



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

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**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED  
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 01 MARCH 2016 - 02 MARCH 2016  
(Section Animal Health & Welfare)**

*CIRCABC Link:* <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/d36ff9ae-0fd1-41e0-8ee0-8fec085e3c37>

**A.01 Update from France on highly pathogenic avian influenza in poultry.**

The French representative gave an update on the disease situation in south-western France. Since the last meeting of this Committee in early February only five further outbreaks (now 74 in total) have been detected in already previously affected departments. Surveillance within and outside the restricted areas and investigations of suspicions and epidemiological links were described. A timetable for the implementation of overall strategy of progressive depopulation, fallow period and restocking was presented.

**A.02 Information from Bulgaria on Newcastle disease in poultry.**

The Bulgarian representative informed about two outbreaks of Newcastle disease confirmed during February 2016 in backyard flocks in the region of Kardjaly. All poultry present in the outbreak sites were killed and disposed of. Ring vaccination against the disease has been carried out.

**A.03 Information concerning a declaration from Iceland of disease-free status for a modified area with regard to viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS).**

The Commission informed about a declaration from Iceland concerning disease-free status as regards VHS for a modified area comprising two land based farms with a connected hatchery and smolt farm for the production of brood fish of Atlantic salmon, and one land based farm for the production of Arctic char. The declaration is based on targeted surveillance of the farmed populations since 2006 without any detection of the pathogen of concern.

**A.04 Information concerning a declaration from Spain of a disease-free zone with regard to infectious haematopoietic necrosis (IHN) and viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS).**

The Commission informed about a declaration from Spain concerning disease-free status as regards IHN and VHS for a zone covering the water catchment area of Rio Aguas Blancas in Granada. The zone includes one fish farm which is producing rainbow trout for human consumption. The declaration is based on two years of targeted surveillance without detection of the pathogens of concern.

**A.05 Information concerning a declaration from France of disease free-status with regard to infectious haematopoietic necrosis (IHN) and viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS) for the compartment "La pisciculture fédérale de Mery Corbon" in Calvados.**

The Commission informed about a declaration from France of disease-free status as regards IHN and VHS for a compartment in Calvados comprising the fish farm Mery Corbon, which is producing rainbow trout and brown trout for restocking purposes. There is no former history of outbreaks of the actual diseases in this compartment, and the declaration is in addition based on two years of targeted surveillance without any detection of the pathogens of concern.

**A.06 Information concerning a declaration from France of disease free-status with regard to infectious haematopoietic necrosis (IHN) and viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS) for the compartment "Du cours amont du Boron" in Puy de Dôme.**

The Commission informed about a declaration from France of disease-free status as regards IHN and VHS for a compartment in Puy de Dome which includes the fish farm "Bone" and the River Boron from its spring to the water intake of a dam comprising the water supply source of the farm. The fish farm produces rainbow trout, brown trout and char for human consumption and restocking purposes and the declaration is based on more than four years of targeted surveillance without any detection of the pathogens of concern.

**A.07 Information concerning a declaration from France of disease free-status with regard to infectious haematopoietic necrosis (IHN) and viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS) for a zone and a compartment in the areas Drucat and Eauette in the Department of Somme.**

The Commission informed about a declaration from France of disease-free status as regards IHN and VHS for an independent compartment situated in Eauette and a zone comprising the watershed of the river Drucat from its sources to the impenetrable barrier of Moulin de Chartreux. The production in these areas is rainbow trout and brow trout both for the purpose of restocking of open waters and for human consumption. The declaration is based on four years of targeted surveillance without any detection of the diseases of concern.

**A.08 Report on the Community Veterinary Emergency Team (CVET) mission on ASF in Moldova.**

A representative of the Community Veterinary Emergency Team (CVET) presented the findings and recommendations of the CVET mission in Moldova. The Committee noted the need to support neighbouring third countries in relation to African swine fever.

**A.09 Information concerning a declaration from Norway of disease free status as regards infectious salmon anaemia (ISA) for a compartment situated in Loenningdal in Os Municipality of Hordaland county in Norway.**

The Commission informed about a declaration from Norway of disease-free status as regards ISA for a compartment comprising one single farm which will be producing fry and smolt of Atlantic salmon. The farm has been emptied, cleaned, disinfected and fallowed and is now restocked with material from ISA-free sources. The declaration is based on recognition of the farm as a compartment independent of the animal health status of the surrounding waters.

All declarations presented under the items A.03-A.07 and A.09 have been submitted in accordance with Article 50 of Directive 2006/88/EC, and links to the declarations presented will be found on the SANTE WEB page under the following link:

[http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/liveanimals/aquaculture/declarations\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/liveanimals/aquaculture/declarations_en.htm)

**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.**

**Exchange of views and possible opinion on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2015/2460 concerning certain protective measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza of subtype H5 in France (SANTE/7004/2016).**

Implementing Decision (EU) 2015/2460 was adopted following the spread of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in France and the establishment by the competent authority of a large further restricted zone around the protection and surveillance zones put in place in relation to the outbreaks. That Decision applies until 31 March 2016. The number of HPAI outbreaks has decreased, but a few outbreaks are still being detected inside the area already under restrictions. Due to the epidemiological situation and in view of the implementation of the disease control strategy adopted in France, the period of application of that Decision should be prolonged until 15 September 2016. However, the Commission will review the period of application should the disease situation improve beforehand.

