

**AVIAN INFLUENZA (AI)- Response to Outbreaks in Asia, Canada and the US in 2004– CHRONOLOGY OF MAIN EVENTS AND LIST OF DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION<sup>1</sup>**

*Situation as of 14 September 2004  
DG SANCO.E2: Animal health and welfare, zootechnics*

	Date	Main event	Action by the European Commission	Miscellaneous
<b>FIRST WEEK</b>	<b>FRI 12/12</b>	The veterinary authorities from the Republic of South Korea <a href="#">report to the OIE<sup>2</sup></a> a confirmed outbreak of HPAI <sup>3</sup>	European Commission monitors the evolving animal situation, but agrees that no action is necessary as South Korea is not authorised for the importation of live poultry or poultry meat into the EU	H5N1 initially isolated from 1 farm in the central part of the country
<b>SECOND WEEK</b>	<b>WED 17/12</b>	Republic of South Korea <a href="#">report a second outbreak</a> of HPAI to the OIE		The second outbreak affects two farms and is located 2.5 km from the first affected farm.
<b>FIFTH WEEK</b>	<b>THU 8/1</b>	The Vietnamese veterinary authorities <a href="#">report to the OIE</a> a confirmed outbreak of HPAI in three farms	European Commission monitors the evolving animal health situation, but agrees that no action is necessary as Vietnam is not authorised for the importation of live poultry or poultry meat into the EU	First outbreak in Vietnam- H5 subtype isolated from three farms
<b>SIXTH WEEK</b>	<b>MON 12/1</b>	The Japanese Veterinary authorities <a href="#">report to the OIE</a> a confirmed outbreak of HPAI in three farms	European Commission monitors the evolving animal health situation, but agrees that no action is necessary as Japan is not authorised for the importation of live poultry or poultry meat into the EU	First outbreak in Japan- H5N1 subtype isolated from one farm in the Yamaguchi prefecture

<sup>1</sup> This document summarises very basic information on the current outbreak of Avian Influenza (AI) in Asia, and related Community action. This focuses on the animal health aspects. For additional information, please refer to the Decisions in the Official Journal, to the Commission's [Avian Influenza webpage](#), including associated [press releases](#) . For more general animal health information, please refer to the Commission's [Animal Health](#) web-pages. For public health information, please refer to the Influenza pages from the Commission's [public health](#) unit, or [AI pages](#) from the World Health Organisation (WHO)

<sup>2</sup> OIE- The World Organisation for Animal Health is an intergovernmental organisation set up to monitor and report on global animal health

<sup>3</sup> HPAI- High Pathogenic Avian Influenza

	<b>TUES 13/1- WED 14/1</b>	<b>Meeting of the SCFCAH<sup>4</sup></b>	<p>The evolving situation in South East Asia is discussed. It was agreed that because no imports of live poultry or poultry products take place from any of the countries affected by AI, a safeguard measure was not necessary.</p> <p>In addition, because live birds other than poultry have to undergo 30 day quarantine and must be subjected to laboratory testing for avian influenza in accordance with <a href="#">Commission Decision 2000/666/EC</a>, they could still be imported from this region. However the Commission stressed that it would continue to monitor the epidemiological situation.</p>	<a href="#">OIE press release</a> on AI situation in South East Asia
	<b>WED 15/1</b>			FAO <sup>5</sup> <a href="#">press release</a> expressing concern about the spread of AI in Asia
	<b>THU 16/1</b>		<a href="#">Press release</a> -Commissioner Byrne offers help in Avian Influenza crisis to Vietnam IP/04/64	
<b>SEVENTH WEEK</b>	<b>TUES 20/1</b>	The Taiwanese authorities <a href="#">report to the OIE</a> a confirmed outbreak of AI (low path. AI)	European Commission monitors the evolving animal health situation, but agrees that no action is necessary as Taiwan is not authorised for the importation of live poultry or poultry meat into the EU	First outbreak in Taiwan- Low pathogenic H5N2 subtype isolated from two farms, one in Changhwa Prefecture and the other in Chiayi Prefecture
	<b>WED 21/1</b>			<a href="#">OIE press release</a> updating AI situation Vietnam, including work of the WHO/OIE/FAO task force

