked to maintain the option to perform official controls via remote communication. The Commission will examine this possibility and provide a reply when the Committee will be consulted in writing.

Vote Postponed: Vote will be taken by written consultation

B.08 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation establishing the model identification document for non-commercial movements of pet birds into a Member State from a territory or a third country and repealing Decision 2007/25/EC.

The Commission presented the provisions of the draft Implemented Regulation establishing the model identification document accompanying pet birds during a non-commercial movement into a Member State from a territory or a third country, including the requirements for the language, layout and validity of that document, and explained the link to the draft Delegated Regulation laying down the rules for non-commercial movement of pet birds into a Member State from a territory or a third country.

Vote Postponed: Vote will be taken by written consultation.

M.01 Update on Brexit.

The Commission gave an update on Brexit to remind Member States that the transition period provided for in the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement will end on 31 December 2020 since the legal deadline to postpone it (1st July 2020) has now passed.

Member States should prepare for their exports to the UK as the UK will apply import controls with a progressive calendar: certification + prenotification + controls at destination as from 01/01/2021 and BCP controls as from 01/07/2021. At this point in time we do not know which import requirements the UK will apply and/or include in their certificates.

Member States should prepare for their imports from the UK as they will have to apply border checks in their BCPs, like against any other third country.

A special Protocol will apply in Northern Ireland so, as to avoid a hard border on the island of Ireland and to protect the integrity of Union market: Northern Ireland will remain aligned to EU SPS rules and will apply border checks at the points of entry.

The Commission has just published a Communication on readiness for the end of the transition period (9 July 2020).