



Update on Animal Welfare activities

**Animal Health Advisory Committee
Brussels 3 December 2019**

Denis Simonin

Head of Sector Animal Welfare Unit G2

Directorate General for Health and Food safety



EU Platform

- *6th meeting on 7 October 2019*
- *Indicative agenda:*
 - **Finnish Presidency questionnaire to CVOs**
 - **Conclusions of the subgroups on transport and pigs**
 - **Outputs of the voluntary initiatives**
 - Equidae, pets (dogs), fish, pullets (laying hens)
 - **Activities of the Reference Centre on pigs**





Platform conclusions

- *The Platform thanks and acknowledges the work of the members of the subgroups.*

The subgroup on transport has produced a number of relevant documents on "exports of cattle" and on "extreme temperatures" and the Platform invites its members to disseminate the recommendations of the documents and take actions in line with the documents and proposals. These should contribute to improve the welfare of animals and to better enforce the EU legislation on animal transport [...].

The subgroup on the welfare of pigs has provided targeted proposals for assisting in the development of indicators for tail-biting risks. The Platform invites the EU Reference Centre on animal welfare for pigs to consider the document "Indicators for tail biting risks relating to compliance criteria on health, dietary factors and space and competition" within the framework of its Work Programme for the future. The Platform invites its members to use this proposal, to develop it further in their research frameworks, and in proposals to strengthen official controls using animal welfare indicators [...].



Platform conclusions

- *The Platform thanks and acknowledges the work of the members of the voluntary initiative on responsible ownership and care of equidae. The working group concludes that the following document should be promoted in order to improve the welfare of equidae in the EU: Guide to good animal welfare practice for the keeping, care, training and use of horses*
- *12 documents available on the Commission's website*
 - http://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/welfare/eu-platform-animal-welfare_en
- *Extension of mandate until 30 June 2021*





Second Reference Centre

- *Poultry and other small farmed animals*
- *Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1685 of 4 October 2019*
- *Consortium of four national bodies:*
 - **ANSES (FR)**
 - **IRTA (ES)**
 - **Aarhus University (DK)**
 - **IZSLER (IT)**
- *Start foreseen January 2020*



Roadmap

Feedback period

17.05.2019 - 14.06.2019

FEEDBACK: CLOSED

UPCOMING

Public consultation

Consultation period

Fourth quarter 2019

FEEDBACK: UPCOMING

Commission adoption

Planned for

Fourth quarter 2020



European
Commission

Evaluation of the EU Strategy

- *One year external study launched in October*
- *Ongoing work for validation of questionnaires*
- *Twelve weeks public consultation is coming soon (December 2019 or January 2020)*
- *Council Conclusions will be considered by the evaluation*

Project on quality controls and indicators

- *Two years project managed by DG SANTE Directorate F*
 - 4 Audits FI/SE/NL/DE 2019*
 - 4 Audits CZ/LV/PT/IE 2020*
- *Strategic approach with objectives for inspections?*
- *Do reports include relevant data?*
- *Are "animal welfare indicators" used?*



Audits planned for 2020

Rationale: Follow up of corrective actions to non-compliances from previous audit such as:	Country
Waterbath stunning parameters	France
Official supervision	Italy
Requirements for equipment manufacturers	Spain
Monitoring of stunning	Belgium
Transport to slaughter of animals not fit for transport	France Spain



European
Commission

Some ongoing work, but more to come ...

*Two EU
Reference
Centres*

*Project on
quality
controls*

*EU Platform on
animal welfare*

*Evaluation of
the EU Strategy*

Follow up audits



Health and
Food Safety