



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Crisis preparedness in food, animals and plants  
Unit G.4 Official controls

**Minutes**  
**Working Group**  
**"Official Controls Regulation (EU 2017/625)"**

Tuesday 30 May 2023, **10H00 – 12H30**

Skype call

Chair: Tim Gumbel, Deputy Head of Unit G4

**WORKING GROUP**

1	10:00 –10:15	<b>Article 47:</b> Implementation of import controls on organic products	The Commission made a short presentation on the feedback received from the Member States on the actions taken further to the monitoring exercise in TRACES on the implementation of the COI-CHED link carried out by the Commission for the reference periods May-September 2022 and October-December 2022. It further announced that a second monitoring exercise might take place in the second semester of 2023. The Commission also updated the Member States on the developments in TRACES, to block the completion of box 31 of the COI in case the CHED is not yet finalized (foreseen for July 2023). Finally, the Commission informed the Member States that DG AGRI will present during the Expert Group on Organic Production (GREX) of 31 May 2023, a series of issues to be solved in relation to the package on organic import controls, including in relation to the COI update in view of alignment with the decision in the CHED.
2	10:15– 11:15	<b>Guidance</b> on several provisions of the OCR –exchange of views on new elements	The Commission presented amendments of several guidance elements for an update of Commission Notice 2022/C 467/02, in particular as regards: - e-commerce controls; - reporting of infringements; - commercial storage facilities; - the official veterinarian and auxiliary. The Commission informed the Member States of the state of play of the guidance discussing the entry of consignments in the Union, which will be finalised and put forward for consultation by mid-June.

3	11:15-12:00	<p><b>New Common Health Entry Document ('CHED-N')</b> – exchange of views on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation</p>	<p>The Commission presented the draft Implementing Regulation amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1715 (IMSOC Regulation) to establish a specific CHED format (CHED-N) for certain categories of goods subject to Articles 44 to 46 of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 ('OCR') and rules for its presentation and use. The Commission explained that this draft is part of a CHED-N package composed also of a draft Delegated Regulation on cases where and the conditions under which competent authorities may request operators to notify the arrival of certain goods, in accordance with Article 45(4) of the OCR, discussed in parallel in the OCR expert group. The date of application of the two acts is aligned and deferred in view of interconnection with the EU CSW-CERTEX.</p> <p>The Commission also clarified that a separate amendment of the IMSOC Regulation will extend the scope of CHED-D to food contact materials subject to Article 47(1) OCR and will clarify that CHED-PP is required for wood packaging material under Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2125.</p> <p>In relation to the CHED-N amendment, the Commission illustrated in detail the modifications of the CHED entries, explanatory notes and CHED format in order to mirror the needs of official controls on commodities in the scope of CHED-N. The Commission invited the Member States to assess whether further adjustments were needed and to inform the Commission thereof. One Member State indicated that the wording of the amended Article 40(2)(b)(iii) might need to be revised to refer solely to a local competent authority to ensure consistency with the revised box III.5 of CHED-N.</p> <p>The Commission invited the Member States to provide written comments on the draft by 15/06/2023.</p>
4	12:00-12:15	<p><b>Article 124:</b> notification of third country audits</p>	<p>The Commission suggests to Member States to fulfil their obligation to notify audits of third countries by using the Market Access Database managed by DG TRADE.</p>
5	12:15–12:30	<p><b>Updates</b> on ongoing work on implementation of the OCR</p>	<p>The Commission presented the set-up and content of its Annual Report on the official control systems implemented by the Member States and the Commission controls thereof over the year 2021. The problems encountered in assessing the Member States' annual reports over 2021 were also mentioned.</p>