<sup>4</sup> Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health - It is a Regulatory Committee, chaired by the Commission, including veterinary experts from all MS's governments

<sup>5</sup> FAO- The Food and Agriculture Organisation is a specialist agency of the UN focusing on agriculture and food supply- see [here](#) for its work in relation to AI

	<b>FRI 23/1</b>	The Thai authorities <a href="#">report to the OIE</a> a confirmed outbreak of HPAI	The Commission adopts <a href="#">Decision 2004/84/EC</a> <sup>6</sup> to suspend imports into the EU from Thailand of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fresh meat from poultry, ratites, farmed and wild feather game,</li> <li>• meat preparations and products consisting of or containing meat from those species</li> <li>• raw petfood and unprocessed feed material from these species</li> </ul> from poultry slaughtered after 1 January 2004 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• eggs for human consumption</li> </ul>	First outbreak in Thailand- H5 subtype isolated from a single farm in Supanburi Province  <a href="#">OIE press release</a> on situation in Thailand  Commission action is summarised in a <a href="#">Press release</a> IP/04/95
	<b>SAT 24/1</b>	The Cambodian authorities <a href="#">report to the OIE</a> a confirmed outbreak of HPAI	European Commission monitors the evolving animal health situation, but agrees that no action is necessary as Cambodia is not authorised for the importation of live poultry or poultry meat into the EU	First outbreak in Cambodia - H5N1 subtype isolated from the infected farm
<b>EIGHTH WEEK</b>	<b>MON 26/1</b>	The Hong Kong authorities <a href="#">report to the OIE</a> that HPAI has been isolated in a single falcon found dead within its territory	European Commission monitors the evolving animal health situation, but agrees that no action is necessary as Hong Kong is not authorised for the importation of live poultry or poultry meat into the EU	
	<b>TUE 27/1</b>	The Laos authorities <a href="#">report to the OIE</a> a confirmed outbreak of HPAI	European Commission monitors the evolving animal health situation, but agrees that no action is necessary as Laos is not authorised for the importation of live poultry or poultry meat into the EU	First outbreak in Laos- H5 subtype isolated from a single farm close to Vientiane  <a href="#">OIE press release</a> on evolving AI situation in Asia. <a href="#">OIE press release</a> on initial information from the joint WHO/OIE/FAO <sup>7</sup> mission to Vietnam FAO- <a href="#">first summary report</a> on AI epidemic
	<b>WED 28/1</b>	<b>Meeting of the SCFCAH</b> (Section- Biological Safety of the Food Chain)	<a href="#">Commission Decision 2004/93/EC</a> <sup>8</sup> adopted by the Commission following agreement in SCFCAH. The Decision suspends imports of birds other than poultry, including pet birds from South East Asia	Commission action is summarised in a <a href="#">Press release</a> IP/04/123

<sup>6</sup> OJ L 17, 24.1.2004, p.57.

<sup>7</sup> WHO- World Health Organisation is a specialist agency of the UN and its primary role to improve global public health – see [here](#) for its work on AI and public health

<sup>8</sup> OJ L 27, 30.1.2004, p.55.

