HUNGARY

Food and Veterinary Office

COUNTRY PROFILE

Organisation of Official Controls
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INTRODUCTION

This overview has been drawn up by the Food and Veterinary Office (FVO), a Directorate of the Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety of the European Commission based on information supplied by Hungary.

The aim is to present, in summary form, the latest information on how control systems for food and feed safety, animal health, animal welfare, plant health and food quality labelling are organised in the Hungary.

Chapter 1 describes the overall organisation of the Hungarian authorities and the respective responsibilities of the ministries and government agencies in relation to the different components of the control system. A chart is used to help the reader better understand the inter-relationships between the responsibilities of the different bodies.

Chapter 2 gives a more detailed description of the main responsibilities for each of the twelve separate systems that form the complete range of control systems in Hungary, covering the whole chain of plant, animal and food production. As in Chapter 1, organisation charts are used to help the reader.

Annex I provides details on the number of control staff in the Hungary. The statistics on staff resources have been provided by the Member States on a non-standardised basis.

The overview was updated following the administrative follow-up in 2015 and will be updated at regular intervals based on relevant information received by the Commission from the Hungarian authorities.

Acronyms are used extensively throughout this overview for the sake of brevity. A list of acronyms, abbreviations and special terms is given in Annex II as a guide for the reader.
SUMMARY

Administratively, Hungary is divided into 19 counties and Budapest. The counties are further subdivided into 175 districts, and Budapest is its own sub region, with 23 districts.

The sources of Hungarian law are the Acts of Parliament, governmental and ministerial decrees, and decrees of local governments. The Acts assigns the central administration tasks. The Government Decrees designates the Competent Authorities (CAs) and specifies the organisation of controls, and the Ministerial Decrees contains the implementing procedures.

As part of a re-organisational process in 2011, a unified organisation has been put in place for controls of the whole food chain. All relevant legislation has been brought within a single framework (Act XLVI of September 2008).

At national level, the administrations consist of the following competent authorities:

- The Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) has the political status of Deputy State Secretary within the Ministry of Agriculture (MA). The Department of Food Chain Control (DFCC) and the Department of Food Processing (DFP; MA) are responsible for the policy for the whole food chain, and for supervising the control activities at county and local levels. The National Food Chain Safety Office (NFCSO) who reports directly to the MA, as central competent authority is responsible for managing the operational tasks at central level, for the risk assessment and for supporting of decision-making of the MA.

- The professional management of the Main Departments of Public Health (which are now integrated into the Government Offices) is carried out by the Ministry of Human Capacities (MHC) with the assistance of the National Public Health and Medical Officer Service’s Office of the Chief Medical Officer (NPHMOS-OCMO). The Main Departments of Public Health of the Government Offices are responsible for controls of nutritional aspects of certain foodstuff categories (e.g. foodstuffs intended for particular nutritional uses, and catering), controlling and carrying out investigations of food supplements, ruling on foodstuffs with nutrition and health claims, investigating epidemiologic aspects of human food borne diseases. The MHC is responsible for establishing legislation in the field of nutritional health (e.g. nutritional health aspects of mass catering) and is primarily responsible for establishing legislation on nutritional and health claims and nutrition labelling, as well as provisions on foodstuffs for particular nutritional uses, food supplements and fortified foods.

- The National Institute of Pharmacy and Nutrition (recently established institute which includes the former National Institute for Food and Nutritional Science (NIFNS) according to Government Decree No 28/2015) is also responsible for investigations on food supplements and foodstuffs with nutrition and health claims.

- The Authority of Consumer Protection (HACP) - which is working under the Ministry of National Development (MND) professional management - and the CP CGOs (CGOs acting within competence for consumer protection) - which are working under the Prime Minister Office’s organizational guidance and the MND’s professional management - have competence in case of violation of the prohibition of unfair commercial practices related to foodstuff labelling and advertising. The authority for consumer protection is not authorized to act in case of issues of foodstuff’s quality and safety since the 1st of September 2008.
Since 2011, all authorities at county level involved in official controls of the food chain merged and integrated into the County Government Offices (CGOs). Administratively the CGOs are under the Prime Minister’s Office. At local level, administratively there are 198 district government offices (DGOs). Within these DGOs there are 82 district food chain safety and animal health unit (DFCSAHU). In average each DFCSAHU is responsible for 2-3 DGOs.

The current version of MANCP covers the period 2010 - 2014 and incorporates an operating plan and a system to ensure that all parties are active in its implementation. The preparation of MANCP for the following planning period is in progress; however changes in the planning of official controls have already been implemented. Recent changes will be published in the annual report. The MANCP is published at the following link:


The Annual Reports (AR) on the implementation of the MANCP for the years until 2013 have been submitted to the FVO. They are also published on the following web site:

http://portal.nebih.gov.hu/web/guest/-/legfrissebb-jelentes-itnet-jelentes
http://portal.nebih.gov.hu/web/guest/-/tovabbi-itnet-jelentesek

I  ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS OF REGULATION (EC) 882/2004

Designation of competent authorities

National level

Following significant re–organisational changes across all the Ministries and the CAs described in Act No 20/2014, the Ministry of Agriculture (MA) has full responsibility for official controls on all the food chain. Despite the structural changes, the roles and powers of the CAs remain unaffected since September 2008 (Act XLVI of September 2008). This Act has centralised the policy responsibility for the whole food chain, assigns and clarifies the central administration tasks of the authorities involved and has designated the Central Agriculture Office (CAO) as responsible for its implementation. As of 15 March 2012, the National Food Chain Safety Office (NFCSO) was formed and the Hungarian Food Safety Office (HFSO) was integrated into NFCSO, as Directorate for Food Safety Risk Assessment (DFSRA). From then on, the NFCSO operates as a legal successor of the formers CAO and HFSO incorporating almost all aspects of the food chain safety supervision into one single authority.

The structure of the coordination has been recently changed. Since 1st April 2015 previously independent agricultural administration bodies (called Directorate for Food Chain Safety and Animal Health and Directorate of Plant Protection and Soil Conservation) have been merged into one department within the government offices. This department is called Department for Food Chain Safety, Plant Protection and Soil Conservation or Department for Food Chain Safety and Agriculture where the Unit for Agriculture belongs to it as well. The Prime Minister's Office is responsible for the direction of county government offices; the Minister of Agriculture is responsible for the professional direction of the units responsible for food chain control.

The 19 Main Departments of Public Health and the 80 Departments of Public Health of District Offices under the professional management of the MHC are responsible for controls of food supplements, controls of foodstuffs intended for particular nutritional uses, controls of nutritional and health claims of foodstuffs, and controls of nutritional aspects of catering, and investigations from the epidemiological aspects of food borne diseases.
The authority for consumer protection has competence in case of violation of the prohibition of unfair commercial practices related to the foodstuff labelling and advertising. The authority for consumer protection is not authorized to act in case of issues of foodstuff quality and safety since 1st September 2008.

Since the 1st January 2011 former ministries were merged into the Prime Minister’s Office being responsible for funding for staffing, infrastructure and implementation of the operational programmes.

**Regional level**

At regional level, the administrations consist of 19 County Government Offices responsible for implementation and enforcement of the law.

As of 1 January 2011, at county level all authorities involved in official controls of the food chain have been merged and integrated into the County Government Offices (CGOs). Administratively the CGOs are under the Prime Minister’s Office; the territorial organisations of the different authorities operate and are under the professional co-ordination of the ministries. Regarding to the official controls of food chain, the county government offices implement the control plans following the procedures and guidelines that are all provided by NFCSO and ordered by the MA. In case of events when immediate action is required the CVO has the right to give direct order to county government offices.

**Local level**

Since 1 January 2013 new districts offices (járási hivatal) have been established, thus the administration consists of 198 district government offices (DGOs). Within these DGOs there are 82 district food chain safety and animal health unit (DFCSAHU). In average each DFCSAHU is responsible for 2-3 DGOs.

**Co-operation and co-ordination**

General requirements concerning co-operation between individual CAs are laid down in Act No CXL of 2004 on "Public Administration Procedures and the Co-operation between CAs and other bodies involved" (MND – in animal welfare, NTCA – BIPs, municipalities – animal health, feed, ABP, foodstuffs and food hygiene, neighbouring countries), in Ministerial Decrees or agreements.

The MANCP 2010–2014 describes the co-ordination mechanisms between and within the CAs.

Some co-ordination activities between CAs have become obsolete as all responsibility for the whole food chain in terms of food safety has been taken over by the NFCSO. However, various co-ordination activities are still legally allocated. Act 46/2008 has been reviewed and adopted on 15 February 2014. This Act serves as a basis for the amendment of the subordinate ministerial decrees.

The responsibility for **organic farming** was assigned by MA to NFCSO in July 2009. Two certified bodies have been delegated by the CA for the control of organic farming and issuing certificates for organic farmers.
Table 1 gives an overview of the main competent authorities involved

**Table 1**

**Competent authority overview**

[Diagram of competent authorities involved in food chain control and related sectors]
Central authorities

Ministry of Agriculture (MA)

The State Secretariat for Food Chain Control was created in February 2008. In March 2008, within the State Secretariat, the former Department for Food Chain Safety, Animal and Plant Health was divided into two sections: the Department for Food Chain Development (DFCD) and Department for Food Chain Control (DFCC) as shown in the chart. Since 1st April 2015 the Department for Food Chain Development is changed for Department of Food Processing (DFP).

The CVO is the Deputy State Secretary for the Food Chain Safety. The Deputy CVO is the President of the NFCSO. The Head of the Plant Protection, Soil Conservation and Agri-Environment Division (within the NFCSO) is the Main Inspector of Plant Protection and Soil Conservation, and the Deputy Head of the Food Chain Control Department and the Head of the Plant Protection and Soil Conservation Unit (within the MA) is the Chief Plant Health Officer (CPHO).

