



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Health and Food Safety Directorate General

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Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed
Section *Animal Health and Welfare*
14 March 2022

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SUMMARY REPORT

A.01 General information by Member States.

No item raised.

A.02 Information from the Commission on the implementation of the Union rules for public lists of disease-free areas on national internet pages.

The Commission explained its suggestions on how to implement Article 38 of Regulation (EU) 2019/429 and Article 12 of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2002 by the coordinated action of the Commission and of Member States. The Commission indicated that it will proceed with the revamping of its web page as per the updated template and by displaying the links received from Member States. There were no questions or disagreements. The Commission asked Member States which have not sent in their links yet to do so at their earliest convenience.

A.03 Information from Italy on recent outbreaks of *Brucella abortus* in bovine animals.

Italy presented sufficient information about one outbreak of *Brucella abortus* in bovine animals concerning the affected establishment, the disease eradication measures and the epidemiological investigations. The Italian competent authorities have defined a confirmed case of *Brucella abortus* in bovine animals following Article 9 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689. In accordance with Article 8 paragraph 2 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689 they confirmed an outbreak. The status free from infection with *Brucella abortus*, *B. melitensis* and *B. suis* of the region concerned may be maintained.

A.04 Commission update on reports received on infection with SARS-CoV-2 in minks and other animals of the family Mustelidae and in raccoon dogs.

The Commission provided an update on follow-up reports received on infection with SARS-CoV-2 in minks and other animals of the family Mustelidae and in raccoon dogs, based on Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/788 of 12 May 2021. These updates addressed new information on previously reported outbreaks in Poland. The Commission noted that the new decision prolonging the time-frame of Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/788 was adopted and welcomed the offer of Member States to review the monitoring provisions in due time.

A.05 Information from the Commission on implementation of the Animal Health Law, notification under Article 268 and update on training activities.

The Commission reminded Member States of their obligation to notify to the Commission the national provisions on penalties based on the Animal Health Law and invited them to send notifications by 22 April 2022. The Commission also informed Member States about the ongoing BTS training sessions on the AHL and invited them to send participants to the training as there are places available and so far they haven't been fully used.

A.06 Information from Member States on highly pathogenic avian influenza.

Member States affected by highly pathogenic avian influenza outbreaks in poultry have updated on the epidemiological situation and on the measures taken to control and eradicate the disease.

A.07 Information from Member States on African swine fever.

Bulgaria, Italy and Poland provided an update on the ASF epidemiological situation in their countries. Estonia presented their current ASF situation and the national plan for the management of wild boar in the ASF framework.

A.08 Report on the ASF EUVET mission to Italy.

The team leader presented the results and recommendations of the EUVET mission held on the spot in Italy from 7 to 11 February 2022, to provide support after the notification of the first ASF Genotype II cases in wild boar in the Piedmont and Liguria regions.

A.09 Report on the ASF EUVET remote mission to Poland.

The team leader presented the results and recommendations of the EUVET mission held remotely in Poland from 15 to 16 February 2022.

A.10 Discussion on the Work Programme 2023-2024 for veterinary programmes.

The Commission presented the draft Work Programme for the implementation of the EU co-funded veterinary programmes for animal diseases and zoonoses for 2023-2024, highlighting the modifications compared to the previous work programme. Some Member States raised questions to which the Commission replied. Written questions and comments can be sent by 25 March 2022. The final draft Decision will be presented at the next PAFF COmmittee meeting in April 2022, followed by a vote by written consultation, and shall be adopted by 30 April 2022.

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 amending the Annex to Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/641 concerning emergency measures in relation to outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza in certain Member States.

The EU zoning for HPAI needs to be amended due to new outbreaks confirmed by certain Member States in poultry or captive birds.

Outcome of the vote by written consultation: Favourable opinion.

B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/605 laying down special control measures for African swine fever.

The Draft presented for vote to the Committee included the revision of ASF restricted zones for Bulgaria, Italy and Poland. The Italian Infected zone was added in the restricted zones II and I of Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/605. In Bulgaria and Poland certain zones were reverted from restricted zones III to restricted zone II. In Poland, in addition there was a revision of restricted zones I and II, following an ASF case in a wild boar in restricted zone I.

Outcome of the vote by written consultation: Favourable opinion.

M.01 Payment of co-finances in relation to emergency measures take for HPAI – NL/BE.

The Commission informed Member States that the letters requesting them to submit financial information on HPAI (and on ASF) are under preparation and should be sent out this week. The information requested on HPAI corresponds to the updated Annex 2 and will cover (in most cases) the period from the moment of the outbreak till 30 September 2021. Member States will be requested to submit the information by the end of March 2022. This should allow the preparation of the 2021 grant agreements in a timely manner. Grant agreements will need to be signed by both, the Commission and the relevant Member States respectively. The Commission reminded Member States of the difficulties as regards funding availabilities as well.