

## **EU** in the SPS field

## THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION IN THE SPS FIELDS: STRUCTURE AND DECISIONS

**Tokyo 12-15 June 2018** 

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European Commission
DG Health & Food Safety
Bilateral International Relations



### **The European Union**

- 28 Countries
- Different structures and and organization of controls
- One policy
- One set of animal health and food safety rules





## The European Union 24 official languages →500 million consumers







#### **EU Institutions and bodies**

- European Council
- European Commission
- European Parliament
- Council of Ministers
- Court of Justice and Court of Auditors
- European External Action Services





## **European Commission**

- Proposes legislation
- Enforces European Union Law
- Sets objectives and priorities for action
- Makes proposals
- Manages and implements policies and budget
- Trade agreements with non-EU countries

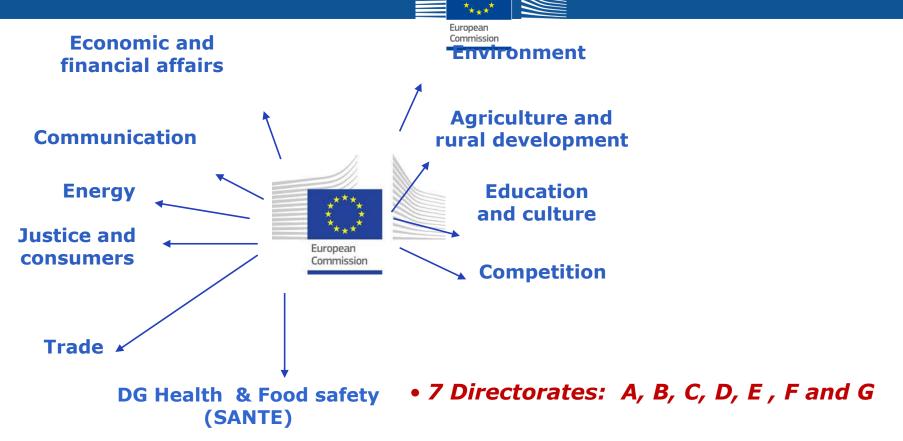






#### **EU Commission**







## **The European Union**



EU's main economic engine. It enables goods, services, money and people to move freely across "EU internal borders".





## The European Union

- An economic and political partnership between 28 European countries.
- Based on the rule of law. Founded on Treaties voluntarily and democratically agreed by Member countries: binding agreements.
- Member States ceded part of their sovereignty which empowers the EU institutions to adopt laws.
- These laws take precedence over national laws and are binding on national Authorities.





## The EU legislation



The Treaties (Primary legislation): sets out EU objectives, rules for EU institutions, rules for decision-making, relationships between the EU and its member countries.







1952 The European Coal and Steel Community

1958 The treaties of Rome:

• The European Economic Community

• The European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM)

1987 The European Single Act: the Single Market

1993 Treaty on European Union - Maastricht

1999 Treaty of Amsterdam

2003 Treaty of Nice

2009 Treaty of Lisbon



## The EU legislation

- Regulations and Decisions are binding and directly applicable in all Member States. This means that once in force, the text becomes part of the national law in all Member States and supersede the national provisions.
- Directives are binding but need "National implementing measures" incorporating EU provisions (under EU scrutiny). This traduces under the terms: "Member States shall ensure that ... "



## The EU legislation

- European Parliament and Council Regulations and Directives are primary legislation (directly based on the Treaty).
- Primary legislation may provide the Commission with implementing or delegated acts and quasi-legislative powers to be adopted in "Comitology". These procedures involve consultation with Member States and scrutiny by the European Parliament and the Council depending on the type of procedure.



- Member States: implement and enforce EU legislation within their territory according to national administrative structures.
- Notify direct or indirect risks.
- Lay down the rules and sanctions applicable to infringement of EU law and implement them.





The Commission promotes the common interest of the EU: four key roles.



- Right of initiative: propose new legislation
- Executive organ: apply EU policies
- Guardian of the treaties: control the application of the law
- Representation of the EU on the international stage



- The Commission ensures that the EU law is properly applied.
- The Commission is responsible for overall coordination, inspection and audits of inspection systems and the necessary legislative action to ensure uniform application of standards and requirements within the Union's internal market.
- The Commission can bring a matter to the European Court of Justice (possibility of penalties) for MS incompliances



- DG SANTE proposes policies on animal health, food safety, plant health, etc. (5 Directorates policies).
- DG SANTE carries out general and specific audits in Member States (and in non-EU countries): annual inspection programme / reports / recommendations / action plans / follow ups.
- The Commission takes emergency measures necessary to contain a risk (i.e. failure in a control system, possible risk for human, plant or animal health).





## Responsibilities: exports to non-EU countries

- EU legislation requires that products exported from the EU for placing on the market of a third country shall comply with the relevant requirements of the EU legislation (unless otherwise requested by the importing Party).
- The Member States are responsible for the control of the production conditions and requirements, including statutory inspections and issuing health and animal welfare certifications attesting to compliance with Japan's standards and requirements.





## Responsibilities: imports from non-EU countries

- EU import conditions are equivalent or identical to EU internal market requirements.
- The Member States are responsible for controlling compliance of imports with the Union's import conditions.



## Exporting to the EU: what does it mean?

#### 28 EU Member States

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom\*

24 languages – 500 millions citizens

#### + EFTA States

Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland

#### + Candidate countries

Albania, Montenegro, Serbia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey

\* 29 March 2019 = BREXIT





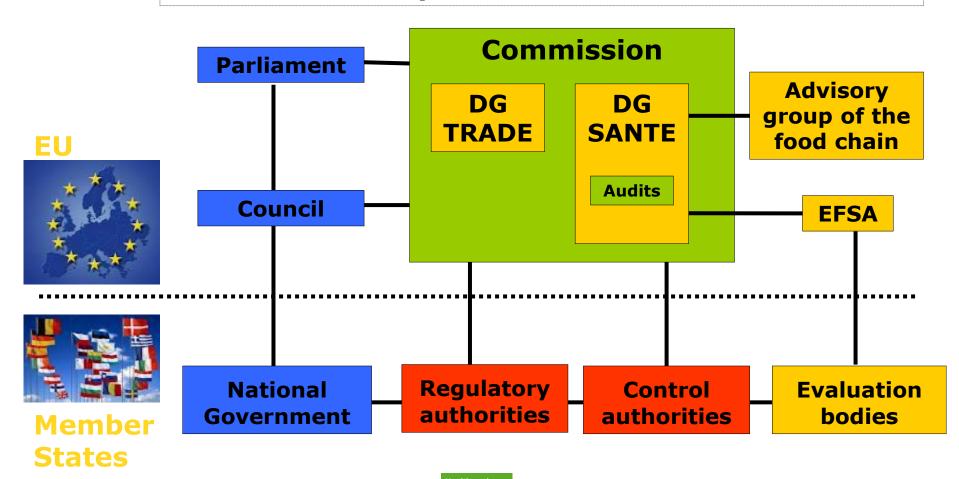
### **DG** Health and Food Safety (SANTE)

- Where to place it?
- Amongst different Institutions
- Different competencies in comparison to MSs





#### **European Court of Justice**



Food Safety



- 1997: Reorganisation of Commission Services: SANCO and creation of the Food and Veterinary Office
- 2002: Creation of the EFSA (European Food Safety Authority)
- New regulatory framework: the Food Law (Regulation 178/2002) + Recasting + Simplification
- 2014: DG SANCO becomes DG SANTE





- **Role**: to promote and protect health and food safety and contribute to a well-functioning and fair internal market in food, feed, agricultural and medical products.
- **Objective**: to make the EU a healthier, safer place, where citizens can be confident that their interests are protected. A zero-risk society may not be possible but we are doing as much as we can to reduce and manage risks for our citizens.





#### We aim to:

- protect and improve public health
- ensure Europe's food is safe and wholesome
- protect the health and welfare of farm animals
- protect the health of crops and forests





Every European citizen has the right to know how the food he eats is produced, processed, packaged, labelled and sold.

The central goal of the European Commission's Food Safety policy is to ensure a high level of protection of human health regarding the food industry — Europe's largest manufacturing and employment sector.

The Commission's guiding principle - primarily set out in its White Paper on Food Safety - is to apply an integrated approach from farm to fork covering all sectors of the food chain.



The objective of the Animal Health policy is to raise the health status and improve the conditions of the animals in the EU, in particular food-producing animals, whilst permitting intra-Community trade and imports of animals and animal products in accordance with the appropriate health standards and international obligations.

The general aim of the Animal Welfare policy is to ensure that animals don't need to endure avoidable pain or suffering and obliges the owner/keeper of animals to respect minimum welfare requirements.

The EU zootechnical legislation aims at the promotion of free trade in breeding animals and their genetic material considering the sustainability of breeding programs and preservation of genetic resources.

The European Commission takes actively part in the setting of international phytosanitary and quality standards for plants and plant products.

EU legislation has, over the years, provided for the harmonised protection of our 'green resources' pesticides, plant variety rights or Genetically Modified Organisms

**PLANTS** 



#### Leadership and organisation



COMMISSIONER

Vytenis Andriukaitis



DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Xavier Prats Monné



DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Martin Seychell



DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**Celine GAUER** 

Around 960 staff.
About 660 of us are in Brussels;
About 120 work in Luxembourg and Another 180 in Grange, near Dublin.



- 7 Directorates (A, B, C, D, E, F, and G)
- Dir. D Food Chain: stakeholders and International relations
- Dir. E Food and Feed safety, innovation
- Dir. F Health and Food Audits and Analysis
- **Dir. G** Crisis management in food, animals and plants
- Staff: +/-960





## Directorate D -Food Chain: stakeholders and international relationships

- Unit D1 Stakeholders, enforcement, BTSF
- Unit D2 Multilateral international relationships
- Unit D3 Bilateral international relationships
- Unit D4 Food Safety programme, emergency funding





## Directorate D -Crisis management in food, animals, and plants

- Unit G1 Plant health
- Unit G2 Animal health and welfare
- <u>Unit G3 Officials controls and eradication of diseases in animals</u>
- Unit G4 Food hygiene
- Unit G5 Alerts, traceability





- General principles: risk analysis and scientific basis, precautionary principle, transparency
- Right of consumers to safe food and to accurate and honest information
- EU commitment to follow international obligations
- •« Food and feed exported (or re-exported) from the EU for placing on the market of a non-EU country shall comply with the relevant requirements of food law, unless otherwise requested by the authorities of the importing country ... »





• There are too many policies and activities dealt by DG SANTE.

The major pillars are:

- 1. Animal health law
- 2. Food law (hygiene package and official controls, traceability)
- 3. Plant health law
- 4. IT systems (TRACES, RASFF)

More details could follow during workshop or on request





#### The General Food Law

- Members States enforce Food Law, lay down rules and sanctions, monitor and verify implementation, communicate on food safety and risk, assess guides to good practices for hygiene in agreement with FBOs
- Commission test the performance of Member States' control capacities and capabilities through audits and inspections









# The EU approach and policies on animal health

**Prevention, Surveillance, Control and Eradication** 

June 2018, Japan

#### Better training for safer food

**DG SANTE - European Commission, Brussels** 

This presentation does not necessarily represent the views of the European Commission



#### **Table of contents**

- Introduction
- EU Veterinary system: principles and tools
  - Prevention and Detection
  - Control and Transparency



# The basic principles of EU Animal health legislation



## The basics of the EU animal health policy

- Progressively developed within the framework of the Common Agricultural Policy
- Supported by comprehensive fully harmonised legislation, which is binding for all EU Member States
- Main objective: reaching an maintaining a high status of animal health throughout the EU



# Why is animal health important for the EU?

- Food safety (farm to table approach)
- Public health (zoonoses)
- Sustainable development and productivity of agriculture
- Establishment and functioning of the EU single market
- Safe trade and imports in animals and their products (including food of animal origin)



# The international context of EU legislation

- It follows WTO rules and its SPS (Sanitary and Phytosanitary) Agreement which follows OIE & CODEX standards
- It is scientifically based: the European Food Safety Authority (in Parma, Italy) gives scientific advice to the Commission and to Member States



# Principles of EU response to animal diseases

- -Harmonised Legislation
- -Animal Disease Notification System (ADNS)
- -Standing Committee on Plants Animals, Food and Feed (SCoPAFF)
- -Clear definition of roles of Member States and Commission



## **EU Veterinary Control System**

Prevention

Detection

Control

Transparency

Biosecurity

Animal identification

Veterinary certification and movement control for intra-EU trade of livestock

Veterinary certification and border controls for animals and products imported.

Surveillance

Reference laboratories

Health monitoring in high risk areas

Animal Disease Notification System. Contingency planning

Animal Disease Notification System

Isolation of infected holdings

**Eradication** 

EU support:
Emergeny team,
vaccine banks,
compensation,
training.

EU audits of Member State veterinary services

Public information systems (RASFF, ADNS)

Scientific consultations

Notification.