The DFCC is responsible for:
- strategic planning
- legislation
- international affairs.

National Food Chain Safety Office (NFCSO)

Government Decree 22/2012 established the NFCSO with its central office in Budapest.

The NFCSO is headed by a President (Deputy CVO) who reports to the State Secretary for Food-Chain Safety (CVO).

The NFCSO comprises:

A) Three horizontal departments, reporting directly to the President of NFCSO:
- Directorate for System Management and Supervision (SMSD), set up in October 2010;
- Directorate for Food Safety Risk Assessment (NFCSO-DFSRA), formerly HFSO, set up on 15 March 2012;
- Directorate for Priority Cases (DPC) set up in 2012.

B) Ten functional departments, under the supervision of three deputy president, each headed by Directors:
- Directorate for Animal Health and Animal Welfare
- Directorate for Veterinary Diagnostics
- Directorate for Veterinary Medicinal Products
- Directorate for Food and Feed Safety
- Directorate of Oenology and Alcoholic Beverages
- Directorate for Plant Protection, Soil Conservation and Agri-Environment
- Directorate for Forestry
- Directorate for Agriculture
- Directorate for Animal Breeding
- Directorate for Plant Production and Horticulture.
The MA Ministerial Instruction No 1/2013 sets out the procedures for the NFCSO.

The horizontal departments are responsible for the following activities:

The Directorate for “System Management and Supervision” (SMSD) co-ordinates the MANCP and is responsible for risk assessment, strategic and risk based planning of official controls. The Supervision Unit, within SMSD, is responsible for internal audit.

The Directorate for Food Safety Risk Assessment (NFCSO-DFSRA) supports the activities of the Competent Authorities (risk assessment, strategic and risk based planning of official controls and MANCP). The directorate is the national contact point for the Commission services, RASFF network, WHO Emergency, FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius and EFSA.

Their activities are documented in Annual reports.

The Directorate for Priority Cases is responsible for controls of fraud and adulteration related to food chain, and cases representing risk to consumers’ health in the country.

The vertical departments

As of 1 January 2011 most functions in relation to food chain safety which were previously exercised by agencies under the aegis of different ministries were reallocated to the NFCSO together with the staff.

The responsibility for organic farming was assigned by MA to the NFCSO in July 2009.

NFCSO as central competent authority is responsible for supporting of decision-making of the Ministry of Agriculture and providing control plans, procedures and guidelines to county government offices. In case of events when immediate action is required the CVO has the right to give direct order to county government offices.

Ministry of Human Capacities, State Secretariat for Health (MHC SSH)

The Act on Health No CLIV of 1997, the Act on Medical Authority and Administration No XI of 1991, Government Decree No 212/2010 on Duties and Responsibilities of Ministers, Act on Official Controls in the Food Chain (XLVI of 2008), the Joint Decree No 68/2007 and the Government Decree No 323/2010 (XII. 27) assign responsibility to the NPHMOS and GO PASPs (currently Main Department Of Public Health) institutes to ensure control of certain sectors, which fall under Ministerial Decrees for food supplements, foodstuffs intended for particular nutritional uses, nutrition and health claims, nutritional aspects of catering in nurseries, schools, and social services, catering for patients in hospitals and epidemic aspects of food borne diseases.

Joint Decree MET-MH-MRD-MSAL 67/2007 (VII. 10.) concerning the nutritional recommendation on food prevalence for certain types of catering has been repealed. A new normative instruction of the Chief Medical Officer on nutritional recommendations was issued in 2011 to give guidance for the mass caterers until binding legislation is not in place. The new Ministerial Decree 37/2014 (IV. 30.) on the nutritional health criteria of catering, officially published in April 2014, came into force on 1st of January 2015, and is applicable from 1st of September 2015.

The National Centre for Epidemiology (NCE) is a supporting central institute of the NPHMOS-OCMO. The NPHMOS-OCMO is managed by the MHC.
The NPHMOS-OCMO, the Main Departments of Public Health and the Departments of Public Health are responsible for public health tasks and nutritional health tasks. The NPHMOS-OCMO is responsible for implementing epidemiological investigations and certain measures in cases of food borne diseases in catering, and households (with the assistance of NCE), and implementing nutritional surveys as laid down in Act XI of 1991. The NPHMOS-OCMO reports directly to the MHC.

The National Institute of Pharmacy and Nutrition (NIPN) operates under the direct supervision of Ministry of Human Capacities, State Secretariat for Health. NIPN was established on 1 March 2015.

The MNE is no longer formally involved in the legislative framework for the animal welfare sector. The DFCSAHs co-operate only on mobile roadside checks which are organised jointly at local level.

Ministry of National Development (MND)

The MND has provided the professional management of the CP CGO-s since 1st April 2015. The MND can order ad hoc inspections concerning more than one CGO’s competency or a wide range of consumers and the MND can instruct the government commissioners as the leaders of the CGO-s regarding their tasks of consumer protection. The MND can also order the government commissioners as the leaders of the CGO-s to make up defaults and the government commissioners are accountable to the MND. Under the control of the MND the HACP can contribute to the abovementioned professional management, carry out and undertake the required tests of the CGO-s related to the consumer protection, and for this purpose the HACP operates the Food and Chemical Industry Laboratory. The HACP also ensures the professional training of the CP CGO-s.

Prime Minister’s Office (PMO)

The PMO has other, non-professional management powers (for example: employer rights) – as regards of the CP CGO’s. The CP CGO’s (under the PMO’s organizational guidance) are providing the official controls in order to reveal the unfair commercial practices related to the foodstuff labelling and advertising.

In public administrative proceedings the CP CGO’s act in first instance and the HACP acts in the second instance.

Regional and local authorities

At regional level there are 19 County Government Offices (CGO) located in each county and the capital Budapest.

The CGO is headed by a government appointee and comprise fifteen specialized Directorates/Offices, three of which are involved in food control:

- Department for Food Chain Safety, Plant Protection and Soil Conservation or Department for Food Chain Safety and Agriculture, where the Unit for Agriculture also belongs to it (DFCSPPSC or DFCSA);
- Department for Public Health (DPH);
- County Government Offices acting within the competence for consumer protection (CP CGO).
At local level, as of 1 January 2013 new districts offices (járási hivatal) have been created. The administration consists of 198 district government offices (DGOs). Within these DGOs there are 82 district food chain safety and animal health unit (DFCSAHU). In average each DFCSAHU is responsible for 2-3 DGOs.

Official controls are carried out by the Official Veterinarians (OVs) and the approved veterinarians, which are private practitioners who are authorised (under contract) by the NFCSO in accordance with the Governmental Decree 113/2006 on the scope of responsibilities and rules and procedures of the activities of approved veterinarians.

**Resources for performance of controls**

Some 2986 staff is involved at national, regional and local level, measured in terms of full time equivalent personnel. A full time equivalent total of 816 staff are dedicated to food and feed, plant and animal health, animal welfare at the central level and 1898 staff are dedicated to implementation of controls at regional and local level.

There are 385 approved veterinarians, which are private practitioners not civil servants authorised, under contract, by the NFCSO in accordance with Governmental Decree 369/2012 on the scope of responsibilities and rules and procedures of the activities of approved veterinarians to carry out certain official tasks - they carry out ante mortem inspections on farms and post mortem inspections on animals arriving from farms in slaughterhouses with limited capacity (Rules concerning private practitioners are laid down in Act CXXVII of 2012 on the Hungarian Veterinary Chamber and on performing veterinary service activities).

The experts of GO PASP (currently Main Department of Public Health) institutes are government civil servants who work as full-time professionals.

More detailed information on human resources is provided in Annex I.

The required operational criteria (legal powers to carry out official controls, impartiality, consistency of official controls, staff free from conflict of interest, external or contract staff have the same degree of independence and accountability) are set out in Act CXCIX of 2011 on civil servants and in the Act on public administration, procedures and service, and detailed rules on conflict of interest are laid down in Act CXL of 2004 on the general regulations for the administrative procedures and performance of individual authorities. For all civil servants, training on the content of these Acts is obligatory.

New staff is obliged to sign a declaration that they are free of conflict of interest before they become a civil servant and the civil servant is obliged to inform the employer about any possible conflict of interest. However, in accordance with Act CXCIX of 2011 and ACT CXL of 2004, official veterinarians are allowed to perform private practice, but any other additional employment needs the permission of the CA.

Failure to act impartially and to eliminate cases where there might be a conflict of interest which may result in their dismissal.

The approved veterinarians are not entitled to perform animal welfare checks, to issue movement documents or to perform controls on farms where they run private practice or they have a contract with the farmer.

As a result of the re-organisation process, the implementation of administrative and operative programmes by the counties relies on the Prime Minister's Office which provides funding for staffing, infrastructure and operational programmes.
Training is co-ordinated centrally at national level. The NFCSO is responsible for drafting an annual national training programme that is published by MA. County officials participate in these trainings. Since 2010, the CA had introduced an e-learning system (available also for approved veterinarians). On account of FVO audits, the competent authority (NFCSO-DFFS) has been conducting trainings at regional level since 2014.

The training needs are monitored and assessed through several tools: the internal audit, technical audit, during the training sessions, and in the case of the e-learning system (evaluation of test results, discussion groups, etc.).

The effectiveness of the training is assessed through tests (obligatory in the e-learning system) and questionnaires (satisfaction evaluation) at the end of the training (live training as well as e-learning).

The NPHMOS-OCMO, with the assistance of the NIPN, carries out the training of the colleagues of Main Departments of Public Health and the Departments of Public Health using the "training the trainers" principle.

