



Minutes from the Working Group meeting with Member States

**"Official Controls on animals and goods (including plants) entering the EU:
Implementing acts under Regulation EU 2017/625"**

Tuesday 29 January 2019, 09H30 – 11H30

Chair: Tim Gumbel, Deputy Head of Unit G3, European Commission (COM)

Members: EU Member States (MS): AT, BE, BG, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, HR, IE, IT, LT, LU, LV, MT, NL, PL, SE, SI, SK, UK

	TOPIC	BACKGROUND
1	<p>Art. 54.3: Frequencies of BCP controls (plant health)</p> <p>COM presented a revised version of a draft concerning rules for frequency rates of identity and physical checks on consignments of plants, plant products and other objects.</p> <p>Discussions primarily focused on the proposed 6-month period to review the list of plants, plant products and other objects for which reduced frequency rates of identity and physical checks would apply, and on the operator's past record of compliance as an element for the COM to take into account when setting frequency rates.</p> <p>In particular, as regards the review period, a number of MSs were of the opinion that the list should be reviewed once a year to allow any necessary adjustment to their controls system. In relation to the operator's past record of compliance the COM clarified that under Regulation EU 2017/625 (OCR) it was not an option for the COM to take into account this factor when establishing frequency rates for identity and physical checks. To the demand of some MSs to clarify what the term "operator" meant, the COM pointed out that such a term was clearly defined in the OCR.</p> <p>COM invited MSs to submit comments by 8th February 2019.</p>	<p>Draft document shared with Member States ahead of the meeting</p>
2	<p>Art. 52: Details of BCO controls (Annex III, plant health)</p> <p>COM presented an updated version of Annex III of Art. 52, on detailed rules on operations to be carried out during physical checks on goods referred in Art. 4(6), which was welcomed by most MS.</p> <p>MS made a few technical comments with relation to points 3, 4 and 6. Questions were asked with regards to split consignments and their further</p>	<p>Draft document shared with Member States ahead of the meeting</p>

	monitoring. Written comments are expected from MS.	
3	<p>Art 47.2.a: List of CN codes – state of play</p> <p>COM presented briefly the state of play of the draft Implementing Regulation on the list of animals and goods, including their CN codes, to be subject to compulsory border controls. Member States. The annual revision of the CN codes by DG TAXUD has been assessed. As no impact on the draft Regulation has been identified, COM will now proceed with the draft Regulation, as informally agreed by MS in the spring of 2018, with the process towards its adoption.</p> <p>MS were reminded that the new list does not contain composite products, as the current rules on such products will apply until 21 April 2021. The list will be amended at a later stage.</p>	
4	<p>Art 77.3.a: Certificates</p> <p>COM presented a draft document on the preparation of an implementing regulation. The focus was placed on the Annex containing the proposed certificate form and the items modified.</p> <p>In the discussion that followed, several MS expressed their satisfaction with the changes made, as well as, suggested further modifications in order to streamline and clarify the process. Technical comments made with regards to the definition of military bases, military and vessels leaving the Union territory, competent authorities in part II of certificate, as well possibility of inserting vehicle numbers in electronically issued certificates at later stage. Comments are expected to be sent in writing.</p>	Draft document shared with Member States ahead of the meeting
	Conclusion, end of the meeting	