### **Surveillance**

- Owners/keepers surveillance
- veterinarians' surveillance: detecting threats (with priorities depending on categorisation) training and laboratories challenge
- competent authorities:
  - surveillance organisation and rapid alert
  - (ADNS et WAHIS OIE notifications)
- laboratories, research:



# **Borders biosecurity**

- Protect community without disrupting the crossborder movement of people and agricultural goods
- Collaboration veterinary services customs
- Borders inspection (documents and/or products)
- Illegal trade control
- Improve cooperation with non-EU countries (technical assistance, exotic diseases control)



## **Surveillance and preparedness**

- Preparedness with partners (responsabilities, costs)
- Regular exercices of implementation (expertise, slaughter equipments, communication tools)
- · Reduce the risk to a negligible or acceptable level
- Reduce the costs due animals culling



# EU main tools for diseases control (1)

- EU-fully harmonised veterinary legislation
- Specific disease control Directives
- Regionalisation policy
- Contingency plans
- The EU Reference Laboratory network (EURLs) diagnostic manuals
- The EU co-financed eradication programmes
- Enforcement audits



# EU main tools for diseases control (2)

- Enforcement audits
- Financial support in case of outbreaks
- The Community Veterinary Emergency Team CVET
- Better training for safer food BTSF
- The European Food Safety Authority EFSA
- International cooperation OIE/FAO GF-TADSs
- EU research projects Horizon 2020



### **Tools for control**

- TRACES
- EU Network of Laboratories
- Animal Disease Notification System (ADNS)
- Country listing for third countries



# TRACES Trade Control and Expert System of the EU

- Online tool for health certification in 35 languages
- Trade of live poultry/hatching eggs between Member States
- Imports to the EU of poultry and poultry products
- Standardised animal health certificate accompanying consignments
- Traceability tool in case of outbreaks
- Pre-notification, allows official animal health controls at destination or in Border control posts at import
- Official controls sampling and results



# **Laboratory network**

# **EU Reference Laboratory (EURL) and national laboratories (AI and ASF)**

- Confirmation, virus characterisation and storage
- Standards, training
- Ensure quick diagnosis due to location in all Member States
- EURL assistance to <u>national laboratories</u> in outbreak situations
- Inter-laboratory tests
- Data collection and analysis
- Annual meetings with national reference laboratories

### **Cooperation and verification**





## Rapid exchange of information

### **Animal Disease Notification System (ADNS)**

### **Primary outbreaks**

- Member States must notify the Commission and other Member States within 24 hours
- Immediate, automatic e-mail sent to all Member States
- Specific information must be provided in e.g. number of birds, measures taken

### Secondary outbreaks

Notification/update at least once per week

### Weekly e-mail updates to all ADNS members and on website

- Member States and non-EU countries receive information provided by affected Member States at the same time
- Information on Decisions on protection measures



## **Imports from Third countries**

# Only from countries listed in Commission Regulation (EC) No 798/2008

- Health status of poultry
- Regular & rapid information to EU and OIE
- Legislation on animal disease prevention and control
  - Monitoring, surveillance, early detection
  - AI/ND control measures at least equivalent to those in EU
  - Reliable laboratory test results EU or OIE standards
- Structure of veterinary services and their powers
- Organisation and implementation of controls and measures
- Reliable export certification

**Country pre-listing audits** carried out by Commission services **Safeguard measures** in case of outbreaks (e.g. HPAI USA, UA..)



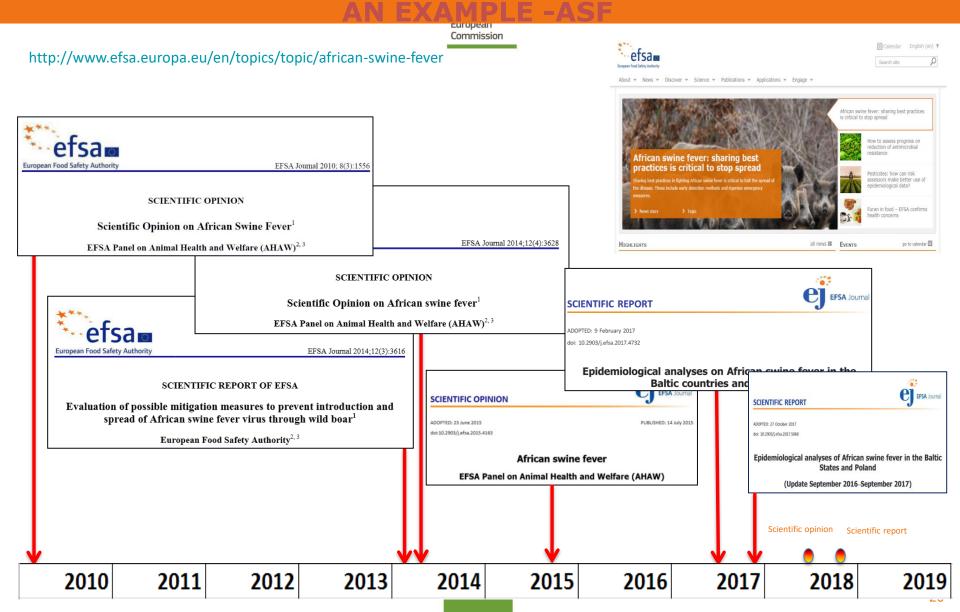
# How we keep the EU system alert? The Commission role:

- Contingency planning
- Directorate SANTE F audits for MS preparedness
- BTSF training of EU and non EU officials on technical aspects

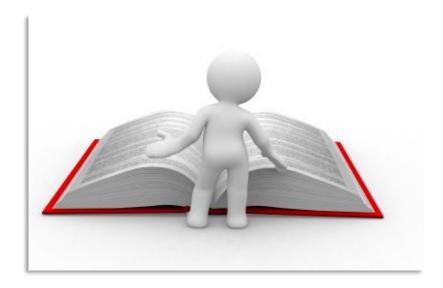


# TRANSPARENCY

### **EFSA ASSESSMENTS**







## **Animal Health law**

Food Safety



Adopted March 2016

Applicable from 2021

### **EU Animal Health Law**

### Regulation 2016/429

- A single, robust <u>legal framework</u> for animal health to simplify existing rules:
  - from 40 Directives and Regulations to one framework!
  - binding legislative act, directly applicable in all Member States
- More <u>risk based</u>, <u>proactive</u>, <u>preventive behaviour</u>
- It improves response to emerging diseases by allowing the Commission to act rapidly and effectively





# **Animal Health Law (from existing to the** future legal framework)

- A <u>legal framework</u> for animal health
  - taking over 39 Directives and Regulations:
    - "Trade" directives (e.g. Dir 64/432/EEC, 91/68/EEC, 92/65/EEC, 2009/156/EC and 2009/158/EC),
    - I&R of animals (e.g. Reg (EU) No. 1760/2000, 21/2004, Dir 2008/71/EC);
    - Import into the EU (e.g. Dir 2004/68/EC, 2002/99),
    - Disease control directives (e.g. Dir 2003/85/EC, 2001/98/EC, 2005/94/EC, etc...)
  - provides a basis for a single EU animal health policy





## **Important new elements**

- Responsibilities of keepers, operators, veterinarians, competent authorities, etc.
   "animal health: everyone is responsible!"
- More prevention (biosecurity, surveillance, improved knowledge on animal health, use of vaccines & reduction of AMR, emerging diseases,)
- Easy and safe trade



## Responsibilities for animal health

- Economic Operators (farmers, transporters, slaughterhouses, meat-processors, retailers):
  - health of their animals, biosecurity, etc.
  - knowledge on animal health
    - Animal diseases, biosecurity, interaction with animal welfare, good husbandry practices and antimicrobial resistance
  - more preventive behaviour → better biosecurity
    - Contribute to better overall husbandry
    - Result with healthier animals and possible lower use of veterinary medicines
- Veterinarians to play a more active role in:
  - raising awareness on how animal health & welfare is interlinked with human health (resistance to treatments, AMR)
- Competent Authorities to ensure resources, personnel, laboratories.



## More prevention in animal health law:

- Biosecurity at farms, in transport, assembly, and official controls at EU borders
- enhanced and more structured surveillance, disease notification and reporting to the Commission
- improved knowledge, disease awareness & preparedness (contingency plans)
- clearer policy for <u>vaccines</u>
   (for disease prevention and control measures)
- more tools to control emerging diseases



## **Conclusion: easy and safe trade**

- Enhanced convergence with international standards on animal health (OIE)
- Added flexibility for animal (or product)
   movements: by fostering good practices (e.g.
   surveillance and biosecurity)
- More modern and harmonised import rules at EU Border Inspection Posts



### More at:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/departments/health-and-food-safety\_en





# Regional Workshop on Animal Disease Preparedness

**Marius Masiulis** 

**Better Training For Safer Food** 

Official controls on products of animal origin





# Regulation 854/2004 of European Parliament and of the Council - Scope

Regulation lays down specific rules for the organization of official controls on products of animal origin.

Performance of official controls shall be without prejudice to FBO primary legal responsibility for ensuring food safety as laid down in Regulation 178/2002 laying down general principles and requirements of food law, establishing EFSA and laying down procedures in matters of food safety.



### Regulation 854/2004

- Official controls in relation to Community establishments:
- Approval of establishments;
- General principles for official controls in respect of all products of animal origin;
- Fresh meat;
- Live bivalve molluscs;
- Fishery products;
- Raw milk and dairy products;
- Procedures concerning imports:
- Lists of third countries and parts of third countries from which imports of specified products of animal origin are permitted;
- List of establishments from which imports of specified products of animal origin are permitted;
- Live bivalve molluscs, echinoderms, tunicates and marine gastropods;
- Special provisions for fishery products.



# Regulation 854/2004 – Approval of establishments

Approval is granted after one-site visit by Competent Authority.

Establishment will be approved for particular activities after full compliance to structural and hygiene requirements is confirmed.

Conditional approval can be granted up to 3 months. When there is clear progress but still not full compliance another 3 months prolongation (only once).

12 months for factory vessels.



# Regulation 854/2004 – Approval of establishments

CA gives every approved establishment unique approval number.

Code may be added to specify type of production.

When serious deficiencies are identified or production is stopped repeatedly CA may withdraw establishments approval.

For wholesale markets the approval can be suspended for certain groups of products.



### Regulation 854/2004 - General principles

FBOs offer all assistance needed to ensure that official controls by Competent Authority can be performed effectively

### In particular

- give access to all buildings, premises, installations or other infrastructures
- make available any documentation and record required under present regulation or considered necessary by the CA for judging the situation



### Regulation 854/2004 General principles

The official controls include audits of good hygiene practices and HACCP based procedures verifying

- checks on food chain information
- design and maintenance of premises and equipment
- pre-operational, operational and post-operational hygiene
- personal hygiene
- training in hygiene and work procedures
- pest control
- water quality
- temperature control
- controls on food entering and leaving the establishment



### Regulation 854/2004 General principles

During audits CA will take special care:

- to determine whether staff and staff activities at all stages of production process comply with requirements;
  - to verify the FBOs relevant records;
- to take samples for laboratory analyses whenever necessary;
- to document elements taken into account and findings of the audit.



### Regulation 854/2004 General principles

Nature and intensity of auditing tasks in respect of individual establishments shall depend upon assessed risk.

### CA shall regularly assess:

- public and animal health risks;
- in case of slaughterhouses animal welfare aspects;
- type and throughput of processes carried out;
- FBOs past record as compliance with food law.



### Regulation 854/2004 - Fresh meat

OV shall carry out inspections in slaughterhouses, game handling establishments and cutting plants in particular as regards:

- food chain information;
- ante-mortem inspection;
- animal welfare;
- post-mortem inspection;
- specified risk material and other animal by-products;
- laboratory testing.

Health marks shall be applied by or under the responsibility of OV.



#### Regulation 854/2004 Fresh meat

After carrying out the controls OV shall take following measures:

- The communication of inspection results;
- -Decisions concerning food chain information;
- -Decisions concerning live animals;
- Decisions concerning animal welfare;
- Decisions concerning meat.

Member States ensure that official veterinarians and auxiliaries are qualified and undergo special training.



#### Regulation 854/2004 Food chain information

OV is to check and analyze information from the records of the holding of origin of animals intended for slaughter and take account of the documented check and analysis during ante- and postmortem inspection.

- Certificate
- Owners declaration
- ID database
- Passport



#### Regulation 854/2004 Ante-mortem inspection

OV is to carry out ante-mortem inspection of all animals to be slaughtered.

The inspection must take place within 24 hours of arrival and less than 24 before slaughter.

#### Inspection must exclude

- that welfare has been compromised
- any condition that might adversely affect human or animal health (zoonotic diseases, OIE listed diseases).



#### Regulation 854/2004 Post-mortem inspection

Carcasses and offal are inspected without a delay after slaughter.

Particular attention to detection of zoonoses and/or OIE listed diseases.

The speed of slaughter line and number of inspection staff present must enable proper inspection.

Precautions must be taken to ensure that meat is not contaminated by palpation, cutting or incision.



#### Regulation 854/2004 Decisions concerning meat

Meat is declared unfit for human consumption:

- derives from animals without ante-mortem inspection;
- derives from animals the offal of which has not undergone post-mortem inspection;
- derives from animals dead before slaughter, stillborn, unborn or slaughtered under age of 7 days;
- derives from animals affected by OIE listed diseases;
- derives from animals affected by a generalised disease (septicaemia, pyaemia, toxaemia);
- is not in conformity with microbiological criteria.



#### Regulation 854/2004 Decisions on meat

- exhibits parasitic infestation;
- contains residues or contaminants in excess of permitted levels;
- derives from animals treated with forbidden substances;
- has been treated illegally with decontaminating substances;
- has been treated illegally with ionizing UV-rays;
- contains foreign bodies;
- exceeds the maximum permitted radioactivity levels;
- indicates patho-physiological changes, abnormalities in consistency, insufficient bleeding, organoleptic anomalies (sexual odour).



## Regulation 854/2004 Actions in the case of non-compliance

- imposition of sanitation procedure or other corrective action;
- restriction of the placing on the market, export or import;
- recall and/or destruction of products;
- authorization to use products for different purposes;
- suspension of operations or closure of all or part of FBO;
- suspension or withdrawal FBO approval;
- -consignments from third countries seizure followed by destruction or re-dispatch;
- -any other measure CA deems appropriate.



## Regulation 854/2004 - PROCEDURES CONCERNING IMPORTS

Lists of third countries and parts of third countries from which imports of specified products of animal origin are permitted;

- List of establishments from which imports of specified products of animal origin are permitted.
- It does not matter whether or not a country is part of the EU!
- No discrimination legislation applies directly or must be complied with or equivalent and applicable for internal market within EU, for export and for import.



## Regulation 854/2004 - PROCEDURES CONCERNING IMPORTS

Lists of third countries and parts of third countries from which imports of specified products of animal origin are permitted

#### A third country shall appear on such lists only if:

- a Community control in that country has taken place;
- demonstrates that the competent authority provides appropriate guarantees;



#### Regulation 854/2004 - IMPORT

#### Criteria for listing:

- > the legislation of the country on:
- products of animal origin;
- the use of veterinary medicinal products;
- the preparation and use of feedingstuff.
- the hygiene conditions production, manufacture, handling, storage and dispatch applied to products of animal origin;
- any experience of marketing and import controls;
- > the results of Community controls carried out in the country;
- existence, implementation and communication of an:
- approved zoonoses control programme,
- approved residue control programme.



