

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Health and Food Safety Directorate General

sante.ddg2.g.5(2022)5631322

Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed Section Animal Health and Welfare 7 July 2022

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

SUMMARY REPORT

A.01 General information by Member States.

Information from Spain on an outbreak of Newcastle Disease in poultry.

Spain informed the Committee about the epidemiological situation with Newcastle disease in a certain area of the country where one outbreak has been confirmed recently in a poultry establishment.

A.02 Information from Member States on highly pathogenic avian influenza.

The Commission has shown the map with the outbreaks of HPAI detected in wild birds since 1 June 2022 and urged Member States to keep awareness of the operators regarding the persistence of the virus circulation in the wild bird population, in particular in certain areas of the EU. In addition, it suggested that Member States may use the coming months to prepare farmers for the next epidemic season, increasing their awareness on the importance of the biosecurity measures as tools to prevent the introduction of the virus to poultry and performing checks on the compliance of the operators with the biosecurity rules.

A.03 Commission update on reports received on infection with SARS CoV-2 in minks and other animals of the family Mustelidae and in raccoon dogs.

No new outbreaks were reported, only Poland provided updates on their situation.

A.04 Information from the Commission on disease-free Member States and zones, and approved eradication programmes for listed animal diseases.

The Commission informed Member States that maps of free Member States and zones (and those running an approved programme) and the approved eradication programmes are now published on the Commission website. The Commission asked Member States to complete the registration of approved eradication programmes in ADIS.

A.05 Certification of equine animals moved to another Member State – the clinical examination prior departure from a registered establishment.

The Commission reminded about the rules on the time-frame for the identity check and clinical examination of the equine animals to be carried out before their dispatch to another Member State and on the validity of an animal health certificate.

The Commission requested Member States to verify if their webpages related to the identification of equine animals are up-to-date and contain references to Animal Health Law and its delegated and implementing acts, and, if necessary, to send to the Commission the updated link to their webpages.

A.06 Information from Member States on African Swine fever.

Romania, Poland, Germany and Italy provided information on the African swine fever epidemiological situation and on the measures taken to control and eradicate the disease.

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 of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision concerning certain emergency measures relating to African swine fever in Germany.

Germany has informed the Commission of an outbreak of ASF in kept porcine animals in the state of Lower Saxony and it has established protection and surveillance zones, where the general disease control measures laid down in Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687 are applied. Accordingly, those areas were included in the Annex to this Decision and the duration of that regionalization fixed.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

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 had to be updated to take into account the restricted zones established for new outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza confirmed by certain Member States.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

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 registration and approval of establishments keeping terrestrial animals and collecting, producing, processing or storing germinal products.

The Commission presented the revised draft focusing on the amendments since the previous meeting. There were no comments nor questions from Member States.

Vote taken: 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.

New restricted zones were demarcated for Germany and Poland as a consequence of several occurrences of ASF outbreaks in kept and wild porcine in certain zones. Annex I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/605 was amended accordingly.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

C.01 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/605 laying down special control measures for African swine fever.

The Commission presented provisional amendments to the ASF Regulation following the discussion in the previous PAFF meeting and written comments sent by Member States.

M.01 One Health Surveillance initiative – next steps.

The Commission and EFSA presented the progress of activities and invited Member States to join in already in these early stages to ensure the right input is provided to EFSA for this assessment phase.

M.02 Information from the Commission on BTSF training activities on the Animal Health Law.

Delegates were informed of the calendar of BTSF trainings (both physical and remote) in the area of Animal Health Law planned in 2022 and the beginning of 2023 and were encouraged to sign up and actively participate in the training sessions.

M.03 Presentation of the results and recommendations of the ASF EUVET mission to Italy (27-28 June 2022).

The team leader of the EUVET mission, that took place in Italy on 27 and 28 June 2022, presented a summary of the conclusions and recommendations of the experts during their visit on the spot of the affected provinces of the Italian Lazio Region.