



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 03 NOVEMBER 2014 - 04 NOVEMBER 2014
(Section Animal Health & Welfare)**

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

A.01 Information from EFSA on the scientific opinion on Porcine Epidemic Diarrhoea (PED) and emerging pig Deltacoronavirus.

EFSA presented the scientific opinion on Porcine Epidemic Diarrhoea (PED) and emerging pig Deltacoronavirus. It emphasized the current lack of information available for the emerging Deltacoronavirus and the difficulty to obtain standardised data for PED as it is not a notifiable disease.

A.02 African swine fever update - Information from Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland on the epidemiological situation, surveillance activities and control measures applied.

Information was provided on African swine fever (ASF) by Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland on the epidemiological situation, surveillance activities and control measures applied. Estonia reported on the new case found near the border to Latvia and indicated that increased surveillance and control measures were already in place. The Committee noted the stable situation but emphasized the need to remain vigilant.

A.03 Information on a declaration from Germany concerning disease free status for infectious haematopoietic necrosis (IHN) and viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS) in the zone "Wassereinzugsgebiet der Schleuse bis zur Mündung in die Werra".

The Commission informed about a declaration submitted from Germany regarding disease free status for IHN and VHS in the zone "Wassereinzugsgebiet der Schleuse bis zur Mündung in die Werra" in Thüringen. The complete zone contains 23 farms producing rainbow trout, brown trout and different species of char, and this zone has been under regular veterinary control and surveillance for more than ten years. In addition, the farms situated in the close vicinity of the entry of the water outlet from the zone into the river Werra, has been subject to targeted surveillance as regards IHN

and VHS since 2007 with no detection of the diseases of concern. All farms in the zone have also agreed to a strict biosecurity scheme including only to use breeding material from stocks within the zone or from other farms declared free of IHN and VHS. The declaration is submitted in accordance with Article 50 of Directive 2006/88/EC.

Link to this declaration:

http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/liveanimals/aquaculture/declarations_en.htm

A.04 Information regarding withdrawal of the national eradication programme for Bacterial kidney disease (BKD) in Finland.

The Commission informed the Committee about a decision made by the Finnish Competent Authority to withdraw BKD from the list of diseases which shall be controlled and eradicated on mandatory basis in Finland. This decision will enter in force from 1 December 2014. From that date BKD will only be controlled within the framework of a voluntary programme.

As Finland, with certain geographical demarcations, is currently listed in Annex II to Commission Decision 2010/221/EU as an area with approved national measures in accordance with Article 43 of Directive 2006/88/EC, Finland's withdrawal of their program will call for an amendment of this Annex.

A.05 Information by Member States on the bluetongue situation and control measures in place

Information was provided on the bluetongue (BT) situation and control measures in place by Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Romania and Spain.

The Commission highlighted the flexibility in terms of vaccination offered by the EU legislation and the availability of registered vaccines. A coordinating meeting for the Balkan region (including third countries) was being organised by the Commission during the BT Conference organised in Italy which would further allow to coordinate actions in the region; further debate on vaccination would be encouraged by the Commission, however real challenges would need to be taken into account.

The Commission also indicated that the meeting of the Committee in December would cover the outcome of the Community Veterinary Emergency Team missions in Romania, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Croatia and Serbia.

A.06 Report on the Community Veterinary Emergency Team missions in Lithuania and Estonia on African Swine Fever.

Reports on the Community Veterinary Emergency Team missions in Lithuania and Estonia on African Swine Fever were provided.

A.07 Information from the Commission and exchange of views on cooperation between EFSA and the EURL for bee health on the surveillance programs on bee mortalities.

- EURL and EFSA informed that they intend to analyse in depth the data from the surveillance studies on bee mortalities collected in 2012-13 and 2013-14. EFSA informed that this analysis would be carried out in the framework of the “MUST B project”. The Commission recommended the maximum transparency on these studies and proposed to EURL and EFSA to organise a seminar in spring 2015 on the status and way forward of the planned scientific activities.
- Member States participating in the surveillance studies did not object to the use of those data by EFSA and EURL provided that the intellectual ownership remains with those having produced the data in the Member States.