#### Regulation 854/2004 - IMPORT

List of establishments from which imports of specified products of animal origin are permitted

- Products of animal origin may be imported into the Community only if they have been dispatched from, and obtained or prepared in, establishments that appear on lists;
- Fresh meat, minced meat, meat preparations, meat products and mechanically separated meat may be imported into the Community only if they have been manufactured from meat obtained in slaughterhouses and cutting plants appearing on lists.



#### Regulation 854/2004 - IMPORT

Placing on the list:

Only if the competent authority of the country of origin guarantees:

- establishment complies with relevant Community requirements - Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 or equivalent to such requirements and country is included in the list of countries from which imports of specified products of animal origin are permitted;
- official inspection in place;
- > all relevant information available to the Commission;
- > real power exist to stop the export in the case of failure of meeting the requirements.



# THANK YOU !!!



The contents of this presentation are the views of the author and do not necessarily represent an official position of the European Commission.



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#### Better Training for Safer Food BTSF

European Commission Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency DRB A3/042 L-2920 Luxembourg

Food safety



### The EU Audit approach

## Implementation and Enforcement of EU laws

Tokyo 12-15 June 2018

Andrea DIONISI
European Commission
DG Health & Food Safety
Bilateral International Relations



# The EU Audit approach Implementation and Enforcement of EU laws

1. The former F.V.O.
Directorate F



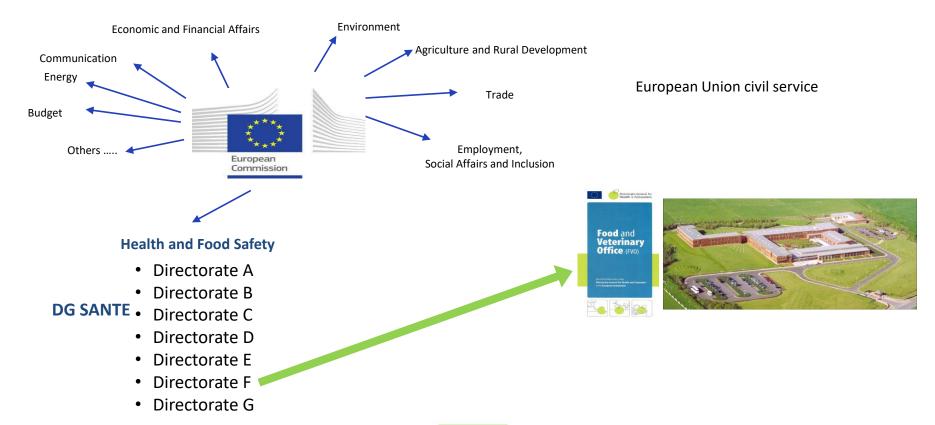


#### The EU Audit approach Implementation and Enforcement of EU laws





# The former Food and Veterinary Office (FVO)





#### **Directorate F**

- Staff <u>+</u> 180 staff
  - <u>+</u> 80 auditors -
- +/- 250 audits per year:
- EU Member States,
- Candidate Countries
- Non-EU countries

Audits - SYSTEMS APPROACH

http://ec.europa.eu/food/food\_veterinary\_office/index\_en.htm

Food Safety





#### **Areas of activity**

- Food and feed safety
- Food quality
- Animal health and welfare
- Plant health

In EU Member States, Candidate Countries and Third Countries

since 2013: Medical devices active pharmaceutical ingredients Organics



Farm to Fork





#### Role of the Dir. F

- Key responsibility of the Commission is to act as a "guardian of the treaties"
- Ensure EU legislation is properly implemented and enforced
  - > increased trust between Member States
  - > ...and with Trade Partners
  - > Health and safety EU citizens



#### Role of the Dir. F

- ➤ Ensures trade partners can provide equivalent guarantees that commodities intended for export to the EU meet the EU requirements
- Assesses specific issues, the controls taken, and the need for additional EU legislation as appropriate
  - Task force
  - Work groups
- ➤ Defined in Regulation 882/2004 for Food and Feed or Directive 2000/29 for plant health, as recently amended.



#### How does the Dir. F do it?

- Carries out <u>audits</u> in Member States, candidate countries and trade partners.
- Reports on its findings (publicly).
- Makes <u>recommendations</u> to Competent Authorities (CA) to address identified shortcomings.
- Follow-up on the implementation of corrective actions proposed by CAs.

Food Safety



#### How does the Dir.F do it?

- ➤ Carries out extensive non-audit work
  - Desk studies, mandatory reporting
- Contribute to <u>policy development</u> within the Commission
  - Overview reports
- Active in BTSF



#### **Previous audit reports**

- Individual audit reports
- Overview audit reports

Publicly available on Directorate F web page

http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/audit\_reports/index.cfm





#### **Country Profile**

- provide a horizontal, integrated, country-based overview which:
  - Helps to identify the main strengths and weaknesses of the control systems audited
  - Assists the overall prioritisation of DG SANTE audits and other monitoring activities
  - Supports the systematic follow up of recommendations in DG SANTE activities and reports
  - Documents progress made by MS on implementing DG SANTE recommendations
  - Serves as a basic source of background information for stakeholders





#### **Annual Reports**

- Article 44 of Regulation 882/2004
- Member States submit to the Commission. Comprises the results of the official controls carried out under their MANCP
- Commission Annual report on the overall operation of controls in the MS:
  - http://ec.europa.eu/food/audits\_analysis/annual\_reports/index\_en.htm
- Reports available to the public





# Multi-Annual national control plans

- Art 41 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004
- Each Member State has a multi-annual national control plan (MANCP) to ensure effective implementation of food/feed safety, animal health and animal welfare rules
- Updated regularly
- MANCP to take account of guidelines of the EU Commission

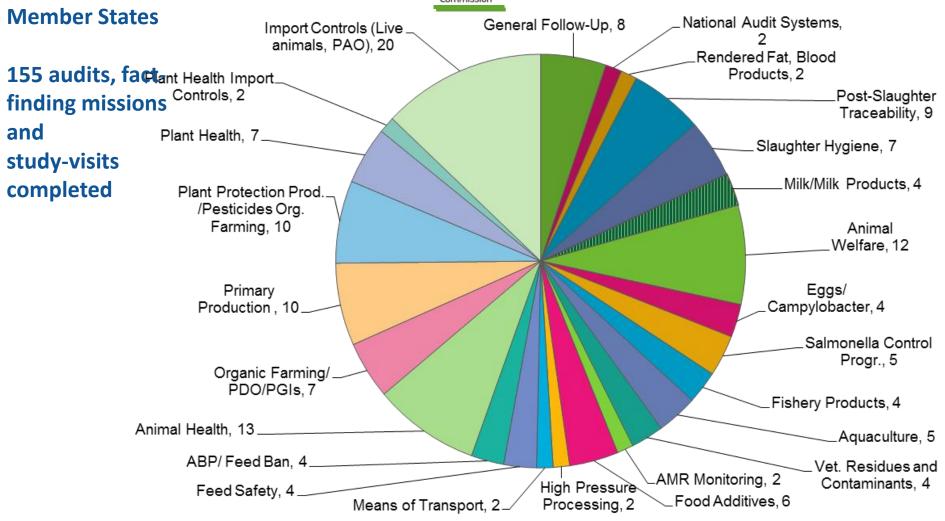




#### Dir. F audits

- >250 audits each year
  - Food safety 150
  - > Food quality 14
  - > Animal health 15
  - > Animal welfare 11
  - Plant health and seeds 22
  - ➤ General follow-up 9



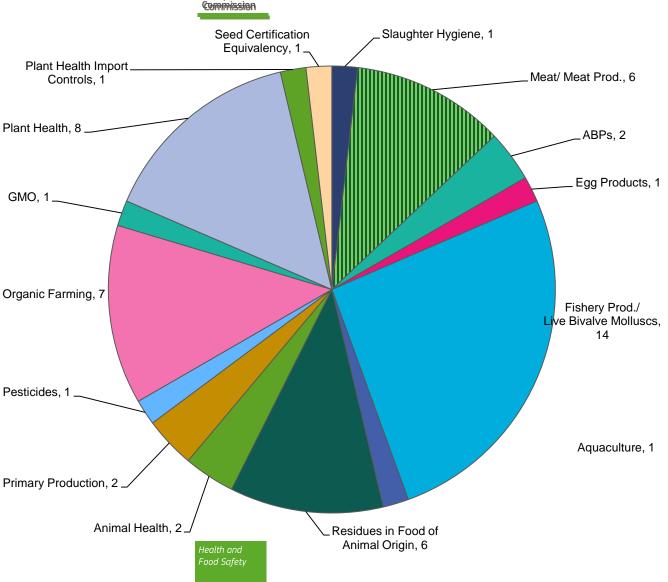


Food Safety



Trade partners incl. cand. countries

54 audits, factfinding missions and study-visits completed





#### Dir. F audits

- >250 audits each year
  - > 60% EU Member States
  - > 40% in Candidate Countries and other Trade partners



# The EU Audit approach Implementation and Enforcement of EU laws





#### **Audit cycle**





#### The objectives of the audits are to:

- Ensure satisfactory levels of compliance to EU requirements (import requirements)
- 2. Produce report and recommendations
- 3. Follow up and output for Country Profiles
- 4. Inform in full transparency the Council (MSs), the European Parliament and other stakeholders





#### Dir. F audit process

- Based on standard auditing practice
- > Agreement with CA
- Audit plan and questionnaire
- Opening meeting
- > Site visits
- Closing meeting



# **Audit on the spot**

- To assess the Competent Authority supervision power
- CA performance
- Capability of ensuring that food business operators comply with Union legislation or
- Provide guarantees equivalent to said legislation





#### **Audit**

- To assess the fulfilment of EU import conditions
- To inspect the establishments, randomly
- To assess the general sanitary conditions
- Carry out "ad hoc" audits in specific fileds (AH, PH, Residues, etc.)





### **Pre-audit activities**

**Audit plan** 

Report template – ready before start of series

**Information gathering** 

- Pre-audit questionnaire
- Other sources of information

**Itinerary** 





# **Audit plan**

- Provides information on:
  - Objectives, scope and depth
  - Background
  - Audit procedures
  - Main areas of examination
  - Language to be used
  - Reporting procedure





# Information gathering

- Audit questionnaire
- Country profiles
- Multi-annual national control plans (MANCP)
- Previous audit reports
- RASFF
- TRACES
- Trade data





# **Audit questionnaire**

- To gather necessary information, for example:
  - Updates of legislation/procedures
  - Update of actions taken
  - Sampling programmes
  - Data on exports to EU





# **Itinerary**

- Opening meeting
- On-site visits
  - Documentary review
  - Interview
  - Observation
- Closing meeting





### **Audit**

#### A number of establishments in the trade partners to check:

- If the CA are seen to be competent and capable of maintaining a credible system of official controls on the production of food of animal origin
  - the country may then benefit 'pre-list'
- Once accepted
  - establishments would be free to export the respective foodstuff to the EU

Listing of food establishments is handled by SANTE/F

Listing of establishment for animal by-product are listed by SANTE/G.



## Reporting and follow-up

- Back-to office note
- Draft report
- Comments from the Competent Authority
- Final Report
- Competent Authorities Action Plan
- Follow-up of report recommendations
- Close-out Note (Unit level)
- Overview report of series of audits





# **Post Audit Follow-up**

#### DG Health and Food Safety Follow-Up process - General

- "Standard" follow-up
  - Administrative follow up of each individual **Non-EU** Audit
  - General Follow-up Audits, Desk Audits and Administrative Updates to the Country Profile for <u>Member States</u>
- "Extraordinary" follow-up
  - Verification on-the-spot by means of a follow-up audit
- The system is flexible in dealing with specific situations





# **Post Audit Follow-up**

Actions <u>can</u> be taken <u>immediately</u> at the end of an audit and <u>before</u> the normal follow-up procedures of F7

When an audit identifies an **immediate threat to consumer, animal or plant health**, the Commission may take emergency ("safeguard") measures





## **Post Audit Follow-up**

- All recommendations contained in audit reports are uniquely identified in the workflow/information system **"MisDoc"**
- Following assessment by the audit unit (F1, 2, 3, 4 and 5) of the Competent Authority's **Action Plan**, a Closeout Note (CN) is prepared and sent to unit F7
- The Close out Note assesses the "adequacy" of the response for each recommendation and includes advice to F7 on which specific follow-up actions are required.
- All recommendations stay open until closed by F7





# **General Follow-up in Member States**

- Assessments of corrective actions are based on verifiable assurances, documentary evidence and dialogue with the competent authorities.
- Recommendations are then classified as
  - Action taken (Closed)
  - Action in progress (Open)
  - Action still required (Open)
- Recommendations still open after GFA <u>remain the subject</u> of <u>monitoring</u> by the Commission to assess progress
- MS are invited to provide DG Health and Food Safety with an Action Plan on any cases of "Action still required" within one month of receiving the <u>final</u> Country Profile (CP)





# Follow up measures "Action still required"

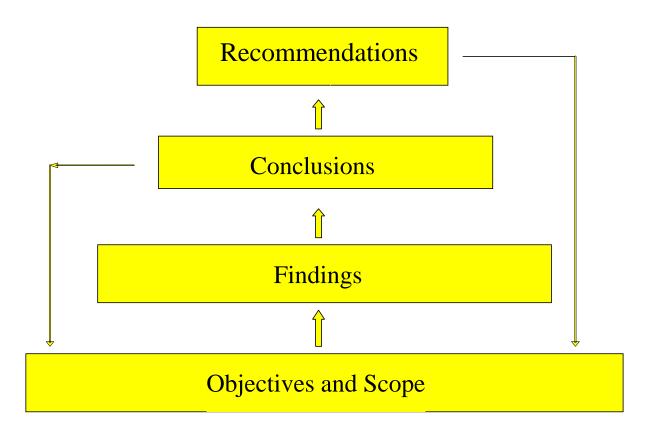
- SANTE Management Committee on follow-up
  - Meeting every quarter to discuss further DG SANTE follow up measures including on "Action still required" cases and other issues (e.g. safeguard measures)
- All these actions may lead to additional measures:
  - Forwarding file for further enforcement,
  - Pressure on MS ( at PAFF\* meetings),
  - High-level discussions with counterparts in the MS.
- As a last resort, legal action under EU law may be taken by the Commission to ensure that Member States meet their obligations under Community law.