The HACP do not have a training plan in place or regular training. If it is necessary this is done on a case by case (meetings) as a result of preparation of new guidelines before inspections. The Inspection Guide – that was made before the thematic inspection and sent to all of the CGO-s – contains the legal background of this area, the criteria of the inspection, the information about the sampling procedure, the aspects of the assessment of the laboratory results, and the procedural issues. Regarding the fact that the Inspection Guide fully explains the details of the inspection, it is to be considered an educational material for the inspectors as well.

**Organisation and implementation of official control**

Official controls are planned and organised on the basis of the MANCP (2010-2014).

At the time of the publication of this Country Profile, the preparation of MANCP for the following planning period was in progress.

The most important changes related to the MANCP were the ratification of the Food Chain Safety Strategy and the reform of the product control system.

**Food Chain Safety Strategy**

As a result of the cooperative preliminary work of the Ministry of Rural Development and the National Food Chain Safety Office the *Food Chain Safety Strategy 2013-2022* has been accepted by the Government Decision 1703/2013. (X.8.). The *Strategy* determines the most important targets and duties connected to food chain safety as well as it provides guidance on the achievement of these desired goals for the next ten years. In the interest of the prevention of human, animal and plant diseases, namely in the interest of the improvement of food chain safety, results can only be achieved by cooperation (with consumers and business operators as well). At the same time the responsibility and the role of the government is significant, principally in the organisation and coordination of knowledge management through the entire food chain together with the strengthening of its traditional authoritative functions. Accordingly the Strategy gives an emphasized role to the raise of social awareness, to the rebuilding of the knowledge base of public services as well as to the innovation and economic development.
Risk reduction has two main options which also present the two base concepts of the strategy: in the first one, the government will be responsible for organizing and coordinating the knowledge management in the food chain, and in the other one, we have to strengthen and increase the effectiveness of the government’s traditional law enforcement function. The *Strategy* defines 4 strategic objectives and 11 programs to achieve the main goal – increasing food chain safety.

The National Food Chain Safety Office has a substantial role in the implementation of the above detailed goals. The objectives of the Strategy and the NFCSO can only be achieved by the systematic share of information within the organisation, as well as by the unambiguous definition of tasks and responsibilities.

Goals that are going far beyond the daily tasks related to administration can be fulfilled effectively in the frame of projects.

Numerous project ideas have emerged during the process of breaking down the strategic objectives. Taking into consideration the food chain risks, the available resources as well as the societal and executive expectations, a wide group of projects has been selected for implementation. The realization of the chosen projects is a priority.

As a result of the above described procedure several strategic projects related to professional goals as well as to organisational goals have been introduced in 2014.

Among projects launched in 2014 there were three that are closely related to MANCP. These two projects are as follows:

- Reconstruction of the risk assessment system
- Food product testing – Safety, quality and consumer acceptance aspects.

*Changes related to the product control system*

The Presidential Decree 5/2013 introduces an integrated approach to improve the Food Chain Monitoring Plan. A coordinating working group (headed by NFCSO-SMSD) has been set up to ensure that the planning is in line with objectives, to carry out risk assessment, to identify the priorities in the control system, to follow up of the execution of the plan, and to coordinate the work of 12 Professional Panels (PP). The PPs are responsible to issue monitoring plans and the relevant operating procedures.

12 Professional Panels have been set up in the fields of:

- Soils, soil protection, yield enhancing substances
- Plant health, crops and propagation materials
- Plant protection and plant protection products residues
- Feed safety and quality
- Animal health and welfare
- Microbiological hazards
- GMO
- Veterinary medicinal products and residues thereof
- Chemical contaminants and Food Contact Material (FCM)
- Radioisotopes
- Food additives, food quality
- Data management
Since 2015, in accordance with the execution of the Food Chain Safety Strategy, special projects have been identified and are implemented continuously. A part of these projects is associated to the Food Chain Monitoring Plan that is consistent with the fields covered by PPs. The aim of the special projects connected to the Food Chain Monitoring Plan is to cover all measures and actions (e.g. control, sampling or communication) that are related to a chosen hazard in order to manage and control them effectively. Recently seven special projects have started under the scope of the Food Chain Monitoring Plan. These projects together with other projects linked to the Strategy will constitute the target system of the MANCP.

The MANCP then is converted into operational plans annually; it sets up as a main objective a risk based approach within all the control systems; describes in the sectorial descriptive parts the features of the risk based approach for each sector; and describes the main characteristics of the new IT based planning system.

Official controls are in general performed according to SOPs and checklists are used.

All official staff has access to the NFCSO intranet which contains the MANCP and annual plans. In the animal health, welfare and food sector they have to complete standard checklists/reports following official control which should be loaded into the database “Online Inspection Module” system (the MANCP includes in Annex 15 an up to date list of existing documented procedures for all commodities and sectors: SOPs, control checklists, guidelines, contingency plans for animal diseases).

In addition, each new checklist or documented procedure is sent via circular by MA to County level authorities.

As regards certain foodstuffs, official control activities are carried out according to guidelines for inspection set by the GO PASP (currently Main Department of Public Health) institutes. Data concerning the inspection activities have to be collected and a summary report sent to the OCMO, once a year.

Official control activities by the CP CGOs are carried out according to instructions issued by HACP. The MND sends to the CP CGOs the Inspection Guide (that is compiled by the HACP and approved by the MND) which contains the details, the legal background, and the procedural issues of the official control. Reports are drawn up after the inspections and audits take place and include information on their purpose, scope and the results of the checks.

Enforcement measures

Legal powers to take measures or to impose sanctions in a case where deficiencies or infringements are identified are mainly laid down in:

- Act XI of 1991 on Medical Officers and Administration Duties;
- Act LXIX of 1999 on the contravention of regulations;
- Act CXL of 2004 setting out the procedure to impose enforcement measures;
- Act XLVI of 1 September 2008 grants to the NFCSO powers to impose sanctions and sets out legal sanctions applicable for various offences;
- Act II of 2012 on the contravention of the regulation setting out when and how these enforcement measures can be applied;
- Government Decree 194/2008 sets out rules on the method of calculation and on the size of the fines and allows for fines to be imposed in the range of 55 – 55,000 euro, taking into account the net sales of the FBO;
• Government Decree 244/1998 as amended by the Government Decree 115/2012 on the animal welfare fines - introduce objective criteria upon which the fines will be calculated (differentiate scale of fines) and new rates (minimum 15,000 HUF with no upper limit).

The NFCSO has set sectorial guidelines and documented procedures on the use of legal powers and a Common Operating Procedure describing official acts including enforcement measures in most sectors of food safety.

The range of actions varies according to the severity of the deficiency or infringement (e.g. request for corrective action setting deadlines, fines, suspension of activities, suspension of approval or withdrawal of approval).

Verifications and review of official control

Verification of controls

At present there is an incomplete and inconsistent implementation of verification of effectiveness of official control within NFCSO. According to the NFCSO the effectiveness of controls and their results for some sectors is judged as a snapshot, based on the outcome of audits carried out (see below).

Temporary measures were introduced in 2012 to ensure the supervision of inspectors. The President of NFCSO issued a circular dated 31 May 2012 on how to verify the effectiveness of official controls made by own official staff of the County DFCSPPSC or DFCSAs.

The instruction refers to the object, methodology and frequency of these controls. Documentation of these controls is also set out in it. The instruction indicates the following points:

• yearly assessment of all colleagues taking part in official controls;
• control on the spot when inspection is done;
• points to control in the inspector’s control activities;
• reporting of this control, and informing thereon the colleague.

A new IT system (FELIR) is being developed at the NFCSO with the following elements:

• Data warehouse
• Registration module
• System for the management of official controls

The system containing the above listed modules will be able to ensure that:

• the data required for risk based planning are available;
• the official controls are properly implemented (that can be achieved by proper timing of controls, by the application of uniform but detailed check lists, relevant legal background and valid sanctions);
• the data are available for analysis.
Therefore the IT system will guarantee all the information needed for the verification of official controls and the operation of PDCA cycle.

The system will be introduced by 2016. As it was described previously, in the meantime the NFCSO SU ensures the supervision of the effectiveness of official controls in the different sectors of food chain by technical and internal audits.

Audit

As part of the re-organisation process, since September 2010 the responsibility lies with the SMSD SU which is an independent organisation within the NFCSO.

On 2th December 2013 the SU has achieved BS EN ISO 9001:2008 certifications. The aim of the certification is to introduce a revised set of Quality Management standards based on a process model, focused on Customer Satisfaction and Continuous Improvement within their "Inspection of the food chain and agricultural administration bodies”.

The SU comprises auditors which have undergone specific training. All staff has an internal auditor qualification granted by TÜV. In addition, the Quality Manual requires the staff to have minimum three years administration experience and the staff should avail of an Audit System Course.

According to the Quality Manual, the SU together with the NFCSO sector Directorates should draft an audit program every year.
An overview of the key points of the planning procedure is illustrated in the flowchart below:

1. **Aims of senior management**
2. **FVO recommendations which are connected with supervision**
3. **Tasks from previous year**
4. **Binding audits by laws (Cross compliance, ecological control bodies)**
5. **Subjects of technical audits**
6. **Subjects of supervisions Type of supervisions**
7. **Meeting of SU and relevant sector directorates**
8. **Meeting of SU and relevant sector directorates**
9. **Draft Annual Audit Program**
10. **President of NFCSO approves and issues the Program**

**Arrangement regarding:**
- Subjects of technical audits for next year
- Numbers of technical audits for next year
- Quarter when the TA will be performed
- Counties where the TA will be performed

**Review the implementation of previous annual audit program**
**Review the FVO recommendations**
**Interview with senior management**
**Risk analysis and assessment of annual audit program**
**Audit plan for 5 years**
**Risk analysis and assessment of annual audit program**
The Program includes two types of activities, which are described in the Quality Manual:

- “audits” / or "internal audits" - carried out by the SU; during these audits compliance with Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 across different competent authorities and sectors is verified;
- "technical audits" - carried out by the technical directorates of NFCSO; during these audits compliance with vertical EU legislation across different competent authorities and sectors is verified.