		The Pakistani authorities <a href="#">report to the OIE</a> a confirmed outbreak of HPAI (H7 subtype)	European Commission monitors the evolving animal health situation, but agrees that no action is necessary as Pakistan is not authorised for the importation of live poultry or poultry meat into the EU	Three outbreaks in Sindh province in Pakistan- the first Pakistani outbreaks during the epidemic. H7 subtype isolated
		<a href="#">OIE press release</a> reporting the notification by the Chinese authorities of a confirmed outbreak of HPAI in ducks	European Commission monitors the evolving animal health situation, but agrees that no action is necessary as China is not authorised for the importation of live poultry or poultry meat into the EU	First outbreak reported in China- H5N1 subtype isolated from infected ducks in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, SW China
	<b>THU 29/1</b>		In response to requests from WHO/OIE/FAO, an EU official flies to Vietnam to provide assistance in tackling the AI outbreak in the area. See Commission <a href="#">press release</a> (Midday express)	<a href="#">OIE press release</a> requesting Indonesia to confirm reports made by Ministry of Agriculture of AI outbreaks in Indonesia (see 3 Feb.)  <a href="#">FAO- second summary report</a> on AI epidemic in Asia
<b>NINTH WEEK</b>	<b>MON 2/2- TUE 3/2</b>	<b>Meeting of the SCFAH</b>	<a href="#">Commission Decision 2004/122/EC</a> <sup>9</sup> adopted by the Commission following agreement in SCFAH. The Decision consolidates and prolongs for 6 months (until 15 August 2004) the measures adopted in relation to AI in Asia regarding the suspension of imports of both poultry meat and 'other' live birds, and repeals <a href="#">Decision 2004/84/EC</a> and <a href="#">Commission Decision 2004/93/EC</a> .	Commission action is summarised in a <a href="#">Press release</a> IP/04/160  <a href="#">FAO- third summary report</a> on AI epidemic in Asia
	<b>TUE 3/2</b>	The Indonesian authorities <a href="#">report to the OIE</a> confirmed outbreaks of HPAI	European Commission monitors the evolving animal health situation, but agrees that no action is necessary as Indonesia is not authorised for the importation of live poultry or poultry meat into the EU	127 outbreaks reported in Indonesia- caused by H5N1 subtype. 20.2M birds slaughtered since mid-December 03. <b>Vaccination programme</b> introduced
	<b>WED 4/2</b>	OIE receive updated <a href="#">report</a> on AI situation in China		
	<b>TUE 3/2- THU 5/2</b>	A joint FAO/OIE/WHO <a href="#">meeting</a> on Avian influenza at FAO headquarters in Rome		<a href="#">OIE press release</a> and <a href="#">FAO press release</a> summarising outcome of the joint meeting in Rome, including recommendations to manage the crisis

<sup>9</sup> OJ L36, 7.2.2004, p.59.

	THU 5/2			Article in <a href="#">Nature</a> news section on AI epidemic in Asia
	FRI 6/2			FAO <a href="#">press release</a> - No evidence that swine are assisting the spread of AI in Vietnam  OIE- publication of the <a href="#">second follow-up report</a> of AI situation in Thailand
	SUN 8/2			FAO- <a href="#">fourth summary report</a> on AI epidemic in Asia
TENTH WEEK	TUE 10/2		<a href="#">Speech</a> by Commission Byrne to the European Parliament (Strasbourg) on the Avian Influenza situation in Asia and the Commission's response (Speech/04/66)	
	WED 11/2		<a href="#">Press release</a> European Commission provides 1 million Euro to combat Avian Influenza in Vietnam (IP/04/192)	OIE- publication of the <a href="#">first follow-up report</a> of AI situation in China
	THU 12/2		Meeting of EU health ministers- <a href="#">Speech</a> by Commission Byrne on the importance of planning and co-ordination to tackle AI health threat	<a href="#">Press release</a> – Commission Byrne welcomes ministerial agreement for a co-ordinated approach to Influenza preparedness (IP/04/206)
	FRI 13/2			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">China</a> , <a href="#">Korea</a> and <a href="#">Thailand</a>  FAO <a href="#">press release</a> - AI is not yet under control in several affected countries
	SAT 14/2			FAO- <a href="#">fifth summary report</a> on AI epidemic in Asia

ELEVENTH WEEK	MON 16/2			<a href="#">OIE press release</a> –HPAI is not spreading to other countries
	WED 18/2			<a href="#">FAO press release</a> - Disease prevention should be based on proper control and surveillance systems in poultry flocks and not on the killing wild birds
	FRI 20/2			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">China</a> , <a href="#">Japan</a> and <a href="#">Thailand</a>
TWELFTH WEEK	MON 23/2	The US veterinary authorities <a href="#">report to the OIE</a> a confirmed outbreak of HPAI in a poultry farm  The US authorities also maintain specific <a href="#">webpages</a> on the AI outbreak in the US		First outbreak in the US- H5N2 reported on farm in Gonzalez County in the State of Texas A <a href="#">press release</a> from the USDA <sup>10</sup> confirms details of the outbreak  FAO- <a href="#">sixth summary report</a> on AI epidemic
	TUE 24/2		In response to the AI outbreak in the US, the Commission adopt <a href="#">Commission Decision 2004/187/EC</a> <sup>11</sup> to suspend imports into the EU of live poultry, eggs, pet birds, and fresh meat, meat products and preparations from poultry, ratites and feathered game from the US until 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2004	Commission action is summarised in a <a href="#">Press release</a> IP/04/257
	WED 25/2			FAO <a href="#">press release</a> stating that control campaigns against AI in Asia should continue