<sup>\*</sup> Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed – a regulatory committee of the Commission to which EU Parliament and Council have delegated their power





### **Coherence**





#### Dir F main page

http://ec.europa.eu/food/food\_veterinary\_office/index\_en.htm

#### **Dir F reports**

http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/audit\_reports/index.cfm

□ Videos

Dir F introduction

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\_embedded&v=c0J\_3wlz6Qg

Food, 500 Million Reasons to keep it safe" (video)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MYt\_FRwNu7w







Prof. Andrea DIONISI European Commission DG Health & Food Safety Bilateral International Relations

> Health and Food Safety



# Regional Workshop on Animal Disease Preparedness

Thierry van den Berg

The EU analytical support system: the role of the EU and National reference laboratories

**Better Training For Safer Food** 

Tokyo, Japan 12-15 June 2018



## **EU Veterinary Control System**

Prevention

Detection

Control

Transparency

**Biosecurity** 

Animal identification

Veterinary certification and movement control for intra-EU trade of livestock

Veterinary certification and border controls for animals and products imported.

Surveillance

Reference laboratories

Health monitoring in high risk areas

Animal Disease Notification System. Contingency planning

Animal Disease Notification System

Isolation of infected holdings

**Eradication** 

EU support:
Emergency team,
vaccine banks,
compensation,
trainings.

EU audits of Member State veterinary services

Public information systems (RASFF, ADNS)

Scientific consultations

Notification.



#### **DG SANTE** priorities on animal health policy

#### The new Animal Health Law:

- 1. Puts emphasis on increased effort to anticipate possible outbreaks of new or exotic diseases in the EU
- 2. Provides even more solid foundation to ensure that the high levels of protection in the EU
- 3. EC to deliver on the objectives of this Law:
  - simpler and clearer rules focus on key priorities: preventing and eradicating disease with prioritization by listing and categorizing diseases
  - modern technologies: for surveillance and early detection, electronic identification and it is even more aligned with international standards
  - more flexibility: to adjust rules to local circumstances, and to emerging issues such as climate and social change



# Reference organization

Official laboratories network at EU and national level (OIE/WHO)

+

official method with known and shared performance criteria

+

Competences
Reference activities and outbreaks

confidence



### The key-role of the EURLs

A) General role

Coordination of high quality methods employed for diagnosing diseases in EU

B) Specific role in crisis management

Assist actively in diagnosis of disease outbreaks
in MS

Current role under 882/2004, Future role under 2017/625



# Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 ---> Regulation (EC) No 625/2017

KEY: Activities of EURLs/NRLs should cover all areas of food and feed law and animal health.

Responsibilities and requirements described for

882/2004: EURLs in Article 32, NRLs in Article 33

625/2017: EURLs in Article 94, NRLs in Article 101

**EU reference centre for Animal Welfare, Article 96** 

Distribution of responsibilities among Commission, Member States, EURLs and NRLs; more specific and more precise



### **EURL network 2017**

46 EURLs

28 Food and Feed safety
18 Animal Health

2 new EURLs animal health designated in 2016

PPR and LSD

New EURL selected in 2017

Viruses in food

**Brexit:** UK EURLs moving to other EU countries (2019)

**EURL - Animal health and live animals** 

**Avian Influenza and Newcastle** 

<u>Disease</u>

**Bluetongue** 

**African Horses sickness** 

**Foot and Mouth Disease** 

**African Swine Fever** 

**Classical Swine Fever** 

**Molluscs diseases** 

**Zootechnics (bovine breeding)** 

**Brucellosis** 

Fish diseases

**Bovine Tuberculosis** 

**Crustacean Diseases** 

**Equine diseases** 

**Rabies** 

**Bee Health** 

**Peste des Petits ruminants** 

**Capripoxes** 



# Regulation (EU) No 2017/625

The new legislation concerning the designation and tasks of the **European Union Reference Laboratories** and the European Union Reference Centres is in <u>Regulation</u>

(EU) No 2017/625 on import and export of animals and goods starting 29 April 2018.

- 1. European Union reference laboratories shall contribute to the improvement and harmonisation of methods of analysis, test or diagnosis to be used by official laboratories designated in accordance with Article 37(1) and of the analytical, testing and diagnostic data generated by them.
  - 2. European Union reference laboratories designated in accordance with Article 93(1) shall be responsible for the following tasks
- 3. European Union reference laboratories shall publish the list of the national reference laboratories designated by the Member States in accordance with Article 100(1).



#### **TASKS**

- (a) guidance on the laboratory methods;
- (b) providing reference materials to NRLs;
- (c) coordinating the methods and in particular, by organising regular inter-laboratory comparative testing or proficiency tests (PTs);
  - (d) coordinating practical arrangements necessary to apply new methods;
    - (e) conducting training courses;
  - (f) providing scientific and technical assistance to the Commission;
    - (g) providing info on relevant research activities to Com & NRLs;
- (h) collaborating within the scope of their mission with laboratories in third countries and with the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC);



- (i) assisting actively in the diagnosis of outbreaks by carrying out confirmatory diagnosis, characterisation and taxonomic or epizootic studies on pathogen isolates;
- (j) coordinating or performing tests for the verification of the quality of reagents and lots of reagents (certification and batch control);
- (k) where relevant for their area of competence, establishing and maintaining reference collections of pathogenic agents and provide samples thereof to national reference laboratories; up-to-date lists of available reference substances and reagents and of manufacturers and suppliers of such substances and reagents;
  - (I) where relevant for their area of competence, cooperate among themselves and with the Commission, as appropriate, to develop methods of analysis, testing or diagnosis of high standards.

As regards point (i) of point (k), the European Union reference laboratory may establish and maintain those reference collections and reference strains by contractual outsourcing to other official laboratories and to scientific organisations.



# EXAMPLE: PROPOSED WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE EUROPEAN UNION REFERENCE LABORATORY FOR FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

Activity 1: Distribution of high quality ELISA kits and reagents

Activity 2: Review and evaluate new analytical methods that have been developed

Activity 3: Promotion of EU-RLs collaboration with laboratories in third countries

Activity 4: Perform vaccine matching and European Pharmacopeia potency tests on vaccine antigens held in the European Union FMD vaccine bank

Activity 5: Identify new emerging threats to Europe

Activity 6: Carry out Proficiency Testing Scheme (PTS) for the National Reference Laboratories in EU member states in 2016 and 2017

Activity 7: EU-RL to carry out an annual workshop for the NRLs

Activity 8: Share information between the EU-RL and NRLs

Activity 9: Administrative Activities to ensure sound and efficient management



# Main requirements for NRLs in the Reg. 625/2017

- Competent Authorities responsible for designating a NRL for each EURL (Total network in EU >1300) (art 100)
- Assist Competent Authorities in outbreaks! (art 101)
- Ensure the dissemination to the competent authorities and official laboratories of information that the European Union reference laboratory supplies
- NRLs to comply with:
  - ISO 17<mark>025 (art</mark>.100 and 37)
  - obligations to participate successful in trainings & proficiency tests with EURLs (art. 101);
  - Coordinate activities of official laboratories (art 101)
- NRLs to be equipped with biosecurity standards (art 100)
- Conduct training courses for Official Labs
- NRLs subjects to audits by Competent Authorities in the Member States (art. 39)



# Notifiable animal diseases - an EU approach

What? Animal infectious agents with higher impact on economy, public safety, zoonotic threats

Who? Everyone, including suspicions of outbreaks

#### Two exemples:

**Diagnosis:** constant evolution of NAI

**Vaccination:** evaluation of LSD vaccines



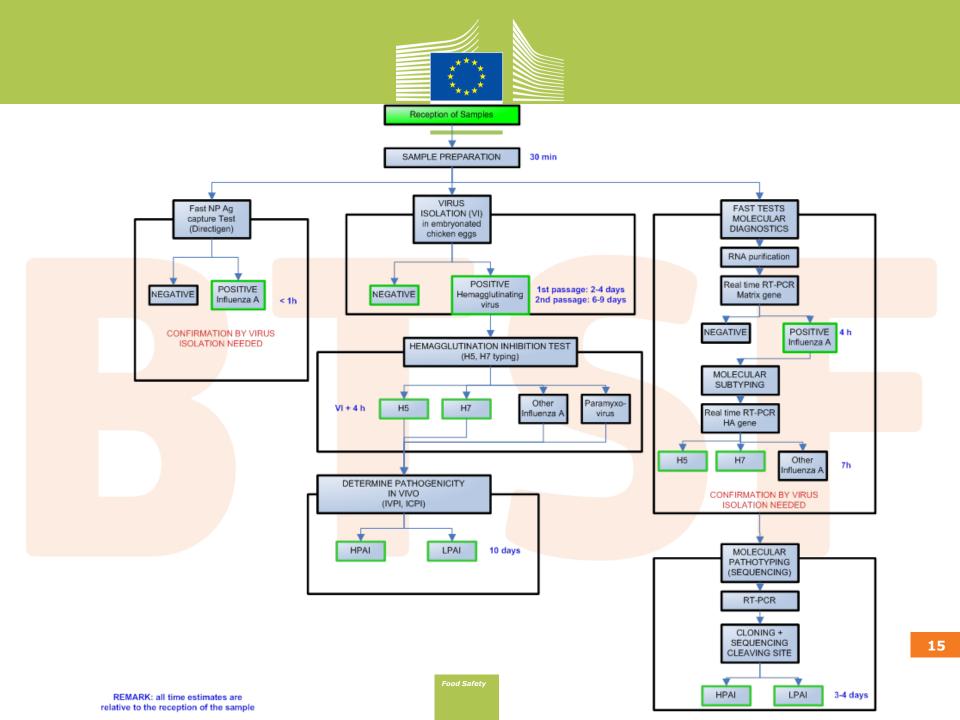
# **Concepts of AI diagnosis**

#### Must be:

- Rapid, sensitive, specific
- Harmonized (recommended & validated protocols)
  - Quality controled (QMS, ISO certification, PT)
- Hierarchically organized (international/national/regional, private/public...)

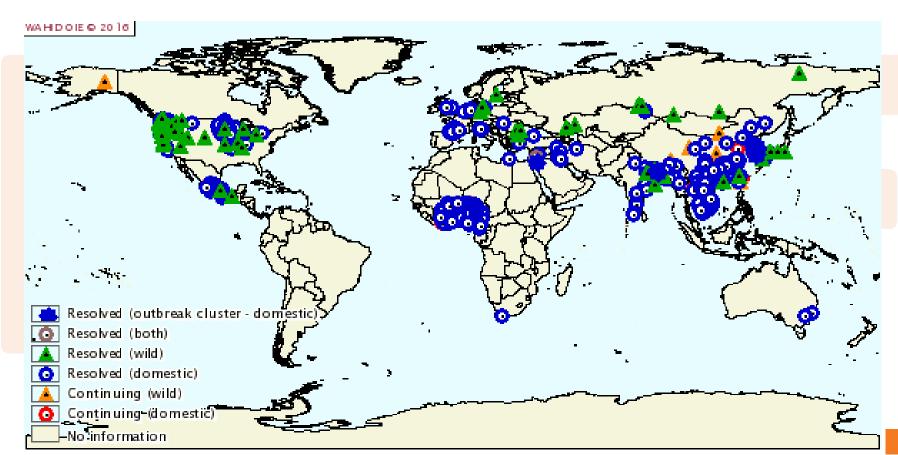
# Legal bases and legal bindings

Directive 2005/94/EC
Decision 2006/437/EC (Diagnostic Manual)





# **World situation 2016**





# The current European AI status: sporadic and isolated cases

- Sporadic occurrence of clinically suspicious flocks
- Sporadic serological evidence of presence of NAI in single flocks
  - No (or low) sustained chains of transmission

# Immediate detection allows containing virus at index case and minimize restrictions

- Early warning systems
- Syndromic, active and passive surveillances
  - Rapid reporting
  - Good and informative sampling
    - Rapid diagnosis



# Endemic situation: stamping out alone not an option anymore...

- Ubiquitous virus presence and circulation (evolution)
  - Recycling waves of virus (e.g. H5Nx)
  - Reservoirs of virus (LBM, retailers, Wils Birds...)
    - Public Health concern if zoonotic potential...

Adapt diagnosis in order to detect the broadest scope and minimize time to diagnostic



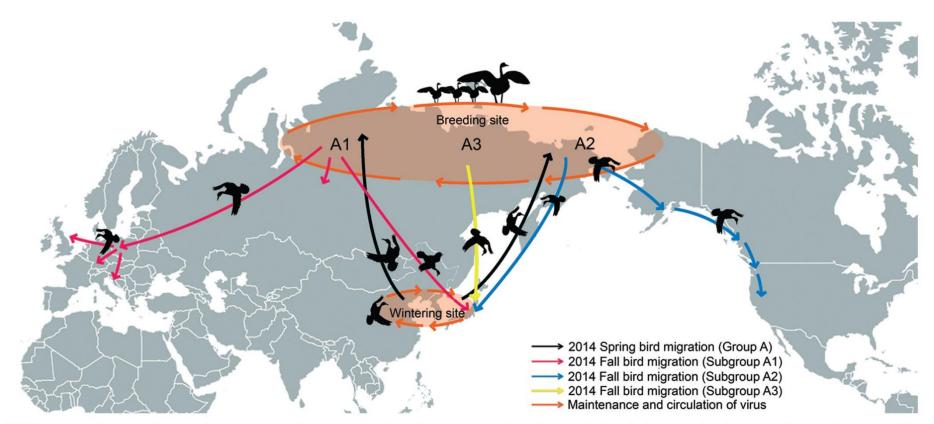
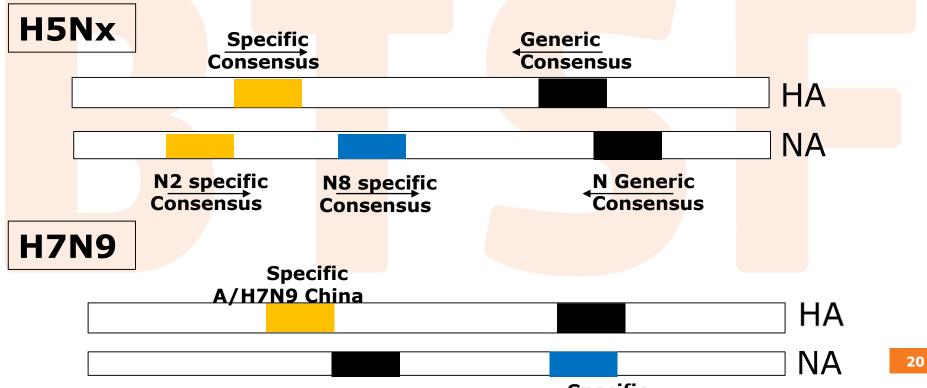


FIG 2 Geographic map showing the movement of H5N8 HPAIV in Asia, Europe, and North America in relation to regional waterfowl migration routes. The map, by Dmthoth, is from Wikipedia Commons (http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Blank\_Map\_Pacific\_World.svg).