**Vote taken:** favourable opinion.

**B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending the Annexes I and II to Decision**

**2003/467/EC establishing the official tuberculosis and brucellosis-free status of Malta as regards bovine herds.**

The draft was presented to the Member States by the Commission. The history of the eradication and the current epidemiological situation regarding those two diseases mentioned above were presented by the Maltese expert Dr. Fabrizio Rosso.

**Vote taken:** favourable opinion.

**B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the 2016 work programme on IT tools in the field of food safety, animal health, animal welfare, plant health, and official controls in the food and feed area.**

The Commission presented the draft Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the 2016 work programme on IT tools in the field of food safety, animal health, animal welfare, plant health, and official controls in the food and feed area. This Decision adopts the 2016 work programme on the IT tools in the food and feed area and ensures its financing for 2016. The Member States raised a number of questions on some specifics related to the governance of the IT systems and the way the work programme was developed and endorsed by DG SANTE management. The Commission responded in a satisfactory manner.

**Vote taken:** favourable opinion.

**B.04 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision concerning the amendment of the work programme 2016 covered by Commission Implementing Decision C(2015)4262 and the adoption of the corresponding financing for the year 2016 of activities in the food and feed area to ensure the application of the food and feed legislation.**

The Commission presented the draft Commission Implementing Decision concerning the amendment of the work programme 2016 covered by Commission Implementing Decision C(2015)4262 and the adoption of the corresponding financing for the year 2016 of activities in the food and feed area to ensure the application of the food and feed legislation. The Commission clarified that this Decision amends the 2016 work programme covering activities in the food and feed area already adopted in 2015 with Decision C(2015)4262 to cover additional activities identified in the food and feed area for 2016 and to ensure their financing. The Member States asked for clarification on the scope and the objectives of some of the activities covered by the Decision. The Commission responded in a satisfactory manner.

**Vote taken:** favourable opinion.

**B.05 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision establishing the financial contribution from the Union for expenditure incurred by Germany in 2007 for the financing of the emergency measures to combat bluetongue.**

The Commission presented the draft Commission Implementing Decision establishing the financial contribution from the Union for expenditure incurred by Germany in 2007 for the financing of the emergency measures to combat bluetongue. The Commission clarified that this Decision establishes the balance of the financial contribution from the Union remaining to be paid to Germany after the finalization of the audit on this subject carried out by the Commission services.

**Vote taken:** favourable opinion.

**B.06 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending the Annex to Implementing Decision 2014/709/EU concerning animal health control measures relating to African swine fever in certain Member States, as regards the entries for Estonia and Poland.**

The Commission presented the draft Commission Implementing Decision intended to amend Commission Implementing Decision 2014/709 concerning animal health control measures relating to African swine fever in Estonia and Poland.

**Vote taken:** favourable opinion.

**C.01 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision laying down standard reporting requirements for national programmes for the eradication, control and surveillance of animal diseases and zoonoses co-financed by the Union and repealing Decision 2014/288/EU.**

Member States asked for clarification of the proposed text on the reporting requirements for EU co-financed veterinary programmes. The Commission clarified the question of availability of the PDF templates: the planned date of availability is the same as for previous years when emails were sent to the Member States and the link to the DG SANTE website in the Annexes, already implemented for the programmes templates (as per Decision 2015/2444/EU), is accepted by the Commission legal services.

**C.02 Exchange of views of the Committee on draft Guidelines for Member States for EU funding of veterinary programmes.**

The Commission presented a revised version of the Guidelines for Member States for EU funding of veterinary programmes following the results of the discussion held during the Standing Committee meeting on 12 January 2016 and taking into consideration the comments and questions the Member States expressed in the last few weeks. As interest to the document and the important concepts for eligibility of costs it covers was very high, the Commission asked the Member States to communicate all their comments, questions and concerns to the Commission services within the two weeks following this Standing Committee session. The Commission will then review and respond to the Member States and finalize the Guidelines for Member States for EU funding of veterinary programmes.

**C.03 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down health rules as regards animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption and implementing Council Directive 97/78/EC as regards certain samples and items exempt from veterinary checks at the border under that Directive.**

Member States asked for clarification of the proposed text on microbiological criteria for raw pet-food. The Commission clarified that the proposed revision presents implementation of HACCP standards following the principles set out in the food hygiene legislation. In particular, to establish harmonised conditions for the corrective action required when monitoring indicates that certain target parameters for critical control points are not met.

**M.01 Interpretation of animal health legislation as regards intra-Union trade in EIA seropositive horses.**

The representative of one Member State requested clarification if intra-Union trade in EIA seropositive horses is allowed according to the Union animal health legislation. The Commission informed that in accordance with Directive 2009/156/EC there is no possibility to move a known EIA seropositive horse from one holding to another. This applies both to national movement and intra-Union trade. Movement restrictions stay in place, in case of EIA, until the date on which, the infected animals having been slaughtered and the remaining animals have shown a negative reaction to two Coggins tests carried out three months apart.