A.08 Information from Germany on low pathogenic avian influenza in poultry

The German representative updated the Committee on an outbreak of low pathogenic avian influenza of subtype H5N2 in a mixed poultry holding in the commune of Laer, district of Steinfurt, Land North Rhine Westphalia (NRW) which had been confirmed on 10 October 2014. The affected holding was immediately put under official veterinary restrictions. Killing and safe disposal of the poultry present was finalised on 09/10/2014 as well as the preliminary cleaning of the holding.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2010/470/EU and Decision 2010/471/EU as regards animal health conditions and veterinary certification requirements for trade in and imports into the Union of semen, ova and embryos of animals of the equine species

The representative from the Commission informed that the aim of this document is to amend the model health certificates for trade in semen, ova and embryos of animals of the equine species set out in Annexes I and II to Decision 2010/470/EU and for imports into the Union of semen, ova and embryos of animals of the equine species set out in Annexes I and II to Decision 2010/471/EU according to the provisions introduced by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 846/2014 amending Annex D to Council Directive 92/65/EEC as regards the conditions for donor animals of the equine species. The revision of the presented document included the Commission Legal Service comments.

During the meeting there were some comments from Member States relating to the wording of articles and the model health certificates which were accepted and the wording of the document was improved before voting.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Annex II to Decision 93/52/EEC as regards the

recognition of certain regions of France as officially free of brucellosis (*B. melitensis*)

France has submitted to the Commission documentation demonstrating compliance with the conditions laid down in Directive 91/68/EEC to be recognised as officially free of brucellosis (*B. melitensis*) for 31 new administrative regions (départements) in addition to the 64 administrative regions (départements) already recognised as officially free of that disease and currently listed in Annex II to Decision 93/52/EEC. Following an evaluation of the documentation submitted by France, those 31 administrative regions (départements) should be recognised as being officially free of brucellosis (*B. melitensis*). The purpose of this Commission Implementing Decision is to amend the entry for France in Annex II to Decision 93/52/EEC accordingly.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision of XXX amending Decision 2008/866/EC, on emergency measures suspending imports from Peru of certain bivalve molluscs intended for human consumption, as regards its period of application

The Commission informed the Member States that the guarantees provided by the Peruvian Competent Authority up to date have been considered not sufficient to lift the emergency measures suspending imports from Peru of certain bivalve molluscs intended for human consumption established in Decision 2008/866/EC.

The emergency measures initially applied until 31 March 2009 but this period of application was extended until 30 November 2014. The Commission's proposal intends to extend the measures by one more year.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.04 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2014/236/EU as regards a Union financial contribution towards surveillance and other emergency measures implemented in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland against African swine fever

No discussion took place.

Vote postponed

B.05 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision concerning certain protective measures with regard to confirmed occurrences of the small hive beetle in Italy

*Presentation by EURL for bee health "Detection of *Aethina Tumida* in Calabria", Mission 16 September – 18 September 2014.*

EURL visited Calabria following the occurrence of the small hive beetle in that Region. The EURL communicated that immediate steps were taken on site to the findings on the field and technical support provided to the Italian competent authorities.

Presentation by Italy: "Aethina Tumida in Italy".

- Italy presented an update to the situation and informed that the local veterinary services in Calabria completed the first round of inspection of apiaries and have commenced the second round of control. Eradication procedures consisting of destruction of the infected hives, soil treatment where necessary and placement of traps for the small hive beetle have been implemented. So far 51 occurrences of small hive beetle have been detected, all within 20 Km from the first occurrence.
- The Ministry of Health, Italy has adopted an eradication strategy. Change in the strategy may be considered in the light of new data generated from the fields' activities.

The Commission presented a draft safeguard clause Decision which provides a ban on movements of live bees and bumble bees and certain apiculture products from the region of Calabria and from the provinces of Catania and Messina, in the Sicilian Region, due to the vicinity to the affected areas. The safeguard measure will be in force for six months and may be reviewed due to the evolving epidemiological situation in Italy.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.06 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on Draft Commission Implementing Decision laying down the procedures for submission of applications, reports and requests for payments for the grants towards measures for the eradication of diseases listed in Annex I of Regulation (EU) N° 652/2014 of the European Parliament and the Council, for the protection against these diseases

New procedures for emergency measures/funds were presented in detail by the Commission. No specific issues were raised.

Vote postponed

C.01 Exchange of views of the Committee on a Draft Implementing Decision approving certain amended programmes for the eradication, control and monitoring of animal diseases and zoonoses for the year 2014 and amending Implementing Decision 2013/722/EU as regards the Union financial contribution for certain programmes approved by that Decision

Document presented for information and discussion. Member States welcomed this annual financial reallocation exercise and no specific issues were raised.

C.02 Exchange of views of the Committee on Draft Template for a Grant Decision approving national programmes and associated funding

Member States welcomed the template that was presented in detail by the Commission and no specific issues were raised.