



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Health and Food Safety Directorate General

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**Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed**  
**Section *Animal Health and Welfare***  
**17 January 2023**

**CIRCABC Link:** <https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/55b2edd3-069e-40fd-ad4a-8b163f54ff1f/library/d36ff9ae-0fd1-41e0-8ee0-8fec085e3c37>

**SUMMARY REPORT**

**A.01 General information by Member States.**

No item raised.

**A.02 Outcome of the evaluation procedure of the veterinary programmes submitted by Member States and third countries for Union financial contribution for 2023.**

The list of veterinary programmes approved for EU co-financing for 2023 and associated funding has been presented by HaDEA to Member States as per Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2021/690. The next steps related to the grant agreements preparation were also explained and all Member States were requested to provide the necessary information to HADEA via the corporate eGRANT IT tool in order to finalise and sign the grant agreements by 31 January 2023.

**A.03 Information from Member States on highly pathogenic avian influenza.**

Czechia, Denmark, Germany, France and Poland presented updates on the epidemiological situation with HPAI. The situation in the west part of France, where many outbreaks have been confirmed in an area with high density of poultry establishments, in particular ducks, seems to improve as result of additional measures taken by the competent authorities. An increase in the numbers of outbreaks in poultry establishments in Poland, in an area where a severe epidemic has been experienced already in the epidemic season 2020-2021, has been noticed. Therefore, the Commission urged Poland to take the necessary measures to control the disease, taking into consideration the lessons learned from the previous epidemics in that area.

**A.04 Presentation from EFSA on the latest avian influenza overview report.**

EFSA presented the results of the assessment on the epidemiological situation with avian influenza within the Union and worldwide in the last quarter of 2022. The report of the assessment has been published by EFSA on 20 December 2022.

**A.05 Information from Spain on sheep pox and goat pox.**

Spain presented an update of the SPGP epidemiological situation. No new outbreaks have been recorded since the last ones in November 2022. As a result all protection and surveillance zones in Castilla – La Mancha have been lifted as of 8 January 2023 while the further restricted zone is due to remain in place until 16 February 2023. In Granada all restricted zones have been lifted as of 16 January 2023 while special restrictions for grazing of small ruminants are due to remain in place for an extra month. The authorities maintain a high level of awareness and vigilance to prevent possible recurrence and there is ongoing surveillance involving lab tests (approximately 7.000 PCR tests to date). Since the beginning of the epidemic, 32.673 sheep and 167 goats in total, have been put down in order to control the disease.

**A.06 Information from the Member States on African swine fever.**

Hungary, Italy, Poland and Slovakia provided an update on the ASF epidemiological situation in their territories.

**A.07 Information from Portugal on recent outbreaks of *Brucella suis* in bovine animals.**

Portugal presented sufficient information about one outbreak of *Brucella suis* in bovine animals, concerning the affected establishments, the disease eradication measures and the epidemiological investigations. The status free from infection with *Brucella abortus*, *B. melitensis* and *B. suis* as regards kept bovine animals of the region concerned may be maintained.

There was a discussion on the pathogenicity and infectiousness of *Brucella suis* biovar 2. In order to maintain the disease free status, this serotype must also be controlled with the eradication measures described.

**A.08 Information from Spain on recent outbreaks of *Brucella suis* in ovine animals.**

Spain presented sufficient information about one outbreak of *Brucella suis* in ovine animals, concerning the affected establishments, the disease eradication measures and the epidemiological investigations. The status free from infection with *Brucella abortus*, *B. melitensis* and *B. suis* as regards kept ovine and caprine animals of the region concerned may be maintained.

**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 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 for HPAI has been amended to include restricted zones established for the new outbreaks confirmed by certain Member States in poultry or captive birds.

**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.**

The areas listed as restricted zones I and II were revised for Slovakia (certain restricted zones III were reverted to restricted zones II) and Poland (certain restricted zones were reverted from restricted zones III to restricted zones II and I for a favourable situation in domestic pigs, also certain restricted zones II were enlarged as a consequence of cases in wild boar notified in restricted zones I and in a free zone).

**Vote taken:** Favourable opinion.

**B.04 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation laying down rules on the recording, storing and sharing of written records of official controls performed on livestock vessels, on contingency plans for livestock vessels in the event of emergencies, on the approval of livestock vessels and on minimum requirements applicable to exit points.**

The Commission presented the latest amendments to the Implementing Act and received no comments from Member States' representatives.

**Vote taken:** Favourable opinion.

**M.01 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 informed the Committee that no reports on new outbreaks have been received. It also indicated that the EFSA mandate on the risks related to SARS CoV-2 in animals was being finalised and updates would be provided to this Committee on the subject. Denmark informed the Committee that mink farming was resuming in a limited number of farms and that the importation of breeders already started.

**M.02 Survey on the use of bovine electronic identification.**

The Commission reminded Member States of a survey on the use of bovine electronic identification. The survey has been sent out, and the deadline is 31 January 2023.

**M.03 Short presentation on a recent outbreak of Newcastle disease in Norway.**

Norway reported on an outbreak of Newcastle disease in an establishment of captive birds, pigeons, that was confirmed on Friday, 13 January 2023.