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Health and Food Safety Directorate General

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Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed
Section *Animal Health and Welfare*
3 May 2018

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SUMMARY REPORT

A.01 Information concerning two declarations from Germany on disease free status for viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS) and infectious haematopoietic necrosis (IHN) of the zone “Oberer Andelsbach bis Mastanlage Pfullendorf der Feldmann & Akrimi GbR, D/8863 Pfullendorf” and of the zone “Brunnentobelbach bis Aquakulturbetrieb Jung, D-88299 Leutkirch-Brunnentobel”, respectively.

Declaration of freedom from VHS and IHN for two zones. The programmes were in compliance with Decision (EU) 2015/1554 and the format of applications was made in accordance with Decision 2009/177/EC.

A.02 Information concerning two declarations from Slovenia on disease free status for viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS) and infectious haematopoietic necrosis (IHN) of the independent compartment “Obrh” and of the zone “Sava Dolinka”, respectively, and one declaration of a surveillance programme for VHS and IHN of the zone “Rizana”.

A declaration in relation to the commencement of a surveillance programme for the Zone Rizana was also made. Presented for transparency only. Results of the programme will be presented at the end of the two year surveillance programme.

A.03 Information by Hungary on the African swine fever epidemiological situation and the measures applied.

Hungary presented its animal health situation following the identification of African swine fever in a wild boar. It made reference to the application of the measures targeting both domestic pigs and wildlife in the infected area established after consulting with a national panel of experts. It acknowledged the valuable technical support provided by the Community Veterinary Emergency Team.

A.04 Review of the principles and criteria for geographically defining African swine fever regionalisation.

The Commission presented the Working Document of DG SANTE (SANTE/7112/2015) "Principles and criteria for geographically defining African swine fever regionalisation" with certain amendments in relation to the lifting of Part III areas and reverting it to Part II. The proposed modifications were endorsed by the Committee.

A.05 Information concerning the derogation for registration of holdings in accordance with Article 3(2) of Directive 2008/71/EC where one single porcine animal is kept.

Taking into account the Union epidemiological situation and the views of CVOs, the Commission informed Member States of its proposal to repeal Decision 2006/80/EC as regards the application of the authorization provided for in Article 3(2) of Directive 2008/71/EC concerning holdings with one single pig. The Committee welcomed the proposal.

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

No item raised.

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision concerning animal health control measures relating to African swine fever in certain Member States and repealing Implementing Decision 2014/709/EU.

The Commission presented for discussion the draft Decision and explained that a further review of the document would be needed to take into account the comments received and to take stock of recent political decisions. The Committee advised to further review the measures while keeping in mind the OIE international standards. The Commission explained its intention to submit for vote a separate text focusing on wild boar measures in the EU.

Vote Postponed

B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision concerning certain protective measures relating to African swine fever in Hungary.

The Commission explained that, to prevent any unnecessary disturbance to trade within the Union and to avoid unjustified barriers to trade being imposed by third countries, it was necessary to identify at Union level the infected area for African swine fever in Hungary. The infected area in Hungary is listed in the Annex to this Decision. The duration of that regionalisation is fixed to the 30 June 2018.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.04 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending the Annex to Implementing Decision (EU) 2017/247 on protective measures in relation to outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza in certain Member States.

Bulgaria gave an update on the situation as regards highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) of subtype H5N8. During April eight outbreaks of HPAI were confirmed, six of them in duck farms located in the region of Plovdiv which is at a particular risk for virus introduction due to the high density of duck farms. Disease control measures including culling and zoning around infected holdings, as well as early detection systems are implemented. An additional intensified active surveillance in duck farms also outside the restricted areas will be initiated.

The Commission presented a draft document on an amendment of Decision (EU) 2017/247 in order to update the regionalisation with respect to the last four outbreaks of HPAI in Bulgaria.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.