In accordance with the Quality Manual procedure, before each audit the auditor has to draft an audit plan. After the audit, the auditor has to produce a report and where appropriate an action plan is drawn up and delivered by the auditee; the action plan has to propose time-bound corrective and preventive action to address the deficiencies identified by the audit team. The follow up of the corrective and preventive actions are regulated in the Quality Manual procedure.

Additionally, the SU has to produce an annual audit report. The report is distributed within the NFCSO, to the MA, to the CGO DFCSSPPSC or DFCSA and published on intranet.

The first three year audit cycle started in 2008 and was finished in 2010. It had the objective to check the organisation, operation and performance of all levels of authorities (counties in 2008, 12 districts in 2009, 10% of the total local level offices in 2010, and 50% in soil/plant health). There were no audits planned covering specific controls systems. Overall, the vertical control systems are covered by technical audits.

The following table gives an overview of the distribution of audit/technical audit in relation to control systems and operational levels.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Type of supervision</th>
<th>Planned supervision</th>
<th>Completed supervisions</th>
<th>Unit responsible for supervision</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Audit</td>
<td>Pilot Supervision Programme was only prepared for the last quarter of 2007</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>Audit (Counties)</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>29</td>
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<td>2009</td>
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<td>ICAD</td>
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<td>Dir. for Wine Grading</td>
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<td>24</td>
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<td>ICAD/SMSD-SU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Type of supervision</td>
<td>Planned supervision</td>
<td>Completed supervisions</td>
<td>Unit responsible for supervision</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>NFCSO-DPPSCAE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>SMSD SU</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>20</td>
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<td>NFCSO-DPPSCAE</td>
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</table>
Multi-annual National Control Plan (MANCP)

The first MANCP for Hungary for the period 2007-2009 was drafted by MA, MH and MSAL.

The revised version of MANCP 2010-2014 covers a period of five years and was issued by the System Management & Supervision Directorate, which is the new co-ordinator of the programme. It is published on the following website:


The MANCP has taken into account the deficiencies identified during the FVO general audit (horizontally and vertically) and is more coherent and transparent, and has been significantly changed (taking a more systemic approach then descriptive). It covers the full legislative scope of Regulation 882/2004, all commodities, all production stages and official controls carried out by the CAs at all levels (the central, regional and local services). It provides the co-ordination mechanisms between and within CAs, is risk based oriented, can be converted into annual operational plans comprising specific objectives, allocations of tasks, specific targets and operational/performance indicators, includes a listing of existing documented procedures for all the commodities and sectors which are regularly updated on-line (SOPs, control checklists, guidelines, contingency plans for animal disease - see Annex 15 of the 2010-2014 MANCP).

The annual report on the implementation of the MANCP for 2013 was provided to the Commission in September 2015.

The preparation of MANCP for the following planning period is in progress; however changes in the planning of official controls have already been implemented. Recent changes will be published in the annual report.
## Overview of the distribution of responsibilities

The following chart gives an overview of the distribution of responsibilities in relation to control systems and operational levels. More detailed descriptions of the allocation of responsibilities between authorities in relation to each control system are given in the following chapters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Policy co-ordination</th>
<th>Co-ordination of controls</th>
<th>Implementation of controls</th>
<th>Laboratories</th>
<th>Risk assessment, scientific advice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Animal Health</td>
<td>DFCC</td>
<td>NFCSO - DAHAW</td>
<td>CGO DFCSPPSC or DFCSA /Districts</td>
<td>NFCSO-DVD</td>
<td>NFCSO-DAHAW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Food of Animal Origin</td>
<td>DFCC</td>
<td>NFCSO - FFSD</td>
<td>CGO DFCSPPSC or DFCSA /Districts</td>
<td>NFCSO-FFSD</td>
<td>NFCSO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Imports of animal and food of animal origin</td>
<td>DFCC</td>
<td>NFCSO - DAHAW</td>
<td>BIPs, NTCA</td>
<td>NFCSO-FFSD</td>
<td>NFCSO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Feedingstuffs and animal nutrition</td>
<td>DFCC</td>
<td>NFCSO – FFSD</td>
<td>CGO DFCSPPSC or DFCSA /Districts</td>
<td>NFCSO-FFSD</td>
<td>NFCSO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- production and marketing</td>
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<td>CGO DFCSAH</td>
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<td>- farms</td>
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<tr>
<td>- imports</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. TSEs/ABP</td>
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<td>NFCSO - DAHAW</td>
<td>CGO DFCSPPSC or DFCSA /Districts</td>
<td>NFCSO-DVD</td>
<td>NFCSO</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Veterinary medicines</td>
<td>DFCC</td>
<td>NFCSO – DVMP</td>
<td>CGO DFCSPPSC or DFCSA</td>
<td>NFCSO-DVMP</td>
<td>NFCSO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- authorisation, marketing &amp; distribution</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- residues</td>
<td></td>
<td>NFCSO - FFSD</td>
<td>CGO DFCSPPSC or DFCSA /Districts</td>
<td>NFCSO-FFSD</td>
<td>NFCSO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Foodstuffs and Food hygiene</td>
<td>MA/DFCC</td>
<td>NFCSO – FFS</td>
<td>CGO DFCSPPSC or DFCSA /Districts / GO PASPs institutes /NIFNS/ HACP</td>
<td>NFCSO-FFSD</td>
<td>NFCSO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GMO</td>
<td>MNR SSH</td>
<td>NPHIMOS</td>
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<td>HACP</td>
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<td>NFCSO – FFSD</td>
<td>CGO DFCSPPSC or DFCSA /Districts</td>
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<td>CP CGOs</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Imports of food of plant origin</td>
<td>DFCC</td>
<td>NFCSO – DPPSCAE</td>
<td>CGO DFCSPPSC or DFCSA /Districts</td>
<td>NFCSO-DPPSCAE</td>
<td>NFCSO</td>
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<td></td>
<td>NFCSO - FFSD</td>
<td>BIPs</td>
<td></td>
<td>NFCSO-FFSD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Plant protection products:</td>
<td>DFCC</td>
<td>NFCSO – DPPSCAE</td>
<td>CGO DFCSPPSC or DFCSA</td>
<td>NFCSO-DPPSCAE</td>
<td>NFCSO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- authorisation, marketing and use</td>
<td></td>
<td>NFCSO – DPPSCAE/ NFCSO - FFSD</td>
<td>CGO DFCSPPSC or DFCSA /Districts</td>
<td>NFCSO-FFSD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- residues</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Animal Welfare</td>
<td>DFCC</td>
<td>NFCSO - DAHAW</td>
<td>CGO DFCSPPSC or DFCSA</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>NFCSO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sector</td>
<td>Policy co-ordination</td>
<td>Co-ordination of controls</td>
<td>Implementation of controls</td>
<td>Laboratories</td>
<td>Risk assessment, scientific advice</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>- slaughter</td>
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<tr>
<td>- transport</td>
<td>DFCC</td>
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<tr>
<td>- farms</td>
<td>DFCC</td>
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<td>11. Plant Health</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>- plant passport, export certification</td>
<td>DFCC</td>
<td>NFCSO - DPPSCAE</td>
<td>CGO DFCSPPSC or DFCSA</td>
<td>NFCSO DPPSCAE/Laboratories for pest diagnosis</td>
<td>NFCSO</td>
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<td>- import of plants and plant products</td>
<td>DFCC</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Quality labelling (PGO/PGI/TSG)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.1 Organics</td>
<td>MA/NFCSO - FFSD</td>
<td>Control bodies Supervision: NFCSO</td>
<td>Control bodies (Hungaria Öko Garancia Ltd., Biokontroll Hungaria Nonprofit Kft.)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Control bodies Supervision: NFCSO</td>
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DG(SANTE)/2015-7713
Administrative update
Version December 2015
2 COMPETENT AUTHORITIES AND DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO INDIVIDUAL CONTROL SYSTEMS

2.1. Control system for animal health

MAP
DFCC
NFCSO
DAHAW
DAB
DVD
Kaposvár
Debrecen
19 CGO
NFCSO-DAHAW
DFCSP/DFCSA
BIP
DFCSAHU

MA Ministry of Agriculture
DFCC Department of Food Chain Control
PMO Prime Minister’s Office
NFCSO National Food Chain Safety Office
DAHAW Directorate for Animal Health and Animal Welfare
DAB Directorate for Animal Breeding
DVD Directorate for Veterinary Diagnostics
CGO County Government Office
DFCSP/DFCSA Department for Food Chain Safety, Plant Protection and Soil Conservation or Department for Food Chain Safety and Agriculture
DFCSAHU District Food Chain Safety and Animal Health Unit
BIP Border Inspection Post

Competent authorities

The central competent authorities for animal health are the Department of Food Chain Control (DFCC) in MA and the Directorate for Animal Health and Animal Welfare (NFCSO-DAHAW) in NFCSO.

The County Government Office, Department for Food Chain Safety, Plant Protection and Soil Conservation or Department of Food Chain Safety and Agriculture (CGO DFCSP/DFCSA) BIPs. The leaders of the County Government Offices are responsible for the CGOs. The leaders of District Offices are in charge of the District Food Chain Safety and Animal Health Units. The District Offices control the performance of the Official Veterinarians (OVs) and approved veterinarians (private practitioners authorised to carry out official tasks). The district offices also perform veterinary tasks when required. These tasks are focused on issues related to animal health (notifiable diseases, animal movement restrictions and the
issuing of animal passports). Epidemiology seminars are organised annually for the CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSAs.