# Adapt methods to minimize time-to-diagnostic



ISAI 2018

Partners

About Al

Laboratory protocols

×

Video Training Resources

Community

## Welcome to FLU-LAB-NET - Enhancing Global Avian Influenza Networks



FLU-LAB-NET was founded through funding from a European Framework 6 programme to deliver new opportunities for the enhancement and reinforcement of the European Union Reference Laboratory (Animal and Plant Health Agency - Weybridge, UK) and the National Reference Laboratory network for Avian Influenza within the European Union.

This facility provides an interactive forum for laboratory specialists and other scientific professionals working in the area of veterinary public health with specific interest in animal influenza. It also provides a rapid way of disseminating some of the latest information at a global level.

This site is currently under review. Further content will be available shortly.

### 10th International Symposium on Avian Influenza (ISAI 2018)

The symposium will take place 15 - 18 April 2018 at the Grand Hotel in Brighton. It provides an opportunity for scientists, biologists, medics, veterinarians and government regulators from all over the world to exchange and discuss current scientific information on avian influenza.

Find out more about the ISAI 2018. Full conference programme now available.

### EU Reference Laboratory contributes to Avian influenza articles

The EU Reference Laboratory for Avian Influenza has contributed to the following publications:

- Avian influenza overview November 2017 February 2018
- Avian influenza overview September November 2017
- Avian influenza overview October 2016 August 2017

### Situation assessment following detection and spread of H5N8 HPAI in EU Member States

The International Reference Laboratory (IRL) at APHA Weybridge is keeping the ongoing epizootic with H5N8 HPAI in Europe and beyond under constant review. See the situation assessment reports below.

- Updated situation assessment report (published February 2018)
- Phylogenetic tree from February 2018 situation report
- Previous situation assessment report (published November 2017)
- Phylogenetic tree from November 2017 situation report



# In vivo evaluation of Lumpy Skin Disease vaccine efficacy in controlled environment

Kris De Clercq, Andy Haegeman, Ilse De Leeuw, Annebel De Vleeschauwer, Laurent Mostin, Willem Van Campe, Maria Vastag, Claude Saegerman, Eeva Tuppurainen, Thierry van den Berg





BILL & MELINDA GATES foundation

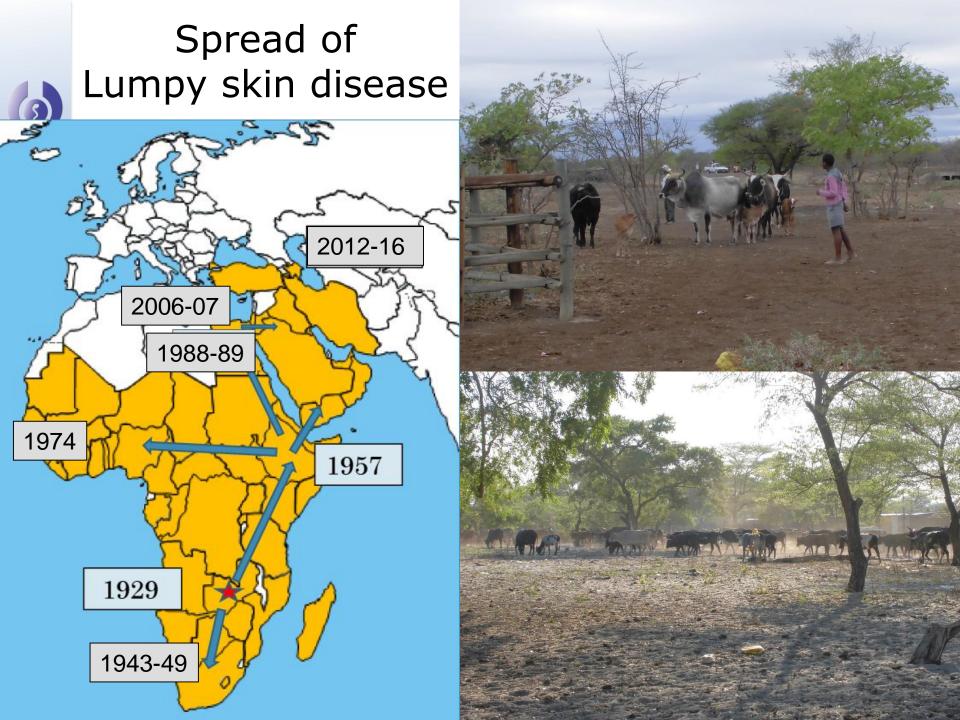










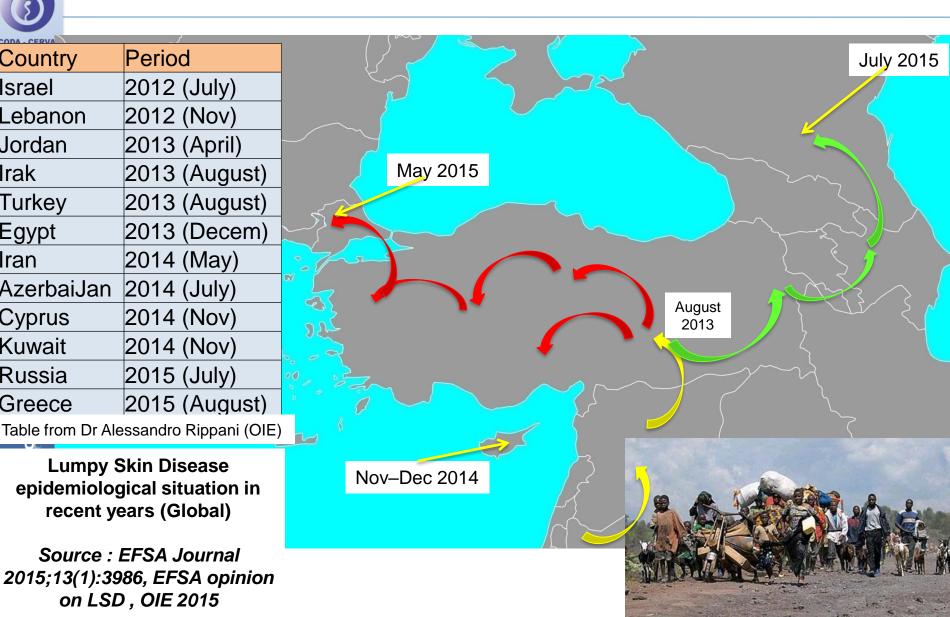


## Spread of Lumpy skin diesease (LSD) 2013-2015 Middle-East, Turkey, Cyprus, Caucasus, Russia

Country	Period
Israel	2012 (July)
Lebanon	2012 (Nov)
Jordan	2013 (April)
Irak	2013 (August)
Turkey	2013 (August)
Egypt	2013 (Decem)
Iran	2014 (May)
AzerbaiJan	2014 (July)
Cyprus	2014 (Nov)
Kuwait	2014 (Nov)
Russia	2015 (July)
Greece	2015 (August)

**Lumpy Skin Disease** epidemiological situation in recent years (Global)

Source : EFSA Journal 2015;13(1):3986, EFSA opinion on LSD, OIE 2015





# Choosing a vaccine against LSDV

- -Live attenuated LSDV vaccines provide good protection in cattle and is superior to sheeppox virus (SPPV) vaccines (Ben-Gera et al 2015)
  - Only vaccines with demonstrated efficacy and safety should be used
    - Independent vaccine challenge experiment
  - Vaccines should be produced according to Good Manufacturing
     Process (GMP), vaccine virus needs to be molecularly characterized,
     contain sufficient virus titre and be free of extraneous agents
    - Where distribution of SPP and GTP overlaps with LSD

SPPV vaccines may be used for cattle against LSDV if sufficient vaccination coverage and other appropriate control measures in place

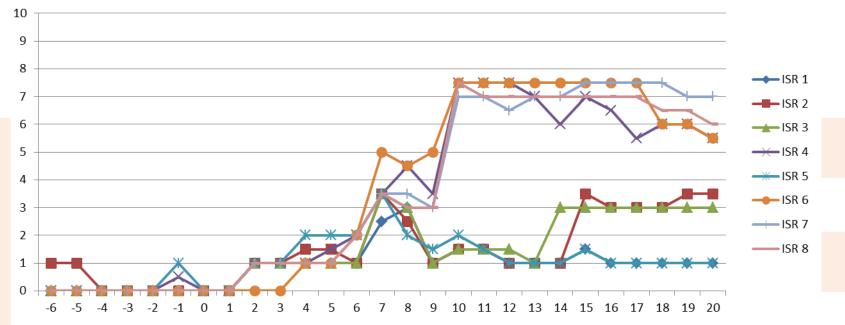
 GTPV containing vaccines are not yet used against LSD but has been demonstrated to provide good protection against LSDV



## **LSDV: Infection Model**

- o Infection route:
  - Intravenously
  - Intra-dermal: 4 sites, 2 on each side of the neck
- $\circ$  Infection dose: 10<sup>5.4-6</sup> TCID<sub>50</sub>/100 μl
- Number of animals per group: N = 8
- Clinical scoring (21 days) includes:
  - Body temperature, Lnn swelling, nodule development (number and size), feed uptake, conjunctivitis, general behaviour, local reaction (vaccination and challenge sites)
- Sampling
  - EDTA blood, buccal swabs: PCR, Virus isolation
  - Biopsies, tissues and organs: PCR, Virus isolation
  - Serum: IPMA and virusneutralisation test
  - Heparinized blood: IFN release





- Clinical signs after challenge generalisation / clinical score
- Body temperatures: fever peak around 7/8 dpi
- Seroconversion: Onset: 4 to 13 dpi
- Virus detection in blood: detection as early as 2/3 dpi
- IFNg release upon stimulation in vitro





## **LSDV: Vaccine trials**

## ○ Commercial available → Live attenuated vaccines (LAV)

- Sheeppox based (RM-65)
  - ✓ JoviVac (Jordan Bio-Industries Center (JOVAC); Jordan)
  - ✓ Abic (Abic Biological Laboratories Ltd (Phibro); Israel)
  - ✓ Penpox (Pendink Institute; Turkey)
- LSDV-based
  - ✓ OBP (Onderste Poort; South-Africa)
  - ✓ LumpyVax (MSD; South-Africa)
  - ✓ HerbiVac (Deltamune, South-Africa)
- Goatpox based
  - ✓ CapriVac (Jordan Bio-Industries Center (JOVAC); Jordan)
- Sheep and goatpox based or LSDV?(Cfr Tuppurainen et al., 2014)
  - ✓ KSGP 0240/0180 (Jordan Bio-Industries Center (JOVAC)

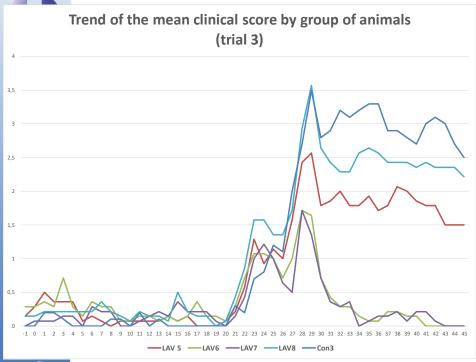
## New Inactivated Vaccine (MCI, Morocco)

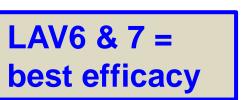
- Sheeppox-based
- LSDV-based

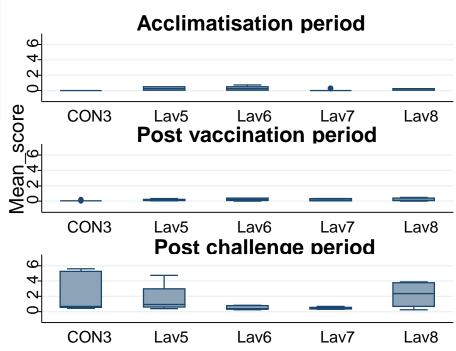


## **Results of Trial A**









www.coda-cerva



## LSDV Vaccine trials: first conclusions

## The LSD challenge model allows the identification of:

- Vaccines with very good potential
  - <u>No</u> viremia, elicits <u>high</u> Abs response and <u>good</u> IFNg release, <u>almost no</u> traces of viral DNA found in organs
  - Although very slight side effects after vaccination (fever)
- Vaccines with potential
  - Almost no viremia, elicts good Abs and IFNg response, almost no traces of viral DNA found in organs
- Vaccines (partially) failing to protect the animals
  - <u>Strong</u> viremia, <u>Low</u> Abs and IFNg response, virus <u>widely</u>
     <u>spread</u> in the organs. Animals in this groups also <u>secreted</u> the
     virus as detected by buccal swabs.
- None of the LAV vaccines protected against the initial fever spike!
- Inactivated vaccines: boost needed; promising results.



# An additional role for EURLs: Future Trends on EU vaccine banks

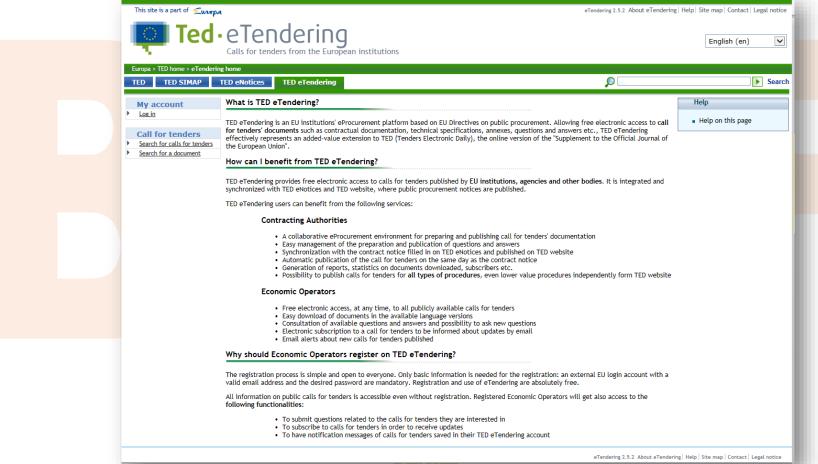
- ✓ More sophisticated vaccine requirements.
- ✓ Active involvement of the EURLs in quality / safety controls.