<sup>10</sup> USDA- United States Department of Agriculture

<sup>11</sup> OJ L57, 25.2.2004, p.35

	<b>THU 26/2- SAT 28/2</b>		Commission participation at FAO/OIE emergency regional meeting in Bangkok on Avian Influenza control in animals in Asia	<a href="#">Report</a> of the FAO/OIE meeting on AI control in Asia, including Situation, Notification, Achievements, and Recommendations
	<b>FRI 27/2</b>			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">US</a> , <a href="#">Vietnam</a> and <a href="#">Thailand</a>
<b>THIRTEENTH WEEK</b>	<b>TUE 2/3</b>			WHO <a href="#">summary report</a> following the meeting in Bangkok on 26-28 Feb: Consideration of the situation (poultry) in Asia: need for a long-term response and comparison with previous outbreaks  FAO- <a href="#">seventh summary report</a> on AI epidemic
	<b>TUE 2/3- WED 3/3</b>	<b>Meeting of the SCFCAH</b>	SCFCAH reconfirm the measures adopted by the European Commission on 24 February after an outbreak of AI in Texas, USA. <a href="#">Commission Decision 2004/256/EC</a> <sup>12</sup> therefore repeals and replaces Commission Decision 2004/187/EC (see24/2) and the import into the EU of live poultry, eggs and pet birds from the US remains suspended until 23 March. This measure will be reviewed by SCFCAH on 22/3.	Commission action is summarised in a <a href="#">Press release</a> (midday express)
	<b>FRI 5/3</b>			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">China</a> , <a href="#">Pakistan</a> , <a href="#">US</a> , <a href="#">Indonesia</a> and <a href="#">Thailand</a>

<sup>12</sup> OJ L 80, 18.3.2004, p.31

FOURTEENTH WEEK	TUE 9/3	The Canadian veterinary authorities issue a <a href="#">press release</a> confirming an outbreak of HPAI in a poultry farm  Canadian authorities also maintain specific <a href="#">webpages</a> on the AI outbreak in Canada		First HPAI outbreak reported in Canada- H7N3 strain has been isolated from a farm in Fraser Valley in British Columbia. LPAI had recently been identified at the farm, but investigations have now revealed that HPAI strains are also present.
	WED 10/3	The <a href="#">OIE</a> confirm reports from the Canadian veterinary authorities about the outbreak of HPAI in a poultry farm.		
	THU 11/3		In response to the AI outbreak in Canada, the Commission adopt <a href="#">Commission Decision 2004/242/EC</a> <sup>13</sup> to suspend imports into the EU of live poultry, eggs, pet birds, and fresh meat, together with certain meat products and preparations from poultry, ratites and feathered game from Canada until 6 <sup>th</sup> April 2004.	Commission action is summarised in a <a href="#">Press release</a> IP/04/325  FAO <a href="#">press release</a> stating that affected countries should not restock flocks too quickly
	FRI 12/3			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Canada</a> , <a href="#">Japan</a> and <a href="#">Thailand</a>  FAO- <a href="#">eighth summary report</a> on AI epidemic
FIFTEENTH WEEK	FRI 19/3			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Canada</a> , <a href="#">Pakistan</a> , <a href="#">Cambodia</a> , <a href="#">Vietnam</a> and <a href="#">Thailand</a>  <a href="#">FAO/OIE</a> press release stating caution about declaring victory over AI in Asia