Since 1 September 2008, Act XLVI of 2008 on the Food Chain and its official control is in force and replaces the Act on Animal Health of 2005. Article 59 of Act XLVI of 2008 enables the CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSAs to impose fines in the range of 15 000 to 500 million HUF for all types of infringement.

Holding registration, animal identification and movement controls

The NFCSO-DAHAW and the Animal Breeding Directorate (DAB) are in charge of registration of the holdings, animal identification and movement controls.

The central database of the national bovine identification and registration system (ENAR-system) is operated by the Animal Breeding Directorate. The system for pigs has been operational since 2003. A database for goats and for sheep is operational since 1 January 2006. The sheep and goat farming associations carry out the identification.

In terms of controls on bovine and pig identification, the holdings are divided into two categories: small holdings (under 50 cattle or 100 pigs) and large holdings (50 or more cattle or 100 or more pigs), which can be authorised to carry out their own identification and registration activities. In the case of small holdings, a veterinarian appointed by the Director of the CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSA is responsible for applying tags and notifying events to the central database. In some instances the work is carried out by private veterinarians.

The control responsibilities are distributed as follows: The CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSAs carry out on the spot inspections for cattle identification according to the relevant EU regulations and national rules. The list of farms to be inspected is selected by the CCA using risk-based criteria (10% of registered farms). Inspectors from the Animal Breeding Directorate control breeding farms by means of random checks. These checks cover only a sample of animals present at the holding. A report is produced for each inspection. At the end of each year these officials have to report the number of visits during the year. The co-ordinating veterinarian of the county office supervises the activities of local veterinarians and controls the large holdings, which are approved to carry out their own identification and registration tasks (“independent holdings”).

The electronic database (FELIR) is still under development but it is in the final phase of the development. Therefore the local authorities give the decision about the authorisation to aquaculture production businesses (APBs).

Animal health controls

As a result of the re-organisations process the implementation of animal health programmes by the counties relies on the Prime Minister’s Office which provides funding for staffing, infrastructure and operational programmes.

Hungary has the status as being officially free of *Brucella melitensis*.

Hungary is officially free from bovine tuberculosis.


Hungary is recognized by the OIE for the following diseases: African horse sickness, Rinderpest, *Peste des petits ruminants*, Classical Swine Fever (CSF), Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (negligible status).
Hungary is free from Spring Viraemia of Carp (SVC) and Infectious Salmon Anaemia (ISA); the Koi Herpesvirus Disease (KHV) surveillance programme is continuing.

There is a control programme in place for bovine and porcine brucellosis.

Eradication programmes are currently in operation for Enzootic Bovine Leucosis (EBL), Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis (IBR), Rabies in red foxes and there is a surveillance programme for CSF in wild boars.

The Governmental Decree 164/2008 provides rules on the Rabies Eradication programme. The oral vaccination of red foxes has been carried out in the country for several years (started in autumn 1992) including in 2015.

The monitoring programme for CSF in wild boars based on serological tests was introduced in Hungary in 2005 (previously monitoring was based on virology). Hunters are required to notify sick and suspect wild boars to the CGO DFCSAs and CGO DFCSPPSCs. The last CSF case in wild boars was confirmed in October 2009 and the last outbreak in domestic pigs was confirmed in 1993. The results of the targeted surveillance programme during 2012/2013 hunting area were presented by the Hungarian CA at the SCoFCAH meeting held on 17 May 2013. Given the epidemiological situation presented the animal health control measures related to CSF (Commission Decision 2008/855/EC) were lifted in accordance with Commission Decision 2013/274/EC.

Serological surveillance is carried out for a number of diseases: Equine Infectious Anaemia, Glanders and Dourine.

The Salmonella control programmes have started on 1st January 2007. The programme for breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* (started in 2007), the programme for laying flocks (started on 1 January 2008), the programme for broiler flocks (started on 1 January 2009), the programme for breeding flocks of *Meleagris gallopavo* (started on 1 January 2010) and the programme for fattening flocks of *Meleagris gallopavo* (started on 1 January 2010) have national plans and are co-financed plans approved by the Commission.

In 2014, a total of 77 Bluetongue (serotype 4) outbreaks have occurred in Hungary. The first outbreak was in the southern part of Hungary on 14.10.2014. The disease spread northwards during autumn and stopped with the beginning of the periodic vector free season. All measures required by union legislation were implemented (establishment of protection zone, surveillance zone, monitoring program and ancillary measures). In 2015 the use of inactivated vaccines were permitted in the restriction zones and a vaccination strategy was developed. Prior to the current outbreak Bluetongue occurred only in 2008 and all restriction measures were lifted in 2010.

**Contingency Plans**

Contingency plans are in place for CSF, ASF, Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Avian Influenza (AI), Newcastle Disease (ND), Bluetongue and BSE. Training forms part of the contingency plans.
Laboratories

The Directorate for Veterinary Diagnostics within NFCSO (NFCSO-DVD) carries out official animal health tests at three sites (centrally in Budapest and regionally at Debrecen and Kaposvár). The two regional laboratories have pathology and microbiology divisions. All three labs are accredited.

Tests for former OIE list A diseases and tuberculosis are carried out centrally. Tests for former OIE list B diseases are carried out centrally and regionally. The Regional laboratories undertake routine analyses only, and the official confirmation of an outbreak is always based upon the results delivered by the NRL.
2.2. Control system for food of animal origin

Competent authorities

The central competent authorities are the Department of Food Chain Control in MA and the NFCSO.

The National Food Chain Safety Office – Food and Feed Safety Directorate (NFCSO-FFSD) has operational responsibility for food safety controls as well as for the operation of the food chain laboratories.
Inspection tasks are delegated at regional level to the County Government Office Department for Food Chain Safety, Plant Protection and Soil Conservation or Department for Food Chain Safety and Agriculture (CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSA). There are 19 county offices which are responsible for co-ordinating the different tasks at regional level. County food hygienists and food engineers are responsible for carrying out the controls. The food hygienists control food of animal origin and supervise the work of the official veterinarians. Food engineers and veterinarians are responsible for controls on food of non-animal origin (pesticides, mycotoxins, heavy metals, colourings, additives). Results are reported to the NFCSO-FFSD.

Registration and approval of establishments

The County Government Office Department for Food Chain Safety, Plant Protection and Soil Conservation or Department for Food Chain Safety and Agriculture (CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSA) issues approvals for food processing establishments. The NFCSO-FFSD gives an EU approval number for establishments processing food of animal origin.


CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSAs have responsibility for controls on drinking water quality and the health of establishment operatives.

Official controls and inspection at establishments

NFCSO prepares annual inspection plans. The NFCSO-FFSD summarises the data and also prepares reports on the results of seasonal control campaigns (for example at Easter).

Standard Operational Procedures (SOP)

The NFCSO-FFSD issued Standard Operational Procedures guide, which is continuously reviewed. The guide includes several chapters in the field of official control of food establishments and foodstuffs.

Establishment Control Plan

In 2012 the National Food Chain Safety Office (NFCSO) introduced a new risk based planning protocol, based on an IT system (OÁIR – National Animal Health Information), for establishment control in the food-, feed- animal health and welfare sector.

The establishment control plan is formed during a central and local planning process. The risk factors considered in the risk assessment are:

- main activity of establishment (max 25 points)
- general type (main activity) of the establishment
- other transactional data related to its activity (max 25 points, if there is no data 15 points are given (since no information means a risk)
- size, capacity, production data, etc.
- data of the last official controls (max 40 points)
- results of the control check lists (considering hazards and exposure)
• time elapsed since the last control (10 points/year)

All assessed establishments receive a risk score according to the factors mentioned. If the score exceeds a threshold value, the establishment will be included in the control plan. All establishment types are included in the above mentioned risk assessment process.

As a part of the central planning process, the establishment control plan was finalized following a consultation on the draft plan with the local authorities. The control plan was supplemented with the remarks of local authorities.

The CA has to carry out in the approved establishments one full official control (control focusing on every regulative prescription) and 4 to 8 partial controls in a year (controls focusing only on some relevant prescriptions like HACCP, animal welfare, training of staff, food additives etc.).

The Chief Veterinarians of District Offices control the performance of the OVs and approved veterinarians authorised to carry out official tasks.

At approved establishment level, supervision is performed generally by the OVs, and in the case of large establishments, by local food hygiene offices with OVs and auxiliaries.

Official controls on identification mark and traceability

There is a co-operation agreement between the CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSAs and the NTCA covering the general aspects of any joint controls within the food chain, including traceability.

Laboratories

The NFCSO-FFSD has four central and nine regional laboratories in the field of food chain safety. It is responsible for examination of food, mainly food of animal origin and implementation of the national residue programme. The NFCSO-FFSD is also responsible for licensing and registration of private laboratories engaged in food and feed testing.

The official laboratory network consists of seven official Regional Food Chain Laboratories (RFCL). In addition, there are two specialist radio-analytical laboratories, which are merged with Radio-analytical Reference Laboratory into one quality system as sites. The laboratory network is part of the NFCSO-FFSD. All laboratories are accredited. The laboratories report on their results via an IT system to the NFCSO-FFSD.

The Hungarian Dairy Research Institute (HDRI) is appointed by MA for analysis of raw milk quality.