## **Tenders in the pipeline for vaccines' purchase (EU Vaccine banks)**

- Call for tender for up to 2 million doses of Peste des Petits Ruminants vaccines
- ➤ Call for tender for **Lumpy Skin Disease vaccines**
- ➤ Call for tender for **Sheep & Goat Pox** vaccines



# EU vaccine banks tenders available on the <u>TED eTendering website</u> <a href="https://etendering.ted.europa.eu/general/page.html?name=home">https://etendering.ted.europa.eu/general/page.html?name=home</a>



22



## **EURL** website

All general information about EURLs in one tab in "Horizontal Topics":

List of all EURL with links to

- the website of the EURL
- the connected NRL network

Link to EURL work programmes of the last years Completely updated

https://ec.europa.eu/food/ref-labs\_en



European Commission



### ANIMALS

uropean Commission > Food Safety > Animals

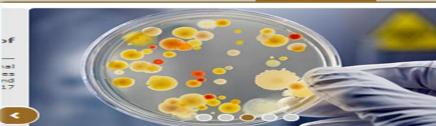
HEALTH

FOOD

ANIMALS

PLANTS

AMR



AMR Workshop - Antimicrobial consumption in animals: achievements and challenges in data collection (26/04/2017)

The main aim of the workshop is to explo how data on antimicrobial consumption animals can be improved. The discussion v also provide technical input for proposed leg provisions at EU level.

All highlights





Share

VYTENIS ANDRIUKAITIS

EU Food Safety @Food\_FU

Health and Food Safety

# SieTechtu Conference on Medern # Sietzehnelegies in #Agriculture #innevation #feedsafety #EU agenda & streaming

curepa.cu/IM47rh pic.twitter.com/)ZeaKd85P)



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More tweets

#### FOOD SAFETY: OVERVIEW

ANIMAL HEALTH POLICY DEVELOPMENT

TRACES

LIVE ANIMALS

ANIMALS PRODUCTS

SEMEN, OVA & EMBRYOS

MOVEMENT OF PETS

#### HORIZONTAL TOPICS RELATED TO FOOD SAFETY

GENERAL FOOD LAW

FITNESS CHECK OF THE FOOD CHAIN

FUTURE OF EU FOOD SAFETY

OFFICIAL CONTROLS AND ENFORCEMENT

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

HEALTH AND FOOD AUDITS AND ANALYSIS

BETTER TRAINING FOR SAFER FOOD

FOOD CHAIN FUNDING

VETERINARY BORDER CONTROL

EXPERT GROUPS COMMITTEES

ANIMAL DISEASES

ANIMAL WELFARE

IDENTIFICATION

ZOOTECHNICS

EU REFERENCE LABORATORIES

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Health and food audits and analysis

Trade Control & Expert System (TRACES)

Travelling with pets

Better Training for Safer Food (BTSF)

E-News



333 Events Videos



Infographics and



## **Conclusions**

The EU [			_		ce activ	ities	syst	em
					actors			
	inked wit	th <b>res</b>	search	activi	ties it a	adds		
			ity and					
Linked v	vith <b>surv</b>	eillar	nce inv	olvina	stakeh	olde	ers ar	nd

international partners, it should improve

☐ Global understanding and prevention of outbreaks



The contents of this presentation are the views of the author and do not necessarily represent an official position of the European Commission.



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## Better Training for Safer Food BTSF

European Commission Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency DRB A3/042 L-2920 Luxembourg

Food Safety



# Regional Workshop on Animal Disease Preparedness

**Tsviatko Alexandrov** 

The EU import regime for live animals and food of animal origin. Conditions to meet to export to the EU market—
Controls at import – Products of animal origin - TRACES

# **Better Training For Safer Food**





## Content

- EU Animal health policy
- The EU single market
- Import conditions and provisions
- EU official control. Legislation. Import controls
- Animal health control measures. Regionalization
- Import of animals and animal products.
- Export to EU from non-EU Countries. Mechanism
- TRACES



## **EU** animal health policy

# Reaching and maintaining a high status throughout the EU of:

- animal health
- animal welfare
- food safety
- establishment and functioning of the EU single market



# The EU single market

## Only if:

- Following risk analyses;
- Veterinary controls at place of origin and destination;
- Veterinary certification;
- Animal and animal product traceability: -animal identification -farm registration -TRACES (TRAde Control and Expert System);
- Animal Disease control, comprehensive control and eradication measures;
- Notifiability of diseases Transparency / ADNS (Animal Disease Notification System).



## **Import Conditions**

The EU works to ensure that:

all imports, regardless of origin, must fulfill the same high standards as products from the EU itself.



# **Provisions for imports**

- Harmonized legislation related to animal health/food safety
- Import requirements. Phytosanitary measures to be met prior to import and internal movement of commodities
- Regionalization reflects the EU internal rules and OIE standards
- Veterinary controls at EU external borders, Mandatory inspection at EU point of entry
- Overall control, FVO Inspections



## **EU Official controls**

## **Aiming at:**

- prevent or eliminate risks which may arise, either directly or via the environment, for human beings and animals, or reduce these risks to an acceptable level;
- guarantee fair practices as regards trade in food and feed;
- ensure protection of consumers' interests, including labelling of food and feed and any other form of information intended for consumers.



## **Import controls**

According to **Regulation (EC) No 882/2004** on official controls – sets an integrated and uniform approach to official controls along the agri-food chain, the import controls:

- varies according to the sector;
- mandatory channeling and common framework for border controls on animals and goods entering the EU;
- uniform frequencies for checks for live animals, products of animal origin, plants and plant products, as those commodities might pose a risk in relation to animal or plant health respectively;
- list of animals and goods subject to systematic controls established by the Commission (voted within PAFF meetings).



# **Import control**

- according to the new AHL- Regulation (EU) 2017/625 (adopted 17/03/2018 and replacing Reg 882/2004/transition period), import control is:
  - risk-based and targeted (less burdensome and businesses alike);
  - documentary checks for all consignments; Identity and physical checks at a frequency depending on the risk (based on the criteria, established by the Commission);
  - Common Health Entry Document (CHED) for the prior notification of consignments;
  - a new integrated computerised system for official controls (Integrated Management System for Official Controls, IMSOC) (integrates TRACES, RASFF, Europhyt, AAC);
  - close cooperation among Competent Authorities, customs authorities and other involved to ensure timely exchange of relevant information.



## **Animal health control measures**

The EU has a set of specific legislation for a number of animal diseases depending on their potential social and economic impact and it includes:

- notification obligations;
- diagnostic methods;
- measures to be applied in case of suspicion and confirmation of disease;
- regionalization measures, where applicable.



# Regionalization (1)

- Main objective: Prevention of the introduction into or spread within the EU of risk organisms.
- Based on provisions laid down in WTO/SPS IPPC (International Plant Protection Convention)
- Achieved by harmonised legislation on imports and Community movements and harmonised control measures for specific diseases



## Regionalization (2)

- the best approach to maintain adequate disease control with minimum restrictions to trade (mitigate negative trade effects caused by sanitary or phytosanitary measures);
- export from a regionalized area, although the health status of country may not be favorable in most of their territory;
- export opportunities to countries with little chance to do so to countries with a higher sanitary or phytosanitary level;
- reaching and maintaining a high status of animal health throughout the EU



# Import of animals and products of animal origin

- presents a high level of risk as they can transmit serious human and animal diseases;
- live animals or products of animal origin can only enter into the EU, if:
- ✓ they meet the specific import conditions laid down in the Union legislation;
- ✓ undergone satisfactorily specific checks by veterinary border control;
- ✓ a Common Veterinary Entry Document (CVED) is issued from TRACES.



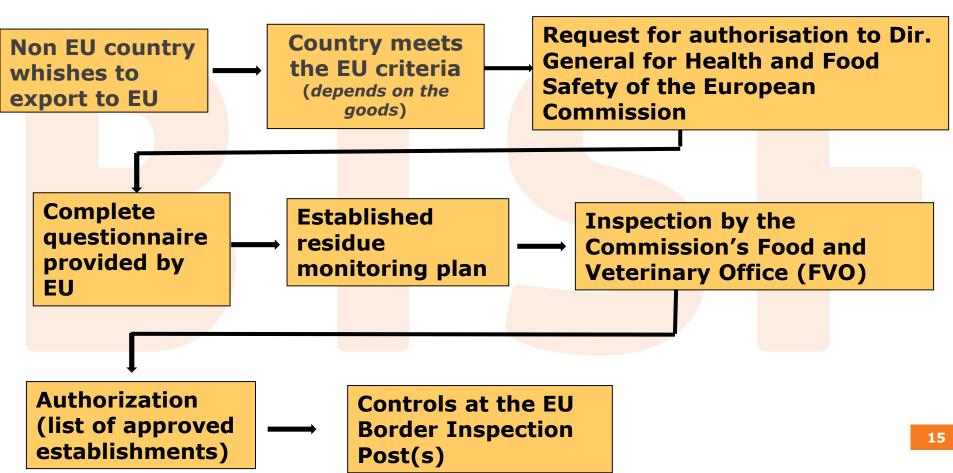
## **Export to EU from non-EU Countries (1)**

- The third country must be approved to export a specific category of animal and food of animal origin and must be in the list of approved third countries for that specific category of food
- Listing of Third Country /or establishments (the countries must be on a positive list of eligible countries)



## **Export to EU from non-EU Countries (2)**

Mechanism





## **Export to EU from non-EU Countries (3)**

Countries whishing to export to EU should apply:

- Transparency and Quality of veterinary services. The authorities must be empowered, structured and resourced;
- Adapt sanitary or phytosanitary measures to EU conditions; hygiene and public health requirements are met.
- Established residue monitoring in place to verify compliance with EU requirements on residues of veterinary medicines, pesticides and contaminants.



## **Export to EU from non-EU Countries (4)**

Countries whishing to export to EU should apply:

- Measures to maintain free-status of regions and provide evidence that areas on a country's territory are pest or disease-free or of low pest or disease prevalence;
- Surveillance within and outside the infected regions: early and rapid disease detection and meet and implement EU control measures;
- Have laboratories that comply with certain minimum requirements, ensuring sufficient capability for disease diagnosis.
- Audited by the Directorate General for Health and Food Safety
- Lists of third countries approved for import of live animal and animal products



# Approved country/establishments for export to EU

Imports are only authorized from approved establishments

Application and pre-approval procedure by EU

## Request for amendments of establishments' lists

The [Competent authority] of [Country] communicates the following amendments to the list of approved establishments for export to the European Union of [commodity].

The establishments have been inspected by our services and we declare they fulfil the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 854/2004, Chapter III and Regulation (EC) No 853/2004, Article 6 + Specific requirements in Annex III.

Number of additions: Number of removals:

lumber of modifications:

Additions:		City		Activities	Species	Remarks
	 Street address	City	/Region/State *			
,\\						
			a resistently for a	ll establishme	nts	

\* = please choose only one administrative level and indicate it, consistently for all establishments

### Special Import Conditions for the importation of products of animal origin into the European Union

#### Biological risks

Country	Issue	Product	Action	Entry into force	Legal Reference
Albenia	Histamine	Fishery products	100% testing of each import consignment by the Member States for histamine if those consignments are not accompanied by a test certificate indicating that they comply with Community levels for histamine.	4 October 2007	Commission Decision 2007/542/EC
Albenia	Cholera	Fishery products	Prohibition of importation of bivalve molluscs, echinoderms, funicates and marine gastropods in any form, as well as live fish and shellfish carried in water.	2 March 2004	Commission Decision 2004/225/EC
Guinea	Hygiene	Fishery products	Prohibition of importation of fishery products.	2 February 2007	Commission Decision 2007/82/EC
Peru	Hepatitis A	Bivalve molluscs	Prohibition of importation of live or raw bivalve molluscs.	12 November 2008	Commission Decision 2008/066/€C
Turkey	E. coli and marine biotoxines	Bivalve molluscs	Prohibition of importation of live or chilled bivalve molluscs and 100% testing of frozen or processed bivalve molluscs for E. coli and marine biotoxines.	3 August 2013	Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 743/2013

Remarks



## **TRACES**

You are a **non-EU** country, dealing with...

## **Import certificates**



### REFERENCES

Veterinary certificate to the EU (IMPORT)

Commission Decision 2007/240/EC laying down new veterinary certificates for importing live animals, semen, embryos, ova and products of animal origin into the Community.



Non-EU country origin

EU/EFTA Border Entry Point transit/desi

### Import certificates (IMPORT)

### Official enti

### PART I

### Consignment

economic operator or competent authority

### PART II Certification

competent authority

#### DADT

### Consignment

or competent authority

### PART II

### Decision

competent

Follo

comp









### You are a **non-EU** country, dealing with...

### Official documents for non-EU countries



### REFERENCES

Common Entry Document (CED)
Common Veterinary Entry Document: Animals (CVEDA)

Common Health Entry Document for Plants and Plant products

Common Health Entry Document for Plants and Plant products
(CHED-PP)

Available to any non-EU country on a voluntary basis.



European Commission

Non-EU country origin

Non-EU country transit/destination

### Official documents for non-EU countries

### REQUIRED

### PART I Consignment

economic operator or competent authority

### PART II Decision

competent authority

### **PART III**

Control

competent authority



### Submission - Part I

The economic operator prepares Part I of the official document to be submitted to the competent authority of the origin country.



### Certification - Part II

The competent authority of the origin country processes Part II of the official document.



### Control - Part III

The competent authority of transit or destination country records the checks on the official document.



