



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

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**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED
SECTION PLANT HEALTH ON
12 – 13 FEBRUARY 2015**

Chair: Harry Arijs

A.1. Miscellaneous.

The Commission provided an overview of the outbreaks of harmful organisms reported by the Member States from 16 January to 10 February 2015.

The Netherlands requested a harmonised approach to be developed towards possible interception of a new thrips, *Frankliniella platensis* De Santis, and offered to prepare a Pest Risk Assessment (PRA).

The Commission informed the Committee about the follow-up to the last Response to Emerging Risks from Imports Working Group (RERI WG) in December 2014 and reminded the Committee about related recommendations on certain non-regulated commodities and on a need to attach copies of relevant phytosanitary certificates (PCs) to notifications of interceptions sent to Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

The Commission announced that, regarding grants for plant health emergency measures (Article 16 of Regulation (EU) N° 652/2014), new procedures for submission of applications, reports and requests for payments would be developed soon.

The Commission informed the Committee that it had received a letter from China providing details of interceptions of non-compliant wood packaging material originating in the EU. The Directorate-General for Trade has already provided a paper to the Trade Policy Committee asking Member States to respond to China as necessary.

The Commission provided an update following a bilateral discussion with the Canadian Plant Health Authorities on its request to recognise Pest free Areas for Emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) and on EU import requirements for coniferous wood. The Committee was also reminded that the derogation from the phytosanitary certificate requirement provided for by Commission Decision 93/360/EEC in regard to wood of *Thuja* originating in Canada accompanied by an industry certificate is still existant and applicable.

A.2. Evaluation of the phytosanitary results of the 2014 citrus fruit import season from South-Africa and review of Commission Implementing Decision 2014/422/EU.

An exchange of views took place in relation to the outcome of the 2014 import season of citrus fruit from South Africa. The Committee agreed to continue with the current phytosanitary requirements for the 2015 import season (Decision 2014/422/EU).

A.3. Exchange of views concerning possible amendments of the Annexes to Council Directive 2000/29/EC in relation to *Guignardia citricarpa* (*Phyllosticta citricarpa*, all strains pathogenic to Citrus).

An initial exchange of views took place. Discussion will continue in a forthcoming meeting of the Committee.

A.4. Exchange of views concerning possible amendments of the Annexes to Council Directive 2000/29/EC in relation to *Xanthomonas campestris* (all strains pathogenic to Citrus).

An initial exchange of views took place. Discussion will continue in a forthcoming meeting of the Committee.

A.5. Exchange of views concerning a possible inclusion of *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* in the Annexes to Council Directive 2000/29/EC.

An initial exchange of views took place. Discussion will continue in a forthcoming meeting of the Committee.

A.6. Presentation by the Commission of an overview report of the Member States surveys for the presence of *Pomacea*, followed by a review of Commission Implementing Decision 2012/697/EU.

The Commission presented an overview of the 2014 monitoring results for the presence of island apple snail (*Pomacea*) in the EU. The pest is only present in a specific area in Spain. Control measures are in place with the aim of eradication within the demarcated area. The Committee agreed to continue with the current legislation (Decision 2012/697/EU).

A.7. Presentation by the Commission of the second part of the report and the recommendations of the Commission working group meeting of 16-17 December 2014 concerning the listing of harmful organisms of Annex IIAII to Directive 2000/29/EC, followed by an exchange of views.

The Commission presented for exchange of views the recommendations of the working group, prepared on the basis of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). Pest categorisations, and further activities are foreseen for the following pests: *Ditylenchus destructor*, *Helicoverpa armigera*, Beet leaf curl virus, Cherry leafroll virus, Prunus necrotis ringspot virus, Tomato yellow leaf curl virus, *Aculops fuchsiae*, *Ragholetis cingulata*, *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *phaseoli* and *Cryphonectria parasitica*. The Committee suggested to ask EFSA for a complete Pest Risk Assessment for *Ditylenchus destructor*, before deciding about its future listing.

A.8. Exchange of views on the request of Canada for the recognition of the integrated systems approach which mitigates the movement of *Agrilus planipennis* in sawn ash wood from Canada.

The Canadian request was discussed and it was agreed that Member States shall submit written comments on it to the Commission by end of February 2015.

A.9. Presentation by Italy of the Pest Risk Assessment carried out on *Aphelenchoides besseyi*.

Italy presented the PRA carried out on Rice White tip nematode (*Aphelenchoides besseyi* Christie). Member States were invited to provide further comments by end of February 2015, in order to allow Italy to finalise the PRA by end of March 2015.

B.1. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision 2013/92/EU as regards its period of application and as regards the specified commodities originating in China. (B.01_SANCO_12847_2014) (Legal Basis: Article 16(3) of Council Directive 2000/29/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure).

This Decision would amend Decision 2013/92/EU, extending its period of application for a further two years, i.e. until end of March 2017. Furthermore, three commodities would be added to the list of commodities subject to plant health import checks at a minimum frequency.

Vote: Favourable opinion.

C.1. Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision repealing Decision 2007/410/EC of 12 June 2007 on measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Community of Potato spindle tuber viroid. (C.01_SANTE_00126_2015) (Legal Basis: Article 16(3) of Council Directive 2000/29/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure)

The Committee discussed a draft Commission Implementing Decision repealing Decision 2007/410/EC with a view to issue a possible opinion in the forthcoming meeting of the Committee.