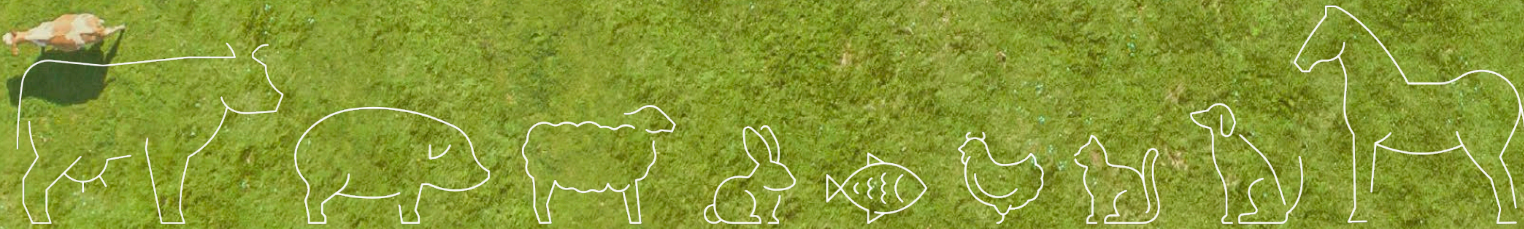


11th meeting of the EU Platform on animal welfare

Subgroup on Animal Welfare Labelling
Overview of the work done



Denis SIMONIN, senior expert, DG SANTE/G5

The subgroup

- 10 members + Commission + guests
 - **1 Independent expert**
 - **2 Civil society organisations**
 - **4 Business and professional organisations**
 - **3 Member States**
- 4 meetings since March

Jarkko Niemi

Eurogroup for animals / Four Paws

COPA / EMN / ERPA / FVE

Denmark / Germany / Spain

Background

- Farm to Fork Strategy
- Conclusions of the Platform of June 2021
- Inception Impact Assessment of July 2021
 - Regulating welfare claims
 - EU label on cages
 - EU label with key welfare criteria
- Study published in March 2022

Problem definition and baseline

- Problems:
 - Consumers coverage (P1) and information quality (P2)
 - Uneven playing field (P3)
 - Renationalisation (P4)
 - Non EU imports (P5)
 - Food supply chain with unbalanced power
- Baseline:
 - Problems not be solved without EU intervention

Regulating animal welfare claims

- Description: voluntary – substantiated claims – protected terms
- Impacts
 - 0 coverage (P1) / renationalisation (P4) / imports non EU (P5)
 - + information clarity (P2) / better level playing field (P3)
 - Difficult to control by authorities (except if limited to complaints)
- Refining
 - Comparative database?

EU animal welfare label on cages

- Description: voluntary (V) or mandatory (M) – only housing (method of production)
- single or multi-tier system
- Impacts
 - 0 coverage (P1) if V
 - (-) uneven playing field (P3)
 - + information clarity (P2) but not sufficient criteria – **obsolete** – not applicable to some animals (broilers)
 - **Divergent views** on impacts of V / M
 - + Easy to enforce for authorities

An EU animal welfare label with key criteria

- Description: voluntary single tier (V1), voluntary multi-tier (VM) or mandatory multi-tier (MM) – Governance – Traceability – Controls - Imports
- Impacts:
 - Clarifying what **Mandatory** means
 - No much support for V1
 - **Divergent views on impact V / M** (« the carrot / the stick »)
 - MM better for non EU imports (P5)

Next steps

- Key criteria across species
- Governance
- Traceability and controls
- Imports
- Connection with sustainable food labelling

Useful links

1. Conclusion of the EU animal welfare platform in June 2021: https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2021-06/aw_platform_plat-conc_awl-subgroup-conclusion.pdf
2. Study published in March 2022: <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/49b6b125-b0a3-11ec-83e1-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>
3. Inception impact assessment on the revision of the animal welfare legislation in July 2021: https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12950-Animal-welfare-revision-of-EU-legislation_en
4. Subgroup meetings: https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-welfare/eu-platform-animal-welfare/thematic-sub-groups/animal-welfare-labelling_en

Thank you