For Trichinella, there are 94 approved laboratories in establishments and eight county testing centres. Six of these are accredited. The accreditation of the Trichinella laboratories is in progress.
2.3. Control system for imports of animals and food of animal origin

MA  Ministry of Agriculture
DFCC  Department of Food Chain Control
PMO  Prime Minister’s Office
MND  Ministry for National Development
NFCSO  National Food Chain Safety Office
DAHAW  Directorate for Animal Health and Animal Welfare
DLATST  Department for Live Animal Trade Supervision and Traceability
DAW  Department for Animal Welfare
DFFS  Directorate for Food and Feed Safety
DVD  Directorate for Veterinary Diagnostic
NTCA  National Tax and Customs Authority
CGO  County Government Office
DFCSPPSC/DFCSA  Department for Food Chain Safety, Plant Protection and Soil Conservation or Department for Food Chain Safety and Agriculture
BIP  Border Inspection Post
Competent authorities

The competent authorities are the Department of Food Chain Control in MA (Inspection and Audit Division) and the National Food Chain Safety Office, Directorate for Animal Health and Animal Welfare (NFCSO-DAHAW), Live Animal Trade Supervision Department.

Full-time staff at the BIPs comprises 13 veterinarians, 11 technical staff and 2 administrative staff.

Import controls

Fundamental change took place as of 1 January 2011 with the merger between the tax and the customs authorities. As a result, a new governmental body named National Tax and Customs Authority (NTCA) was set up.

A new Co-operational Agreement between the NFCSO and the NTCA was signed in November 2012 replacing the previous one dating back to 2004. This is supplemented by specific local agreements between Department for Food Chain Safety, Plant Protection and Soil Conservation or Department for Food Chain Safety and Agriculture (CGO DFCSPSSC/DFCSAs) and NTCA at regional level. Although the framework co-operation agreement does not have any expiry date, the regional agreements have to be renewed as stipulated in a legal framework.

A BIP Manual was introduced in June 2005. At least once a year the CA has to review the BIP Manual and to inform the inspectors regarding the changes. In practice the BIP Manual is updated more than once a year. The latest version of the BIP Manual is published at the CA website (reviewed on September 2014).

Within each CGO DFCSPSSC/DFCSA having a border, there is at least one designated veterinary inspector with responsibility for import controls (part-time basis). This official is responsible for approval and supervision of customs warehouses.

There is one custom warehouses approved in accordance with Article 12 of Council Directive 97/78/EC. There are no approved free zones, free warehouses or ship suppliers in Hungary.

More details are available at the following link:


The Customs Law was amended in order to allow BIPs access to the customs data base without a special request (currently only documentary access, electronic access in progress). On-line uploading of CIVET is available from September 2010. The system for identification and selection of consignments relies on the customs electronic system (TARIC), which flag (automatic notifications independent of Custom decision) the consignments that require veterinary checks (the list of all products and consignments which require veterinary checks as determined by Commission Decision 2007/275/EC has been incorporated in the TARIC system). The exchange of information and access to databases as required in Articles 6 and 7 of Regulation (EC) No 136/2004 and Articles 5 and 6 of Regulation (EC) No 282/2004 (cross checks) are operational.

MARD Decree No 44/2010 lays down detailed rules for import controls of personal luggage.
Laboratories

The BIPs are required to send food samples to laboratories operated by the National Food Chain Safety Office Food and Feed Safety Directorate. The BIPs are required to send live animal samples to laboratories operated by the National Food Chain Safety Office Veterinary Diagnostic Directorate. The FFSD laboratories comprise four central and nine regional laboratories (including two specialist radio-analytical laboratories).

*Listed BIPs:* the listing of approved BIPs in Hungary may be found at:

2.4. Control system for feedingstuffs and animal nutrition

Competent authorities

The competent authorities are the Department of Food Chain Control in MA and the Food and Feed Safety Directorate in NFCSO (NFCSO-FFSD).

NFCSO-FFSD is responsible for drafting instructions, guidelines, the annual report, and the control of feeding stuffs, technical audits and training.
Registration and approval of establishments and intermediaries

The CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSAs are responsible for the approval and CGO DFCSAHU district offices for registration of the feed business operators.

The CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSAs may suspend or withdraw the operating licences of an approved establishment and the district offices may suspend or withdraw licenses of registered establishments following an inspection by a feed inspector or an official veterinarian.

In addition, the NRL is involved in the authorisation process for feed mills.

The NFCSO-FFSD maintains the list of approved establishments and the national register of feed businesses operators. The lists of establishments are available at:

http://www.nebih.gov.hu/szakteruletek/szakteruletek/elelmiszer_takarmanybiztonsag/szakteruletek/takarmany_letesitmeny

Municipalities are responsible for issuing trading approvals for feed distributing enterprises. The Act on the Food Chain and its official control of 1 September 2008 provides for co-operation between municipalities and the NFCSO – FFSD relating to approval of feed distributors.

Official controls

The NFCSO-FFSD produces the annual plan for sampling. Coordination of CAs and activities related to the preparation of the inspection plan for feed establishments is the responsibility of the NFCSO-SMSD (see the “Organisation and implementation of official control” section). Both plans are approved by the president of NFCSO.

The programme specifies the number of inspections and analyses for different substances (e.g. mycotoxin, dioxin, lead, radioisotopes, veterinary medicated products) to be performed in all Counties.

At the NFCSO-FFSD level there are five designated central feed inspectors.

The NFCSO has prepared a set of “Guidelines for the application of the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) system” which provides illustrated information both for feed business operators and for the control bodies. This is based on Regulation (EC) No 183/2005. A guideline on Good Hygiene Practice has also been published. Other guidelines for control authorities have been developed by the NFCSO (including GMO controls, import controls, toxic element, radioisotopes, mycotoxin).

The CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSAs are responsible for implementing the national control plan, including the taking of samples, and may decide on additional controls based on local factors (such as the risk ranking of feed mills, annual output and number of establishments).

Feed inspections are carried out by OVs and feed inspectors of the CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSAs. Staff of the CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSAs working in the BIPs, in co-operation with Customs is responsible for import controls including documentary, identity and physical checks with each agencies bearing responsibilities within the scopes of their own activities referred to them by legislation.
Laboratories

The NFCSO-FFSD operates the Feed Investigation NRL. This laboratory carries out investigations related to feed safety and quality controls, is involved in the analysis of medicated feedstuff and investigates domestically produced and imported feedingstuffs except microbiological tests. The feed microbiological investigations are carried out in Food Microbiological NRL and four regional official laboratories. The NFCSO-FFSD has only one regional official laboratory (based in Székesfehérvár) accredited for feed analyses. Results are returned to the NFCSO-FFSD or the relevant CGO DFCSPSC/DFCSA where the sample was taken.
2.5. Control system for TSE and Animal By-Products (ABPs)

TSE

Competent authorities

The competent authorities are the Department of Food Chain Control in MA and the Food and Feed Safety Directorate (NFCSO-FFSD) and the Animal Health and Animal Welfare Directorate, both within NFCSO (NFCSO-DAHAW).

The NFCSO-DAHAW is responsible for prevention and control of TSE. Both the NFCSO-DAHAW and NFCSO-FFSD have responsibility for controls on the total feed ban.
National provision

The MA Decree No 179/2009 (XII. 29) for implementing Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 has been published, and Decree No 69/2003. (VI.25.) which transposed Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 before accession was repealed.

In addition the national legislation (in particular the age limit for testing in the case of bovine animals born in one Member State but tested in a second one) has been reviewed based on the recent amendments of Commission Decision 2009/719/EC authorizing certain Member States to revise their annual BSE monitoring programs (Commission Decisions 2011/358/EU and 2013/76/EU).

Epidemio-surveillance

The Contingency Plan (CP) for the control of TSE was drawn up in 2003 in accordance with the provisions of Hungarian Decree 69/2003 on the prevention control and eradication of TSE. This plan is issued to all official veterinarians (OVs) involved in the control of TSE and contains information on TSE controls, including the controls on SRM. The requirements for active surveillance for TSE are set out in an action guide which is annexed to the CP. The CP details the supervisory checks that must be carried out to ensure that required TSE controls are implemented.

The ENAR system was created and adopted for the national bovine identification and registration system and is used as an IT tool for supervision and monitoring of the epidemi-surveillance system.

The National Food Chain Safety Office, Directorate for Veterinary Diagnostics (NFCSO-DVD) is responsible for carrying out confirmatory tests for TSE as the National Reference Laboratory (NRL). Two laboratories (the NRL and one regional laboratory in Debrecen) carry out rapid tests and histopathology for TSE.

Specified Risk Materials (SRM)

The Decree No 179/2009, the TSE Contingency Plan and its related action guide set out rules for the removal of SRM from carcases in slaughterhouses and also set out the rules for the collection and transport of carcases of ruminants found dead on farm.

The system in place for collection of SRM, including fallen stock, is based on the one category 1 processing plant (located in Solt). The major slaughterhouses have direct deliveries of SRM to the above plant.

Total Feed ban

An internal instruction of the CVO No 31363/2004 on the implementation of the feed ban was issued on 14 May 2004. This provides implementing instructions on the TSE contingency plan as regards the feed ban. The instruction was also re-enforced through the guidelines issued in 2006.
The controls of the feed ban are carried out according to a risk based annual control plan of the establishments (Ref. Check List No 02.1106/10 March 2009, and an action guide which is annexed to the Check List applicable from 1st April 2009 to 31st March 2010). A check-list is used containing specific questions regarding TSE. In the case of an infringement of the TSE provisions, the controlled farm receives high scores, which leads to an increase in the frequency of controls to the farm in that year.

The microscopic examination (MAT) must be used by the feed laboratories for the analysis of official samples to detect the presence of forbidden or derogated products of animal origin (PAO). The PCR test may be carried out on a complementary basis in the NRL.

All imported consignments of fishmeal are checked for the presence of other products of animal origin using MAT, excluding the consignments that have been checked in another Member States before their release in the EU. In cases of fishmeal produced in other Member States, every tenth consignment (but at least one consignment per year) is checked by MAT before its use by the feed production plant.
ABP

**Competent authorities**

The competent authorities are the Department of Food Chain Control in MA and the Directorate for Animal Health and Animal Welfare in NFCSO (NFCSO-DAHAW).