<sup>13</sup> OJ L 74, 12.3.2004, p.21



<b>SIXTEENTH WEEK</b>	<b>MON 22/3</b>	<b>Meeting of the SCFAH</b>	SCFAH agree to continue the suspension of imports from the US of live poultry, eggs and pet birds, and fresh meat, meat products and preparations from poultry, ratites and feathered game. The continuation of these measures is laid down in SANCO/10150/2004-REV.2 which replaces Commission Decision 2004/256/EC (see 2 March) and will remain in place until 23 April, but can be reviewed in light of the evolving disease situation.	Commission action is summarised in a Press release <a href="#">IP/04/376</a>
	<b>TUE 23/3</b>		Publication of <a href="#">Commission Decision 2004/274/EC</a> <sup>14</sup> prolonging measures against the US (see 22 March)	FAO- <a href="#">ninth summary report</a> on AI epidemic
	<b>FRI 26/3</b>			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">China</a> , <a href="#">Korea</a> and <a href="#">Thailand</a>

<sup>14</sup> OJ L 86, 24.3.2004, p.27

SEVENTEENTH WEEK	TUE 30/3	Meeting of the SCFAH	<p>SCFAH agree Commission proposals to limit the suspension of imports of live poultry, poultry meat and products and eggs from the USA and Canada to the areas where the outbreaks of avian influenza occurred and a large surrounding buffer zone.</p> <p>For the USA, SANCO/10204/2004-Rev. 1 limits import restrictions to the State of Texas.</p> <p>For Canada, SANCO/10207/2004-Rev.1 limits restrictions to a part of the province of British Columbia. These measures will remain in force until 23 August and 1 October for the US and Canada respectively, but can be reviewed in light of the evolving disease situation.</p> <p>The adoption of the Decisions is foreseen for 6 April 2004 and their publication by 7 April.</p>	<p>Commission action is summarised in a Press release <a href="#">IP/04/423</a></p>
	THU 1/4			<p>FAO- <a href="#">tenth summary report</a> on AI epidemic</p>
	FRI 2/4			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Canada</a>, <a href="#">Pakistan</a> and <a href="#">Thailand</a></p>
EIGHTEENTH WEEK	TUE 6/4		<p>Formal adoption by the Commission and notification to Member States of the Decisions on the US and Canada voted at the SCFAH of 30 March.</p>	

	THU 8/4			FAO- <a href="#">eleventh summary report</a> on AI epidemic
	FRI 9/4			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">US</a> (final report), Canada (follow-up report <a href="#">3</a> and <a href="#">4</a> ), <a href="#">Indonesia</a> and <a href="#">Thailand</a>  The US report that the HPAI outbreaks in Texas initially reported on 23 Feb have now been stamped out
NINETEENTH WEEK	WED 14/4- THU 15/4	Meeting of the SCFCAH	SCFCAH receive an update on the AI situation in Asia, Canada and US.	In Asia, no new countries have reported disease outbreaks. China has reported the latest outbreaks in mid February and considers the disease eradicated. In Thailand 2 further outbreaks have been reported to OIE by 9 April. USA considers the disease eradicated. Canada reports 38 outbreaks (28 in commercial holdings and 10 in backyard flocks).
	FRI 16/4			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Canada</a>  Updated information on the AI situation in Canada can also be found on <a href="#">webpages</a> maintained by the Canadian authorities  FAO- <a href="#">twelfth summary report</a> on AI epidemic

TWENTIETH WEEK	WED 21/4		<p>Publication of Commission Decision <a href="#">2004/363/EC</a><sup>15</sup> on concerning protection measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza in the United States of America, and Commission Decision <a href="#">2004/364/EC</a><sup>16</sup> concerning protection measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza in Canada</p> <p>These Decisions were adopted on 6<sup>th</sup> April following discussion in SCFAH on 30<sup>th</sup> March (see above)</p>	
	FRI 23/4			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Taiwan</a> (LPAI) and <a href="#">Thailand</a>
TWENTY FIRST WEEK	TUE 27/4			FAO- <a href="#">thirteenth summary report</a> on AI epidemic. Include details of outbreaks in Cambodia, Thailand and Indonesia
	FRI 30/4			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a>