# **TRACES**

# TRAde Control and Expert System

- OBJECTIVES: vet single windows
- The Integrated Computerised Veterinary System -TRACES – provides assistance and certification for all veterinary authorities within an informatics network to improve the sanitary protection of EU.
- TRACES integrates EU and non EU competent veterinary authorities



# **TRACES: POLICY AREAS**

- Animal Health
- Animal Welfare (EU exclusive)
- Veterinary Public Health



# **TRACES: Goals**

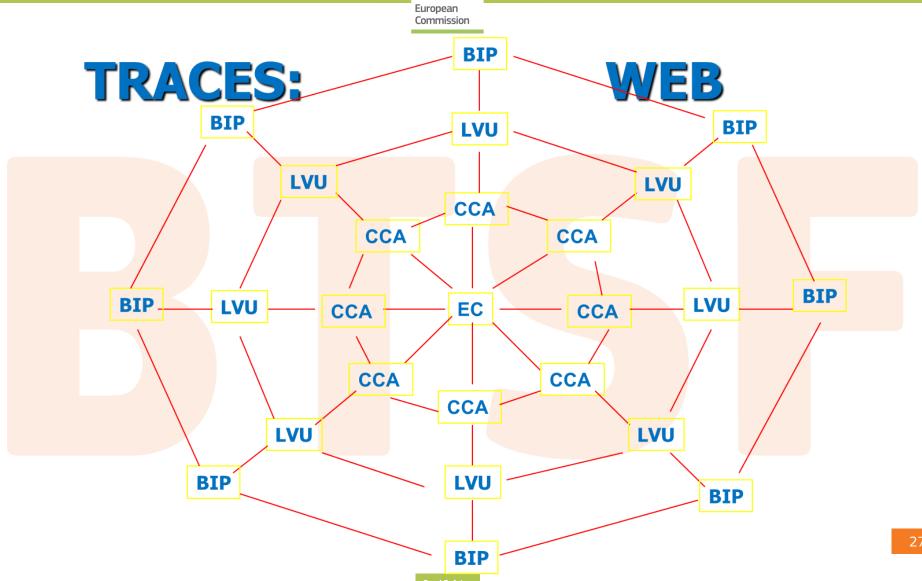
- Control of animals and animal products;
- Outbreaks: trace back and forth;
- Assistance in decision-making;
- Central risk assessment and warning;
- Reduction in administrative workload.



# **TRACES:** Main characteristics

- Electronic workflow;
- Centralized updating of the information and alert awareness and risk assessment;
- Interoperability; (Custom Nomenclature)
- Multilinguism



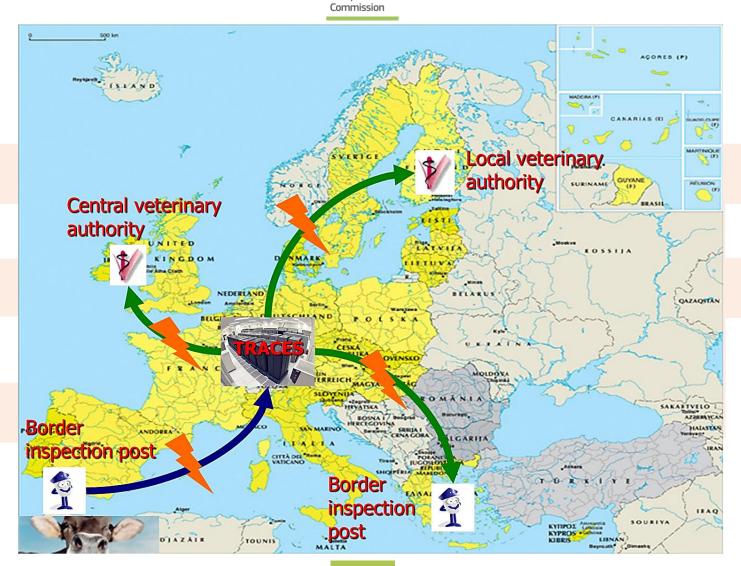


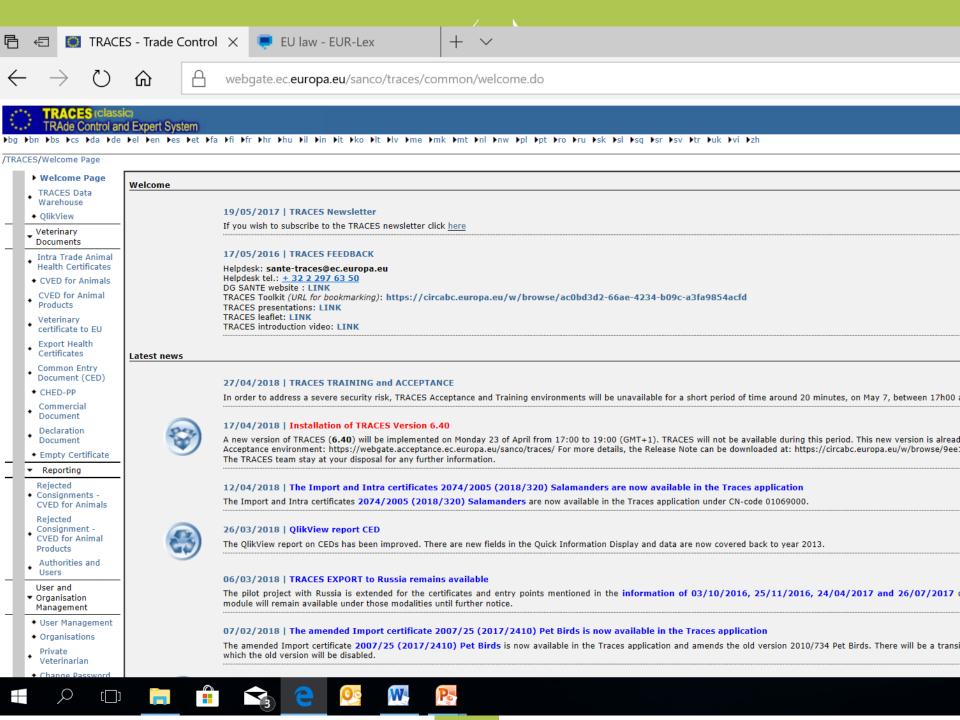


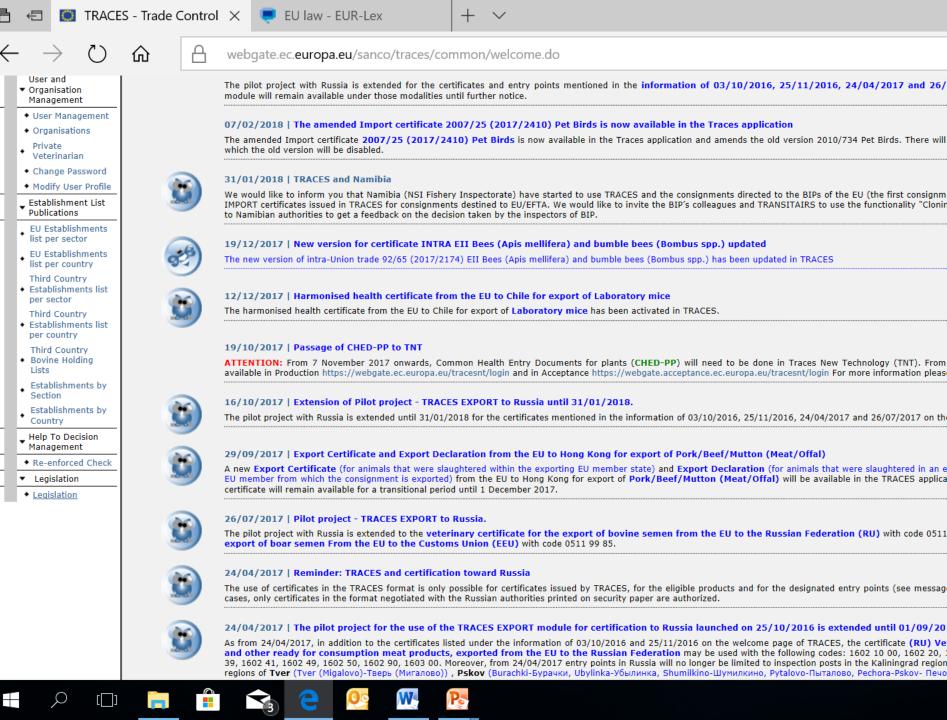
# **Workflow of information**













# **TRACES:** Management module

- Certification: INTRA, CVEDA, CVEDP
- Notification
- Control
  - Documentary, Identity and Physical checks
  - Welfare check
  - Laboratory test (Animal health, Public health, Residues)

# Common Veterinary Entry Document -**CVED**

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# **TRACES:** Rejected consignments

- CVEDP 97/78 art 17 CVEDA 91/496 art 12
- Automatic display of all rejected consignments
  - within a time frame
  - in relation with country and CN Code



## **TRACES: Benefits**

- Avoidance of resources redundancy
- Standard application of laws and procedures
- Work simplification for official services
- Increase in security and speed of data transmission
- Cooperation between services
- Fight against fraud
- Speed up of BIP administrative procedures
- Provision to trade partners updated and translated certificates
- Direct access to the EU decisions



The contents of this presentation are the views of the author and do not necessarily represent an official position of the European Commission.

# **Questions?**



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# Better Training for Safer Food BTSF

European Commission Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency DRB A3/042 L-2920 Luxembourg

Food Safety



# Official controls in EU

# Novelties introduced by Regulation 2017/625

**Tokyo 12-15 June 2018** 

Andrea DIONISI
European Commission
DG Health & Food Safety
Bilateral International Relations

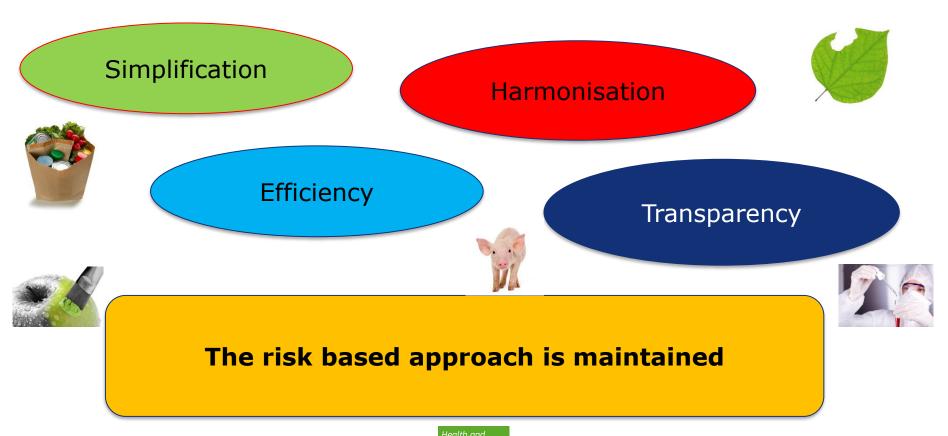








# **Key principles**



Food Safety







Parliament vote in plenary

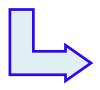


# Inter-institutional steps of the Official Controls Regulation (EU) 2017/625



Official Journal of the European Union

Entry into force 28 April 2017



Application date: 14.12.2019







Defining specific rules over the next 2 years before the application dates of OCR, Animal Health and

**Plant Health Laws** 

21.04. 2021

tertiary legislation
(delegated &
implementing acts)
to implement
the 3 legislations

for most of the provisions

14.12.2019



Plant health

Reg.

2017/

625









# **Extended scope**

Food and food safety

Feed and feed safety



Animal health

Animal welfare

Animal byproducts Plant health Plant protection products

Organic production

Health and Food Safety



# The risk based approach

Controls to be performed "regularly, on a risk basis and with appropriate frequency"

Own controls, including private quality schemes

Risks associated with animals and goods, activities, location...and the likelihood that consumers might be misled

Operator's past record



# **Obligations of the operators**

Provide information on their name, legal form and specific activities

Give access to computers and premises, to the extent necessary

Assist and cooperate with the staff of the competent authorities





# Minimum disruption of business

Official controls shall be carried out in a manner that the administrative burden and operational disruption for operators are kept to the minimum necessary





# Official controls and export

Reg. 882/2004: "Official controls shall be applied, with the same care, to exports outside the Community..."

Reg. 625/2017 (14/12/2019-):
"...apply to official controls
performed for (...) animals and
goods (...) to be exported from
the Union"

Official controls carried out regularly, on a risk basis and with appropriate frequency

In case of non-compliance: Restrict or prohibit the export of animals and food/goods



## **Control framework**

"Food and feed exported or re-exported from the Community for placing on the market of a third country shall comply with the relevant requirements of food law, unless otherwise requested by the authorities of the importing country or established by the laws, regulations, standards, codes of practice and other legal and administrative procedures as may be in force in the importing country."

(Article 12 of "General Food Law Reg. 178/2002")

Risk based, including fraud

Multi-annual control plans



# Additional features in Reg. 2017/625

"In the case of exports outside the Union, competent authorities may also be required, in accordance with Union legislation, to verify the conformity of animals and goods with requirements established by the third country of destination of such animals or goods."

"In the case of exported animals and goods for which Union rules apply in relation to the issuance of the export certificate, the IMSOC\* shall enable the competent authorities (...) to exchange, in real time, data, information and documents concerning such animals and goods and the outcome of controls performed..."