The NFCSO-DAHAW is responsible for the supervision of animal by-products legislation at central level. Both NFCSO-DAHAW and NFCSO-FFSD have responsibility for controls of ABP in food establishments through CGO DFCSSPPSC/DFCSA.
Approval of ABP plants and other premises:

The CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSAs are responsible for approvals of processing plants and issuing operating licences for establishments following a favourable opinion from the Environmental and Public Health authorities and an own-checks programme which is a pre-requisite for approval.

The infrastructure put in place for collection, handling, processing, storing and disposing of ABP is based on establishments approved (and registered) according to Regulations 1069/2009/EC and 142/2011/EU and collection points at municipal level. The approved plants are listed under the link below, by categories, method, activities and product types and other associated activities.

http://ec.europa.eu/food/food/biosafety/establishments/list_abp_en.htm

The list of approved ABP plants is updated regularly by NFCSO-DAHAW.

In Hungary, the bulk of animal by-products is collected, handled and processed by one company, which is owned by the State of Hungary. In total, this company has five processing plants, including the one and only category 1 processing plant, and eight intermediate plants.

Private operators are required under law to make available rendering capacity to the State and to collect all material for rendering within their designated area in certain cases.

Category 1 material from slaughterhouses and cutting plants is processed in one dedicated category 1 processing plant serving all 19 Counties. The collection is organised by use of intermediary plants from where category 1 material is dispatched separately for processing. In general, the collection of all categories of ABP is done in majority by one company. The disposal of the end product, meat and bone meal (MBM), is disposed by co-incineration and the fat is used as fuel (combustion) in the respective plants. Catering waste originating from international means of transport is collected separately and sent directly for co-incineration or disposed by land filling, by way of derogation (as per Article 12(d) of Regulation (EC) 1069/2009).

Category 2 material from slaughterhouses is, in most cases, collected separately and processed in one of four category 2 processing plants. Some of these plants also receive non-ruminant dead-on-farm animals and category 3 material which cannot be used for pet food production. Out of the four category 2 processing plants, two only receive materials from own (animal farm and/or slaughterhouse) establishment. The end product is used in compost plants (biogas plants) or incinerated. Some category 2 material is also sent to category 1 processing plants and handled as such.

Category 3 material from slaughterhouses and cutting plants is dispatched directly (or via intermediary plants) to pet food plants or sent for processing in one of seven categories 3 processing plants. The processed animal protein produced is used either in pet food production, composted, incinerated, buried or exported. The disposal of catering waste or waste from retail shops is the responsibility of the producer, and can be used as feed for dogs and cats in shelters, dogs from recognised kennels or zoo animals, processed and composted, or incinerated with household waste. It is prohibited to landfill category 3 catering waste.
Collection of fallen animals

The disposal of ABP is the responsibility of the ABP producer according to Act No XLVI of 2008 on the food chain and its official control.

The collection of fallen animals, from larger holdings (‘large scale farms’ which means e.g. more than 50 cows or 200 pigs) is undertaken through voluntary contracts between the farmer and the processing plants.

For collection from small holdings (‘small scale farms’), the farmer can arrange an ad hoc visit from the processing plant. In addition, the municipality is obliged to provide municipal collection centres for the disposal of fallen animals from ‘small scale farms’ and forward this material to an approved ABP establishment as category 1 material (the owner can dispose of carcasses of pet animals, sheep, pigs, poultry etc.).

There were about 123 collection points at municipal level approved by the municipal authorities about 20 to 30 years ago. None was approved by the CA as intermediate plants according to former Article 10 of Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002, respectively according to the new requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 (paragraph 30).

The national ABP implementing regulation in line with Regulations (EC) No 1069/2009 and No (EU) 142/2011 was adopted on 08/05/2012 (Ministerial Decree No 45/2012 (V8). Following the adoption of the Decree, the CA issued a circular to the County authorities to take appropriate measures concerning the 123 collection points at municipal level (deadline 30 September 2013). Subsequently all the municipal centres were reviewed by the County authorities’ and:

- 5 were identified as non-compliant and closed,
- 35 were approved in line with Regulations (EC) No 1069/2009 and are used for the collection of Cat 1, 2 and 3 material,
- 43 were approved as “municipal centres” in accordance with point c) of Art. 19(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009; these are used for the collection of fallen animals - including pet animals (all of them are considered Cat 1 material),
- further 40 municipal centres were granted a “transitional” period of one year (11 May 2014).

After the transition period expired, by 2015, all together 68 “municipal centres” exist, which were approved under national law, in accordance with point c) of Article 19(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009. The list of these establishments is continuously updated and published at the following website (see ‘Downloadables’ at the bottom of the page):


In remote areas, only animals younger than three weeks can be buried and all SRM, irrespective of remoteness, has to be collected.

The list of settlements in remote areas is available from the following website:

https://www.nebih.gov.hu/szakteruletek/szakteruletek/ai/kozerdeku_aai/egyeb_informacio/tavoli_teruletek.html
The meat and bone meal is disposed of through incineration in three co-incineration plants (two cement plants and one power plant) and the fat is used as fuel in the two processing plants.

**Official controls**

The CGO DFCSPPPSC/DFCSAs are responsible for approvals and official controls of processing plants as well as the official controls in the food sector. The District Veterinary offices carry out regular inspections and controls in all establishments recognised by the CA for handling ABP, and also in slaughterhouses, cutting plants and farms.

An annual control plan is drawn up by each of the CGO DFCSPPPSC/DFCSAs for the controls to be carried out in their county.

The National Food Chain Safety Office has issued several detailed internal instructions about the control of animal by-products, such as: guidelines for the control of the SRM chain are set out in chapter 13 of the Hungarian Contingency Plan for TSEs, checklists for the inspection of ABP processing and handling plants and guidelines on how to complete the questionnaire (checklists have been applied since 1 October 2009), guidelines on what measures and procedures to be applied in case of an infringement, simplified inland commercial document sample and guidelines on transport of ABP, in particular guidelines for waste coming from international transport and instructions on category 3 materials, Processed Animal Protein (PAP).

With regard to ABP controls in food processing establishments and at wholesale and retail, a working group was established in the NFCSO in May 2007. As a result, a specific checklist was published in 2009 (and reviewed in May 2012) for controlling all establishments dealing with ABPs.
2.6. Control system for veterinary medicinal products (VMPs) and residues

Veterinary Medicinal Products (VMPs)

VMP
Directorate for Veterinary Medicinal Products
MA
Ministry of Agriculture
DFCC
Department of Food Chain Control
PMO
Prime Minister’s Office
NFCSO
National Food Chain Safety Office
DVMP
Directorate for Veterinary Medicinal Products
CGO
County Government Office
DFCSPSC/DFCSA
Department for Food Chain Safety, Plant Protection and Soil Conservation or Department for Food Chain Safety and Agriculture

Competent authorities

The competent authority for the authorisation of all types of veterinary medicinal products is the National Food Chain Safety Office, Directorate for Veterinary Medicinal Products VMP (NFCSO-DVMP). The Directorate comprises the Pharmaceutical Chemical Laboratory and three Departments: Pharmaceutical, Immunological and the Inspectorate.
The County Government Office Department for Food Chain Safety, Plant Protection and Soil Conservation or Department for Food Chain Safety and Agriculture (CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSA) are responsible for controls of retailers, feed-mills and other types of users of VMPs (e.g. farms). Control of wholesalers and producers is carried out by the Inspectorate of the DVMP.

National legislation


Authorisation of VMPs

The NFCSO-DVMP assesses applications for marketing VMPs and for manufacturing, import and wholesale distribution of these products. Marketing and manufacturing authorisation and import licences are issued by NFCSO-DVMP.

Wholesalers and retailers trade activities are authorized by the local municipality based on the expert opinion of the DVMP and the CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSAs, and in accordance with Governmental Decree No 210/2009. Veterinary requirements concerning trade activities are laid down in Ministerial Decree No 128/2009.

There is a central database of authorised VMPs; currently there are 1364 authorised products including 249 authorised immunological products.

The list of authorised VMPs is published on the NFCSO-DVMP website and is regularly updated:

HU: https://www.nebih.gov.hu/szakteruletek/szakteruletek/allatgyogyvaszati_igazgatosag/kozerdeku/torzskonyvezes

Official controls on marketing/use

Based on an annual inspection plan, the DVMP undertakes inspections of manufacturers (36) and wholesalers (89) regularly. The results of these inspections are included in an Annual Report submitted to the NFCSO.

In addition, the DVMP develops an annual sampling plan for VMPs on the market. The sampling plan is risk-based. There are 650 retailers and retail veterinary pharmacies in Hungary and the current inspection frequency is once per year. In addition, there are 1490 mixed pharmacies (selling both human and veterinary medicines), which are inspected once in every five years. Uniform checklists are used for the inspection of wholesalers and veterinary pharmacies.

Feed mills producing medicated feedingstuffs have to be inspected once per month and on-farm mixers once a year by DFCSPPSC/DFCSA feed inspectors.
There is a national target for the inspection of farms – annual inspection of every large-scale farm and 10% of small farms. A checklist is used covering VMP usage.

Samples are taken by the CGO DFCSP/SPSCP/DFCSAs and analysis is undertaken by the DVMP which produces an Annual Report for MA on the results.

The DVMP is responsible for Pharmacovigilance and Rapid Alert System of VMPs.

**Laboratories**

The accredited (ISO 17025) Analytical Laboratory, which is an audited member of the OMCL (Official Medicinal Control Laboratory) Network, undertakes the analysis of samples taken on the market according to the annual sampling plan.