<sup>15</sup> OJ L 114, 21.4.2004, p.19

<sup>16</sup> OJ L 114, 21.4.2004, p.22

TWENTY SECOND WEEK	WED 5/5	Meeting of the SCFCAH	<p>SCFCAH agreed a draft Commission Decision to prolong the protection measures in relation to avian influenza in several Asian countries. In view of the continuing outbreaks, the Decision will amend CD 2004/122/EC (see 2-3 February) to prolong the measures until 15 December.</p> <p>SCFCAH receive an update on the AI situation in Asia, Canada and US.</p>	<p>Asia- 9 countries affected in total with H5N1 strain and more than a 100 million domestic poultry dead or stamped out. However no new country has reported infections for some time.</p> <p>Canada report outbreaks confined to three clusters within 20KM radius control area. Depopulation of farms is continuing, and appears to be slowing the progression of the outbreak</p>
	FRI 7/5			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> and <a href="#">Canada</a></p>
TWENTY THIRD WEEK	THU 13/5			<p>FAO- <a href="#">Fourteenth summary report</a> on AI epidemic</p>
	FRI 14/5			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a>, <a href="#">Vietnam</a> and <a href="#">Indonesia</a></p>

TWENTY FOURTH WEEK	FRI 21/5			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- The <a href="#">US</a> submit a final report indicating that the LPAI strain (H7N2) detected in poultry in Delaware, Maryland and New Jersey has been completely eradicated
TWENTY FIFTH WEEK	THU 27/5			FAO- <a href="#">Fifteenth summary report</a> on AI epidemic; gives details on new reported cases in Thailand and Indonesia
	FRI 28/5			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a>
TWENTY SIXTH WEEK	TUE- WED 8-9/6	Meeting of the SCFCAH	SCFCAH receive an update on the AI situation in Asia, Canada and US.	
	FRI 11/6			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> - (No new outbreaks reported in Thailand since 25 May)
TWENTY SEVENTH WEEK	TUE 15/6			FAO- <a href="#">Sixteenth summary report</a> on AI epidemic. Included update on the situation in the US

TWENTY NINTH WEEK	TUE 29/6			FAO- <a href="#">seventeenth summary report</a> on AI epidemic. Includes info on Vietnam and the US.
	FRI 2/7			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Indonesia</a> (4 outbreaks reported in previously affected province between 1-16 Jun) and <a href="#">Vietnam</a> ( 1 re-occurrence in a previously infected area)
THIRTIETH WEEK	FRI 9/7			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (2 new outbreaks) and <a href="#">China</a> ( 1 new outbreak)  FAO <a href="#">press release</a> warning that the Avian influenza epidemic in Asian countries far from over and virus is still circulating in the region - long-term surveillance and control strategies needed.

<b>THIRTY FIRST WEEK</b>	<b>WED 14/7</b>	<b>Meeting of the SCFCAH</b>	SCFCAH receive an update on the AI situation in Asia, Canada and US.	FAO- <a href="#">eighteenth summary report</a> on AI epidemic in Asia. New outbreaks of the AI virus H5N1 in China, Thailand and Vietnam confirm that viral activity is still present in the region.
	<b>FRI 16/7</b>			<p>OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (over 25 new outbreaks reported across 13 provinces), <a href="#">Vietnam</a> (1 new outbreak in a previously infected area) and <a href="#">Japan</a> (<b>Final report</b>- no new outbreaks reported since 5 March, and therefore national restrictions have been removed)</p> <p>FAO <a href="#">press release</a> urging countries in Asia not to cull wild birds in response to recent outbreaks of avian influenza in China, Thailand and Vietnam.</p>



THIRTY SECOND WEEK	FRI 23/7		Adoption of Commission Decision <a href="#">2004/572/EC</a> <sup>17</sup> amending Decision 2004/122/EC to prolong certain protection measures in relation to avian influenza in several Asian countries for a further six months until 15 December 2004 (agreed at SCFCAH on 5 May- see above).	OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (45 new outbreaks reported across 17 provinces), <a href="#">Vietnam</a> (3 new outbreaks in a previously infected area), <a href="#">Korea</a> ( <b>Final report</b> - no new cases reported since 21 March- surveillance etc indicated Korea now free of disease) and <a href="#">Canada</a> ( <b>Final report</b> - no new outbreaks reported since end of May, and therefore national restrictions have been removed, and Canada considered free from infection from 9 July)
	THIRTY THIRD WEEK	WED 28/7		FAO- <a href="#">nineteenth summary report</a> on AI epidemic, including detailed information on situation in Thailand and Vietnam.
	FRI 30/7			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (18 new outbreaks reported across 13 provinces) and <a href="#">Cambodia</a> (2 outbreaks reported, but no new outbreaks since 1 April)  FAO <a href="#">press release</a> announcing that the launch of three sub regional veterinary networks for Asia

