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Health and Food Safety Directorate General

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Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed

Section *Animal Health and Welfare*

20 October 2021

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SUMMARY REPORT

A.01 General information by Member States.

No item raised.

A.02 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 reporting 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 the outbreaks in Spain and information on genetic sequencing. The Netherlands informed the Committee on the ongoing review of the national measures for SARS-CoV-2 in minks.

A.03 Report on EU Veterinary Emergency Team established by Commission Decision 2007/142/EC.

The Commission reported on activities of the EU Veterinary Emergency Team in the past year and invited Member States to review the list of experts based on current expertise and availability.

A.04 Information from the Member States on African swine fever.

Bulgaria, Germany, Lithuania, Poland and Slovakia provided an update on the ASF epidemiological situation in their territories that led to a revision of ASF regionalisation.

A.05 Information from the Member States and the Commission on highly pathogenic avian influenza.

Czechia informed on the recent outbreak of HPAI of H5N1 subtype confirmed in poultry. Italy informed on recent confirmation of HPAI of H5N1 subtype in a turkey farm in an area with high density of poultry farms. The Commission informed on the regions in Eurasia and Middle East where HPAI outbreaks were confirmed during the summer and in October, making it evident that the virus started to spread with the wild birds during their autumn migration. It reminded Member States on the legal basis

within the Animal Health Law framework that enables Member States to take preventive measures when there is risk of disease for poultry, after being confirmed in wild birds.

A.06 EU vaccine bank for classical swine fever – launch of the EU tender.

The Commission informed the Member States about a launch of the EU tender to set up EU vaccine bank for classical swine fever.

Further details on the call for tender can be found here:

<https://etendering.ted.europa.eu/cft/cft-display.html?cftId=8773>.

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 Regulation laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to exemptions from the obligations for the registration of aquaculture establishments and record-keeping of operators.

One Member State requested clarification as to whether their previous comments on this draft Regulation had been taken into account. The Commission explained that they had, in so far as this was necessary.

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 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and the Council with regard to the Union antigen, vaccine and diagnostic reagent banks.

The Commission presented the draft document, in particular changes introduced based on the received comments from Member States.

One Member State suggested the acquisition of RVF antigens and vaccines to strengthen surveillance and response capacities.

Outcome of the vote by written consultation: Favourable opinion.

B.04 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.

A revision of Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/605 was presented to Member States. This revision takes into account the evolution of the ASF epidemiological situation in the Germany, Lithuania and Poland. In particular new outbreaks in kept and wild porcine animals in Poland and new outbreaks in wild porcine animals in Germany. Also, the revision takes into account an improvement of the ASF situation in kept porcine animals in certain zones of Germany, Lithuania and Poland.

Outcome of the vote by written consultation: Favourable opinion.

M.01 IHN in Denmark.

Denmark gave a short summary concerning the IHN situation there. There have been no further outbreaks since the last PAFF meeting but industry have requested that, as a medium term measure, the competent authority should proceed with compartmentalisation of aquaculture establishments, where this is possible. This will be done in accordance with Article 83 of Regulation (EU) 2020/689. It is likely that the current suspension of IHN free certification will remain in place until the compartmentalisation process has been completed. The Danish competent authority will keep Member States and the Commission informed.

M.02 Information from the Commission on Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/605 – flexibility and possibilities for local supply.

The Commission presented the main principles laid down in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/605 related to specific prohibitions, exemptions and derogations applicable for movements of porcine animals kept in restricted zones I, II and III and products thereof.

M.03 Rabies in Ceuta (Spanish town in North Africa).

Spain presented an outbreak of rabies in Ceuta in dog. It is likely that it was either a stray dog or an illegally introduced dog from Morocco where the disease is prevalent. Measures have been taken to prevent any further spread of the disease. The Commission reminded Spain that the outbreaks must be notified in ADIS.

M.04 TRACES NT.

Belgium asked for the subject on TRACES, to discuss two issues sent to the TRACES Helpdesk that were still unanswered. The Commission confirmed that replies have been given before the point was taken and provided information of the functioning of the system. Seven Member States used that opportunity to raise the issue that the new INTRA module of TRACES-NT does not work and therefore they needed a prolongation of the use of the old platform TRACES Classic. In the absence of detailed facts, it was difficult for the Commission to define whether the issuance of certificates in the new module is seriously disturbed.