



Minutes

**Meeting of the Expert Group on Plant Health (E00925)
 Exceptions for Movement of Scientific Material
 26 March 2018, 09h00-13h00**

Chair : European Commission (COM), DG SANTE (Unit G1 - Plant Health, Unit G5 G5 - Alerts, Traceability and Committees)
Present : Mr Vassileios MAGNIS, Secretariat of AGRI Committee, European Parliament
 Experts of the Member States

Topic	Documents
<p>Objectives of the meeting</p> <p>Presentation of elements of a draft Delegated Act setting out rules concerning exceptions for pests, plants, plant products and other objects for the purpose of scientific trials under the new Regulation 2016/2031 (Basic Regulation).</p>	
<p>Introduction</p> <p>The Commission opened the second meeting of the Expert Group, welcomed the Representative of the European Parliament and the Experts, and presented the agenda.</p>	
<p>1 Elements for discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The general purpose of the meeting is to provide for a second exchange of views on a draft Delegated Regulation. The aim of the meeting was to ask assistance to the Experts on a drafted Delegated Regulation and on the need for additional requirements. - The Experts recalled that the requirements of the Delegated act should be very clear, so that all stakeholders will have a clear idea of the procedure, e.g. for the scientific community. 	<p>Draft Delegated Regulation</p>
<p>2 Scope and definitions (Articles 1 and 2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Article 8 and 48 of Regulation 2016/2031 empower the Commission to provide for "<i>official testing, scientific or educational purposes, trials, varietal selection or breeding</i>". Most Experts consider that the scope should not cover all of the official tests, because it would entail a disproportionate increase of administrative workload. Therefore, they suggested to restrict the scope linked to official testing to specific cases, such as movements of reference strains required for confirmation purposes. The Commission will consider the issue to see whether and how the scope can or not be restricted. - The Commission recalled that the draft Delegated Regulation will not cover pests subject to national measures and which are not Union quarantine pests, protected zone quarantine pests, or pests subject to the temporary measures of Article 30 of 	<p>Draft Delegated Regulation</p>

	<p>the Basic Regulation. This is already the case under the Directive 2008/61/EC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As regards to Articles 40, 41, 53, and 54, the Experts suggested to limit the scope to point (2) of each Article. - The definition of "authorization" is not relevant and should be deleted. 	
3	<p>Exchange of information between Member States and the Commission (Article 3)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Commission highlighted the importance of traceability for introduction and movements of the material. DG SANTE (G5, Official controls unit) offered a briefing on the functioning of IMSOC. The Experts are invited also offer their views in writing on whether introduction into the Union, as well as internal movements within the Union, of the specified material should be recorded in IMSOC. - An Expert suggested to provide a common lay-out for all Member States. The Commission explained that a common lay-out could be generated using IMSOC. - The Commission explained that most of the fields needed for Letters of Authorities are used in a similar way for import certificates, and that there is a tool to provide reports called Qlikview. Moreover the Commission proposed that a complete dematerialization of these documents looks feasible. 	Draft Delegated Regulation
4	<p>Conditions and procedure under which a temporarily authorisation shall be granted by Member States for the performance of the specified activities</p> <p>General conditions for application (Article 4)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Experts suggested some modifications, as well as the possibility of options into several conditions of Annex I. The Commission agreed to consider these suggestions. <p>Letter of Authority (Article 6)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Commission agreed to the suggestions of the Experts on several improvements and editing corrections to the Letter of Authority, and will consider the possibility to add a date of validity for the Letter of Authority. 	Draft Delegated Regulation
5	<p>Monitoring of compliance, and actions to be taken in case of non-compliance.</p> <p>Actions to be taken in the event of non-compliance (Article 9)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Commission recalled that the sending of material before the Letter authorization has been completely and accurately filled, constitutes a non-compliance to Article 6. 	Draft Delegated Regulation
6	<p>Final provisions (Article 10)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Commission agreed to the suggestion of the Experts to consider a transitional period until the application of the new act. 	Draft Delegated Regulation
	<p>Conclusion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Commission thanked the Representative of the Parliament for his attendance to the meeting and the Experts for their assistance. - It is noted that the Experts are favourable to the modifications and improvements made since the first meeting, and agreed to those proposed during this second meeting. - The following planning was agreed by the Experts: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By end of April : submission of written comments by the Experts, more 	

	<p>particularly on the IMSOC.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">2. Drafting of Delegated Regulation by the Commission.3. Commission and stakeholder consultations (Q2-Q3).4. SPS consultation (Q3).5. 3rd Expert group meeting (Q3).6. Adoption by the College (Q3-Q4).	
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