\*information management system for official controls







# **Import controls**

# Main message:

- The OCR will not change the sanitary conditions established for non EU Countries
- The new OCR will not have major impact on imports into EU
- Rules and procedures for imports into the EU will be fine-tuned





# **Import controls in Reg. 2017/625**

A common, risk based framework for border controls on all animals and goods entering the EU

Border Control Posts (BCPs)
will replace the different Border
Inspection Posts (BIPs) and
Designated Points of Entry (DPEs)

+

Minimum requirements for facilities, equipment and staff will apply throughout all BCPs



A single standard document (CHED\*) for the prior notification of consignments \*common entry health document



Transmitted to the BCP through IMSOC (including Europhyt)

Health and Food Safety



# **Entry into the Union – main rules**

Animals, products of animal origin, germinal products, animal by-products, plant, plant products and certain feed and food of non-animal origin\* =

Designated **BCP** of first arrival

Always documentary checks; risk based identity and physical checks

Animals and goods whose inherent risks do not require systematic border controls =

An **appropriate place** within the customs territory of the Union

Regular, risk based controls with appropriate frequency (established by MS)

New IT system. Same set of measures in cases of noncompliance, including enforcement measures

A list with CN codes to be established





Same slide as before: in addition, over the last months, the term "Channelling" is being defined in different ways, so we suggest not to mention it

### High risk

Low risk

Animals, products of animal origin, germinal products, animal by-products, plant, plant products and certain feed and food of non-animal origin =

Designated **BCP** of first arrival

Always documentary checks; risk based identity and physical checks

Animals and goods whose inherent risks do not require systematic border controls =

An **appropriate place** within the customs territory of the Union

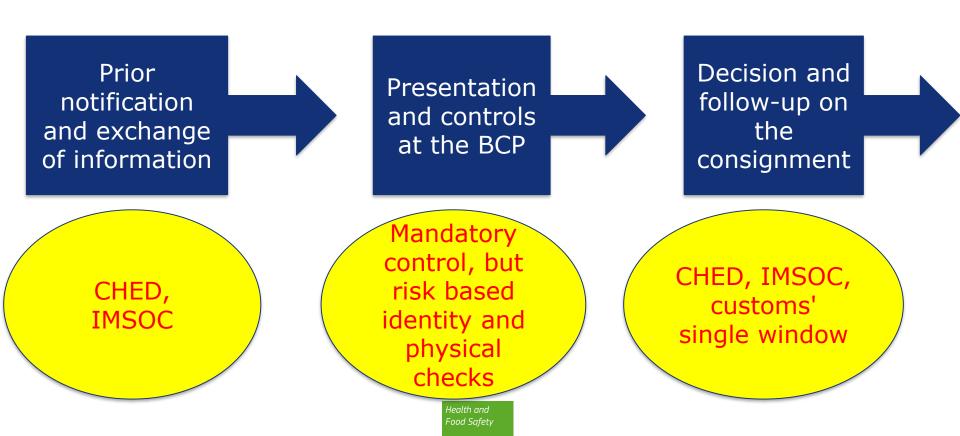
Regular, risk based controls with appropriate frequency (established by MS)

New IT system. Same set of measures in cases of noncompliance, including enforcement measures





# **Border control process**





#### Official certification rules

When EU agri-food chain legislation requires an official certificate, or when official certificates are necessary for the purposes of exporting consignments of animals and goods:

Certifying officers shall be impartial and free from any conflict of interest and have received appropriate training

Signed by the certifying officer and issued on grounds of direct knowledge and facts and data relevant for the certification

Commission is empowered to establish e.g. technical arrangements to ensure the issuance of accurate and reliable official certificates, and prevent risk of fraud

The competent authorities shall take all appropriate measures to prevent the issuance of false or misleading official certificates or the abuse of official certificates

Appropriate measures to be taken in the case of false or misleading official certificates or in the case of abuse of official certificates, e.g. the temporary suspension of the certifying officer from its duties



# **Entry into the Union I**

CN code list of animals and goods to be checked at BCPs (IA)

Categories to be added to the list (DA)

Non-compliance action (IA)



Border control procedures (DAs)

Border control procedures (IAs)

> **Border Control Posts** (DA)

> > Training (DA)

Food Safety



## **Entry into the Union II (DA, art 126)**

**List of third countries** 

**List of establishments** 

Official certificates, attestations or other evidence

Any other necessary requirement (e.g residue monitoring plan)





# **Entry into the Union**

- The official control rules actually into force will be changed;
- Some procedures, as pre-listing, are not anymore included in the basic rules;
- The enforcement acts will redefine such aspects on the basis of the experience matured;





# CDR 126 (1) – proposal for certification at entry

### Certification required for:

- > All products of animal origin
- > Composite products
- > Sprouts and seeds for sprouting
  - => Maintenance of all current certificates + additional certificate for import of rendered fats, reptile meat, insects.





# CDR 126 (1) – additional specific conditions for imports

- > Fishery products
- > Live bivalve molluscs etc.
- ➤ Raw materials for fresh meat meat preparations, meat products, ...

=> STATUS QUO

> Composite products

=> *NEW* 









# **Entry into force and application**

Entry into force:
28 April
2017

Main date of application:

**14 December 2019** 



# Implementation of Reg. 2017/625

EMPOWERMENTS are given to the Commission to ensure the implementation of the Regulation through...



Implemented Acts (IA): HOW?

(Uniform conditions for implementation)



Delegated Acts (DA): WHAT?

(Supplement or amend non-essential elements)

Health and Food Safety



#### What must be done

- ▶\_Repeal of Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 on official control of food of animal origin by Regulation (EU) 2017/625 (OCR) from December 2019.
- ➤ Delegated and Implementing <u>Regulations needed to replace</u> <u>the provisions</u> of that Regulation, so to fix:
  - 1) Controls of products of animal origin intended for human consumption (essentially on meat inspection)
  - 2) Import conditions for food





# **Example I: Specific control rules**

Fresh fishery products, directly landed

Unskinne d, furred wild game Vessels leaving the EU (ship supply)

Wood packagin g material Feed accompanying animals

Distanc e sales

Plant products, on account of subsequent destination

Refusal of entry by 3rd country (re-import)

Goods entering in bulk

(plants)

"Neum Corridor"

(HR-B&H-HR) Animals and goods exempted in accordance with Art 48



# **Example II: Animals and goods exempted from controls at BCPs**

Trade samples and display items

Scientific purposes

Consumed by crew and passagers

Personal luggage and for personal use

Small consignmen ts sent to natural persons

Pet
animals
(noncommercial
movement)

Specific treatment, not exceed quantities

Low risk or no specific risk (e.g. remote Greek islands)



## Proposal for criteria and conditions for antemortem (AMI) by the official auxiliary (OA) in the slaughterhouse under the supervision of the OV

- > Checks of food chain information and animal identity
- Preselection of animals
- > OV immediately informed in case of abnormalities and carrying out AMI him/her self
- > OV regularly verifies work of OA





# Proposal for criteria and conditions for AMI by the official auxiliary (OA) in the slaughterhouse under the responsibility of the OV

- Only when an OV carried out a full AMI at the holding of provenance
- > OV immediately informed in case of abnormalities and carrying out AMI him/her self
- > OV regularly verifies work of the OA
- ➤ Never in case of officially controlled animal diseases
  - STATUS-QUO but clearer separation of what is allowed under the supervision from under the responsibility

Health and Food Safety



# Proposal for criteria and conditions for AMI and post-mortem inspection (PMI) in case of emergency slaughter outside the slaughterhouse

> Always the OV

=> Stricter than current rules which foresee today AMI by any veterinarian





# Proposal for criteria and conditions for AMI at the holding of provenance

- ➤ Allowed in all species, individual examination of animals must be possible
- ➤ Always by the OV, whose certification on the findings must accompany the animals
- ➤ Limited checks at arrival in slaughterhouse (e.g. on animal welfare rules during transport)
- ➤ Maximum 3 days before slaughter except in small farms of farmed game (28 days)
  - Status-quo on conditions but extension to all species and some more flexibility for farmed game





# **Official Control Regulation**

## Main message:

- OCR it is not a revolution;
- It could be considered as an adaptation/alignment to the best practices that EU has in the veterinary field;
- It establishes a better coordination of activities risk based for all.





# **Planning**

- Four expert group meetings were already organised between June 2017 and April 2018
- > One more expected to follow
- ➤ Public consultation from July 2018 onwards
- > SPS notification in September-October 2018
- Submission to EP before end of 2018





### **Conclusions**

- The sanitary conditions established for non EU Countries will not change and we do not expect impact on imports into EU;
- Rules and procedures for imports into the EU will be fine tuned;





### **Further information**

# Official Controls webpage on DG Health and Food Safety website:

http://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/official controls/legislation en

Questions & answers:

http://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/safety/docs/oc\_ga\_ocregulation\_20170407\_en.pdf







Andrea DIONISI
Directorate General Health and Food Safety
Bilateral International Relations

E-mail: Andrea.dionisi@ec.europa.eu



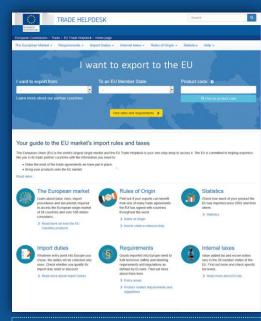


# How to export to the European Union European Union

# EU Trade Helpdesk

Your online guide to access the EU market

European Commission, Directorate-General for Trade



tradehelpdesk.europa.eu



# What is the EU Trade Helpdesk?

- A website on how to export to the EU
- A source of information on EU import duties, product requirements, rules of origin, internal taxes and trade statistics
- A database on trade in goods
- Usable free of charge, without registration formalities
- Available in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese





# Types of data

#### What can you find on the Trade Helpdesk website?



**EU product requirements** for goods imported to or circulating on the EU single market (health, safety, technical standards, marketing standards)



EU custom duties, duty discounts, quota database



**How to benefit from reduced duties** – the rules and proofs of origin according to trade agreements or preferential schemes



Who to contact for advice

Competent authorities, customs offices, chambers of commerce in EU countries



**Trade statistics** 

All recent trade flows – product by product, country by country

#### Data search



# How to access EU data for your product?



- 1. Go to tradehelpdesk.europa.eu
- 2. Fill in the exporting and importing country and the product you intend to export to the EU; if needed, click on "find your product code" and browse the "tree" of classification codes to find the correct code for your product
- Click on "view rates and requirements"



# **EU** data for your product

#### 1st tab: import procedures

#### Three types of information:

- 1. Information on the EU's import procedures
- 2. The main documents you need for customs clearance
- 3. Import formalities and competent authorities for the EU country you have defined as importing country





# **EU** data for your product

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> tab: product requirements

The list of EU requirements applying to your product.

These documents explain each requirement and link to the **EU law** it is based on.

#### They also include

- specific certificates you may need,
- the competent authorities in the importing country,
- More information relating to the importing country, e.g. specific labelling or packaging provisions.





# **EU** data for your product

### 3<sup>rd</sup> tab: import duties

 The first row shows the import duty exporters from non-EU countries should generally pay



- The following rows show which duty discount you can claim for your product according to either
  - the Generalized System of Preferences the EU grants to lower-middle income countries, or
  - a trade agreement signed between the country you are exporting from and the European Union
- This tab will also show you any quota or antidumping duties

EU Import duties

Internal taxes



**EU** data for your product

#### 4th tab: internal taxes

The internal taxes for your product in the EU importing country you selected.

#### This information includes:

- Value-Added-Tax (VAT)
- Excise duty applying to alcoholic beverages, manufactured tobacco products and energy products, e.g. motor and heating fuels

Internal taxes

Standard Rate

VAT 20%

Excise 
VAT footnote for France

A tax rate of 5.5% applies to cocoa butter.

A tax rate of 20% applies to all other products.

Product

requirements

Import Procedures

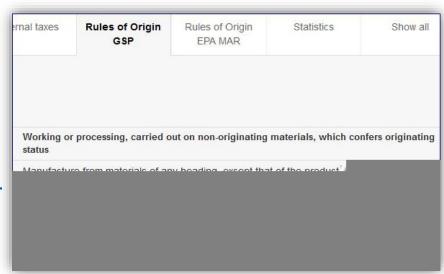
Note that internal taxes are not harmonised in the EU and hence they vary from one country to another.



# **EU** data for your product

### 5<sup>th</sup> tab: rules of origin

If your product can benefit from a duty discount this tab will show you the conditions, i.e. the rules of origin for your product.



These rules describe how "originating status" is determined in the agreement or preferential scheme in place.

You will find more information relating to the rules of origin of a specific agreement, e.g. the "cumulation" provisions and the "proofs of origin" in the Trade Helpdesk Website section "Rules of Origin".



# **EU** data for your product

#### **6th tab: trade statistics**

- If your product is already imported into the European Union you may check the trade flows between the exporting and importing country.
- To find all trade flows between non-EU countries and the European Union please go to section "Statistics" on the Trade Helpdesk Website.





#### More information

### **Need more information?**

Browse the Trade Helpdesk Website

The European Market •

Requirements -

Import Duties -

Internal taxes -

Rules of Origin -

Statistics



#### The European market

Learn about basic rules, import procedures and documents required to access the European single market of 28 countries and over 500 million consumers...

Read more on how the EU classifies products



#### Rules of Origin

Find out if your exports can benefit from one of many trade agreements the EU has signed with countries throughout the world.

- > Rules of Origin
- > How to claim a reduced duty



#### **Statistics**

Check how much of your product the EU has imported since 2002 and from where.

> Statistics



#### Import duties

Whatever entry point into Europe you chose, the duties will be collected only once. Check whether you qualify for import duty relief or discount.

> Read more about import duties



#### Requirements

Goods imported into Europe need to fulfil technical, safety and labelling requirements and regulations as defined by EU laws. Find out more about them here.

- > Policy areas
- Product related requirements and regulations



#### Internal taxes

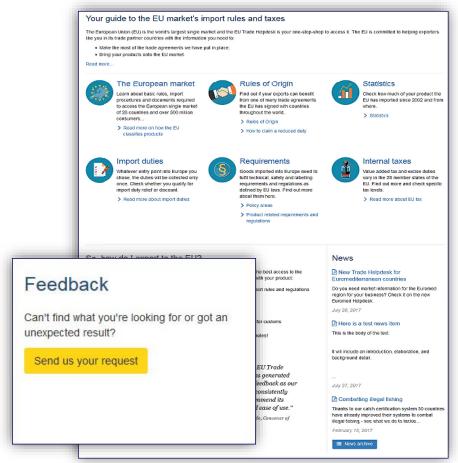
Value added tax and excise duties vary in the 28 member states of the EU. Find out more and check specific tax levels.

> Read more about EU tax



#### More information

#### Contact us!



Contact			
Gender Frist name *		Last name *	
E-mail address *			
Nationality *		Country of residence *	
Please select	•	Please select	•
Preferred contact language?*		Alternative contact language?*	
English (en)	•	Please select	•
Subject *		Economic category *	
Please select	•	Please select	•
Enquiry *			
			11
I authorise the European Commission to add my e-mail to the Europe Direct mailing list			
☐ I have read and agree with the data protection terms*			
Submit			



# **EU Trade Helpdesk**

Your online database for the EU market



Watch our video tutorial on Youtube.com





For further information contact one of the Trade helpdesk coordinators at Directorate General for Trade, Unit.A3 - Information, Communication and Civil Society:

Andrea Scheidl, <u>andrea.scheidl@ec.europa.eu</u> or

Constantina Anastassiadou, constantina.anastassiadou@ec.europa.eu

# tradehelpdesk.europa.eu



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