



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Crisis management in food, animals and plants
Unit G.3 Official controls and eradication of diseases in animals

**Minutes from the Expert Sub-Group meeting with Member States
"Official Controls on animals and goods (including plants) entering the EU:
Delegated acts under Regulation EU 2017/625"**

Monday 10 September 2018, 09H30 – 12H00

Chair: Andrea Gavinelli, European Commission (COM)

Members: EU Member States (MS): AUT, BEL, BGR, CZE, DEU, DNK, ESP, EST, FIN, FRA, GBR, GRC, HRV, HUN, IRL, ITA, LVA, LTU, LUX, MLT, NLD, POL, ROU, SVK, SVN, SWE

Observers: CHE, NOR

	TOPIC	BACKGROUND
	<p>The Commission opened the meeting.</p> <p>The minutes from the Expert Sub-Group meeting on 10 July 2018 were approved by the Member States.</p>	
1	<p>Specific rules for official controls at border control posts; transhipped consignments and transit of consignments: empowerment of Article 51.1</p> <p>The Commission presented a draft act, which was generally well received.</p> <p>The discussion that followed mostly revolved around the provisions concerning transshipment of animals and goods, established time limits for transhipped consignments and especially about the pre-notification requirements and documentary checks. Questions were also raised on the containers sealing requirements.</p> <p>Furthermore, a Member State has highlighted several issues concerning goods transported to NATO and US military bases within the territory of the Union and asked to arrange further discussions on this point.</p> <p>The Commission provided clarifications to the questions raised by the MS and at the same time welcomed written proposals and suggestions by the MS to be received by 21 September 2018.</p>	<p>Draft document shared with Member States ahead of the meeting</p>
2	<p>Consignments of the categories of animals and goods originating from and returning to the Union following a refusal of entry by a third country: empowerments of Article 77.1.h (re-import)</p> <p>The Commission presented a draft delegated act.</p> <p>Several points were raised by the MS, mainly requesting clarifications and more specific provisions for several articles with a particular focus though on Article 2 and 4.</p> <p>The Commission provided clarification to the MS questions raised and noted the MS's requests for the need of further clarifications as regards the scope of the empowerment.</p> <p>The Commission invited Member States to send their comments within the given deadline.</p>	<p>Draft document shared with Member States ahead of the meeting</p>

3	<p>Wood packaging materials: empowerments of Article 77.1.d</p> <p>The Commission presented a draft act, and highlighted the issues concerning plant health; the draft was well received by most MS.</p> <p>Several MS indicated their support on the objective of controls in wood packaging materials, but concerns were raised regarding the fixed frequency of controls.</p> <p>Another point was raised by several MS, regarding the lack of data about the number of wood packaging materials being imported, and a risk based approach was proposed as a more secure solution. Questions were also raised on the definition of the wood packaging materials.</p> <p>The Commission responded and provided clarifications on the points raised by the MS and invited Member States to send their comments within the given deadline.</p>	<p>Draft document shared with Member States ahead of the meeting</p>
4	<p>CHED to accompany consignments of the categories of animals and goods referred to in Art 47(1) to the place of destination: empowerments of Article 50.4</p> <p>The Commission presented a draft delegated act along with the changes included from the last meeting on 10 July 2018.</p> <p>Due to lack of time, the Commission made a brief presentation of the act, and invited the MS to submit their written comments.</p>	<p>Draft document shared with Member States ahead of the meeting</p>
	<p>Conclusion, end of the meeting</p> <p>The Commission invited the Member States to submit written comments on the matters addressed at the meeting by 21 September 2018.</p>	



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Minutes from the Working Group meeting with Member States

**"Official Controls on animals and goods (including plants) entering the EU:
Implementing acts under Regulation EU 2017/625"**

Monday 10 September 2018, 14H00 – 17H30

Chair: Christian Juliusson/Andrea Gavinelli, European Commission (COM)

Members: EU Member States (MS): AUT, BEL, BGR, CZE, DEU, DNK, ESP, EST, FIN, FRA, GBR, GRC, HRV, HUN, IRL, ITA, LVA, LTU, LUX, MLT, NLD, POL, ROU, SVK, SVN, SWE

Observers: CHE, NOR

	TOPIC	BACKGROUND
	<p>The Commission opened the meeting.</p> <p>The minutes from the Working Group meeting on 10 July 2018 were approved by the Member States.</p>	
1	<p>Minimum time requirements for prior notification: empowerment of Article 58.b</p> <p>The Commission presented a draft implementing act.</p> <p>Based upon questions from Member States, the Commission clarified that the rules established are minimum requirements and that laying down rules on time limits for storage and travelling time would not be within the scope of the empowerment. Furthermore, it was clarified that unless derogations are established in other legislative acts, the minimum time requirements established here will apply also to transhipped consignments and consignments in transit.</p> <p>Since no Member State objected to the text of the draft implementing act, the Commission informed them that it will now proceed with the internal procedures for adoption.</p>	<p>Draft document shared with Member States ahead of the meeting</p>
2	<p>Details of documentary, identity and physical checks: empowerment of Article 52</p> <p>The Commission presented a draft implementing act and explained that Annex III (physical checks on plants and plant products) is under</p>	<p>Draft document shared with Member States ahead of the meeting</p>

	<p>preparation and will be presented as soon it will be developed by a special working group.</p> <p>MS's raised some questions for clarification on details concerning the details of documentary, identity and physical checks. In particular about checks of the weight of consignments, the meaning of "containerised "consignments and temperature checks.</p> <p>MS's asked for clarifications about labelling checks and the purpose of different percentages between animals for breeding and animals for slaughter to be checked for clinical examination.</p> <p>The Commission provided clarifications on some of the points that were raised by the Member States and invited Member States to send their comments within the given deadline.</p>	
<p>3</p>	<p>Presentation of an alternative approach to calculating the frequency rates for identity and physical checks: empowerment of Article 54.3</p> <p>The Commission presented a discussion paper for an alternative approach to the one previously discussed with Member States about the method for establishing and modifying the frequency rates for identity and physical checks of certain commodities at BCPs. The Commission explained that the approach, whilst reflecting more closely current practices, was still based on risk and reflected all the elements, as laid out in the OCR, to be taken into account for establishing the frequency rates. A number of Member States welcomed the new approach and some discussion followed on its different elements.</p> <p>In particular, some Member States pointed out the need to allow for a reduction of the frequency rates associated with specific categories of goods and the need to break down some categories into sub-categories with the relevant frequency rates. The Commission clarified that once Member States were happy with the direction proposed in the paper, it would consider the Member States suggestions and comments to possibly adjust its proposal.</p> <p>The Commission clarified and reassured Member States that the frequency rates for the plant health sector will be covered in the implanting act and that the intention was to allow for a reduction of frequencies in specified cases as for the current regime.</p> <p>The Commission invited Member States to send their comments within the given deadline.</p>	<p>Draft discussion paper shared with Member States ahead of the meeting</p>
	<p>Conclusion, end of the meeting</p> <p>The Commission invited the Member States to submit written comments on the matters addressed at the meeting by 21 September 2018.</p>	