<sup>17</sup> OJ L 253 , 29/07/2004 P. 22

THIRTY FOURTH WEEK	FRI 6/8			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin- contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (11 new outbreaks reported across 8 provinces) and <a href="#">Indonesia</a> (1 outbreak reported in a previously infected area- during the epidemic a total of 15 provinces have been affected)
THIRTY FIFTH WEEK	MON 9/8			FAO- <a href="#">twentieth summary report</a> on AI epidemic- One month has past since what appeared as a “second wave” of avian influenza (AI) in several Asian countries. The report includes detailed reports on the situation in Vietnam and Thailand
THIRTY SIXTH WEEK	THU 19/8	The Malaysian authorities report a confirmed outbreak of HPAI		First outbreak in Malaysia- H5 subtype isolated from a single farm in Kelantan State
	FRI 20/8		The Commission adopts <a href="#">Commission Decision 2004/606/EC</a> <sup>18</sup> to suspend imports of feathers and pet birds into the EU from Malaysia following the outbreak of HPAI. (This amends CD 2004/122/EC to add Malaysia to the list of countries where certain protection measures apply)	OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin <a href="#">Malaysia</a> - confirms primary outbreak of HPAI (H5) in the country, in Kelantan State.  Following outbreaks of AI in the <a href="#">US</a> earlier in the year, the US report to the OIE that because 6 months have elapsed after the last outbreak, it considers itself officially free of HPAI

<sup>18</sup> OJ L 273 , 21/08/2004 P. 0021 - 0022

THIRTY SEVENTH WEEK

<b>MON 23/8</b>	OIE issue <a href="#">press release</a> regarding recent scientific work in China on the presence of H5N1 AI virus in pigs. The OIE confirm that further enquiries are continuing, but that no virus has been isolated from field samples taken from pigs during the current epidemic in China.	Commission <a href="#">press release</a> ( IP//04/1041) giving details of the Commission Decision to suspend imports of feathers and pet birds from Malaysia	
		Commission Decision <a href="#">2004/363/EC</a> <sup>19</sup> limiting exports from certain areas of the US in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza (adopted on 6 April- see above) expires. In view of the positive measures taken by the US, and the declaration by the US authorities that the whole territory is now classified as officially free from disease, no additional action is necessary, and hence exports for the whole of the US can recommence.	Commission informs Member States by fax that CD 2004/363/EC has now elapsed.
	<b>THU 26/8</b>		Commission <a href="#">press release</a> (midday express) confirming the prolongation of the import embargo on poultry products and pet birds from several Asian countries (Thailand, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Pakistan, China, South Korea and Vietnam) until 15 December.(see 23/7)
<b>FRI 27/8</b>			FAO- <a href="#">Twenty-first summary report</a> on AI epidemic. The report includes detailed reports on the situation in Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia and China.

<sup>19</sup> OJ L 114, 21.4.2004, p.19

THIRTY EIGHTH WEEK	WED 1/9	OIE issue a further <a href="#">press release</a> regarding Chinese work AI virus in pigs. The OIE confirm that H5N1 strain was isolated from 2 samples taken from pigs in 2001 and 2003, but no isolates have been recovered from pigs during the current epidemic. However the OIE urged AI-affected countries to increase their epidemiological surveillance to better understand the implications of the existence of H5N1 virus in pigs.		
	FRI 3/9			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Thailand</a> (61 new outbreaks reported across 22 provinces)
THIRTY NINTH WEEK	FRI 10/9			OIE- publication of the weekly disease information bulletin-contains updates on the disease situation in <a href="#">Malaysia</a> (Confirms H5N1 strain with 97% homogeneity to strain isolated elsewhere in Asia. Also report of new outbreak in previously affected state <sup>o</sup> )
FORTIETH WEEK	TUE 14/9	Meeting of the SCFCAH	SCFCAH receive an update on the AI situation in Asia and Canada.  Commission present a draft Decision for vote to amend 2004/122/EC for the third time in order to prolong the protection measures for Asia.	