The Immunological Department has an OMCL laboratory for immunologicaals. This laboratory examines biological VMPs.
Residues

MA Ministry of Agriculture
DFCC Department of Food Chain Control
PMO Prime Minister’s Office
NFCSO National Food Chain Safety Office
DFFS Directorate for Food and Feed Safety
NRL National Reference Laboratories
CGO County Government Office
DFCSPPSC/DFCSA Department for Food Chain Safety, Plant Protection and Soil Conservation or Department for Food Chain Safety and Agriculture
DFCSAHU District Food Chain Safety and Animal Health Unit

Competent authorities

The competent authorities are the Department of Food Chain Control in MA and the National Food Chain Safety Office Food and Feed Safety Directorate (NFCSO-FFSD), Department for co-ordination of regional laboratories (DCRL).
Official controls on residues

The Presidential Decree 5/2013 introduces an integrated approach to improve the Food Chain Monitoring Plan. A coordinating working group (headed by NFCSO-SMSD) has been set up to ensure that the planning is in line with objectives, to carry out risk assessment, to identify the priorities in the control system, to follow up of the execution of the plan, and to coordinate the work of 12 Professional Panels (PP).

One of the 12 Professional Panels is the veterinary medicinal products and residues thereof Professional Panel that is responsible for the preparation of the National Residue Control Plan (see the “Organisation and implementation of official control” section).

Samples to be taken under the NRCP are allocated to the Counties, mainly on the basis of the number of animals slaughtered and the volume of animal products produced in the previous year.

All NRCP samples are taken by official staff of the district offices. The NRCP indicates for each animal species/product to be sampled, the number of samples to be taken on farm/slaughterhouse, the matrix, the substance group to be analysed and the laboratory responsible for the analysis. The NRCP is distributed to the counties every March. Sampling begins in April and the plan specifies the samples to be taken each month. The NFCSO-FFSD monitors the implementation of the plan on a monthly basis and with a mid-year review to make any necessary adjustments. Copies of results are sent to the inspector, normally within a month.

In addition to the sampling prescribed in the NRCP, the Counties have discretion to take extra samples in the case of suspicion. In case of a positive confirmed sample, the NFCSO-FFSD and the animal health and food control services are immediately informed. The outcome could be an immediate ban on sales of these animals or products, and/or restriction of movements off the farm.

The NFCSO-FFSD has updated the procedures on the effective supervision of the implementation of the NRCP in order to guarantee that when problems in implementation are identified, corrective actions are taken, and follow-up measures are carried out promptly. The updated rules of procedures were adopted and published at the internal website of the CA.

Laboratories

The NFCSO-FFSD has the central laboratory for residue analysis in Budapest (Food Toxicological National Reference Laboratory) and six regional food chain laboratories. All analyses related to the NRCP, except for screening tests for inhibitors and sulphonamides, are performed in the National Reference Laboratory (NRL). It acts also as a NRL for all substances in accordance with Council Directive 96/23/EC of 29 April 1996 on measures to monitor certain substances and residues thereof in live animals and animal products. The maximum turnaround time for results of analysis at the FFSD is 30 days. An information system is applied for managing samples and transmission of results.

The NFCSO-FFSD regional laboratories carry out screening tests for inhibitors (four-plate test) and sulphonamides (HPTLC method). These samples are taken in the respective region/County. Samples with positive screening results are sent for confirmation to the NRL. All regional laboratories participate in a compulsory ring test system organised by the NRL. The NRL and the regional laboratories are accredited to ISO 17025.
Audit

The Quality Assurance system according to ISO 90041:2000 is operated by the NFCSO-DVMP, and continuously improved according to ISO 9004:2000. Regular internal controls are performed according to annual control plans.

Laboratories carrying out official testing for residues control are accredited by the Hungarian Accreditation Body, which performs external audits.

The NFCSO-DVMP is subject to external audits by the National Accreditation Board and European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines (EDQM).
2.7. Control system for foodstuff and food hygiene

MA Ministry of Agriculture
SSFCC State Secretary for Food Chain Control
DFCC Department of Food Chain Control
PMO Prime Minister’s Office
MND Ministry of National Development
SSICP State Secretary for Infocommunication and Consumer Protection
HACP National Authority for Consumer Protection
MHR Ministry of Human Resources
SSH State Secretariat for Health
OCMO Office of the Chief Medical Officers
NFCSO National Food Chain Safety Office
DFSRA Directorate for Food Safety Risk Assessment
RASFF Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
DFFS Directorate for Food and Feed Safety
NRL National Reference Laboratories
CGO County Government Office
Competent authorities

The DFCC in MA and the NFCSO are the Competent Authorities (CA) for foodstuffs and food hygiene.

As part of the re-organisation process the NFCSO-FFSD has full responsibility for food safety controls. The OCMO and the GO PASPs institutes have responsibility for inspection of food supplements, foodstuffs intended for particular nutritional uses (supervision of compliance for defined nutritional purposes and enforcement in cases of harmfulness for human health), investigation of epidemiological aspects of food borne diseases, and controls of nutritional aspects of catering at all sites; the authority of consumer protection have responsibility for control of unfair commercial practices concerning labelling and foodstuff advertising; the safety aspects (e.g. nuts allergy) are under the responsibility of the NFCSO; inspection tasks are delegated to the CGO; the county offices co-ordinate the tasks at regional level.

Approval and registration of food premises

The County Government Office Department for Food Chain Safety, Plant Protection and Soil Conservation/Department for Food Chain Safety and Agriculture (CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSA) is responsible for approval of food processing establishments (food of animal origin). Approvals can be withdrawn if conditions are no longer considered satisfactory. The CGO district offices are responsible for registration of food processing establishments (food of non-animal origin). Retail, catering premises and restaurants are registered.

Application of Hospitality and Catering activities, special authorization procedure: the commercial (host, caterers) activities – according to the Government Decree No. 210/2009. (IX.29.) about the conditions of the distribution – must be reported to the notary of the responsible district office, who after the registration sends the copy of the notification for the County Government Office.

According to the Ministerial Decree 57/2010 (V7) about the licensing, notification of production and placing on the market of foodstuffs – the product with high risk of food safety (meat and sausages, fish, milk, dairy product, catering products without beverages, the confectionery product requiring cooling, and other foods like: frog legs, live mussels, live echinoderms, marine snails) must obtain a special permit for the special authority beside the registration of the notary. In this process the previous check must be done in every case. The local food chain authority of the CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSA issues the special permit of the possession of a sufficient audit result.

Official controls of food premises

The Presidential Decree 5/2013 introduces an integrated approach to improve the Food Chain Monitoring Plan. A coordinating working group (headed by NFCSO-SMSD) has been set up to ensure that the planning is in line with objectives, to carry out risk assessment, to identify the priorities in the control system, to follow up of the execution of the plan, and to coordinate the work of 12 Professional Panels (PP) (see the “Organisation and implementation of official control” section).
In 2012 the National Food Chain Safety Office (NFCSO) introduced a new risk based planning protocol, based on an IT system (OÁIR – National Animal Health Information), for establishment control in the food-, feed- animal health and welfare sector.

The establishment control plan is formed during a central and local planning process. The risk factors considered in the risk assessment are:

- main activity of establishment (max 25 points)
  
  general type (main activity) of the establishment,

- other transactional data related to its activity (max 25 points, if there is no data 15 points are given (since no information means a risk)
  
  size, capacity, production data, etc.

- data of the last official controls (max 40 points)
  
  results of the control check lists (considering hazards and exposure)

- time elapsed since the last control (10 points/year)

All assessed establishments receive a risk score according to the factors mentioned. If the score exceeds a threshold value, the establishment will be included in the control plan. All establishment types are included in the above mentioned risk assessment process.

In comparison with the previous years’ practise establishment profiles were updated in the OÁIR system that resulted in more detailed information regarding to the type of registered food processing establishments, e.g. instead of an aggregating group registered food processing establishments categories like ‘production of confectionary products’, ‘production of milling industry products’ or ‘soda-water production’ are applied at the moment. This modification enables a more accurate planning process; however because of the change in the data structure recent data on production is not available. Production data are included in the risk assessment algorithm (other transactional data), thus where this type of data is missing a risk scores of 15 is applied.

As a part of the central planning process, the establishment control plan was finalized following a consultation on the draft plan with the local authorities. The control plan was supplemented with the remarks of local authorities.

In the annual control plan, regarding to the category of ‘registered food processing establishments so-called ‘compensation controls’ are designated as well (a defined number of control to be carried out), in that case it is the responsibility of the competent local/regional authority to choose establishments belonging to this category to be controlled.

The CA has to carry out in the approved establishments one full official control (control focusing on every regulative prescription) and 4 to 8 partial controls in a year (controls focusing only on some relevant prescriptions like HACCP, animal welfare, training of staff, food additives, etc.).

The NFCSO-FFSD issued Standard Operational Procedures guide, which is continuously reviewed. The guide includes several chapters in the field of official control of food establishments and foodstuffs.

Both plans are approved by the president of NFCSO.
The NFCSO-FFSD produces guidance for inspection and sampling activities of the CGO DFCSPPPSC/DFCSAs and District Offices. Guidance is provided on the determination of the risk category for each establishment and the inspection frequency and sampling regime for each category. This guideline is regularly updated.

**Good Hygiene Practice Guides**

In accordance with the requirements of the EU hygiene legislation, 23 Good Hygiene Practice’s guidelines have been developed and published on the MA website.

http://elelmiszerlanc.kormany.hu/jo-higieniai-gyakorlat-utmutatok

**Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF)**

The Directorate for Food Safety Risk Assessment within NFCSO is the designated national contact point for RASFF in Hungary. RASFF notifications are handled by a team of nine persons working on a rotational basis. This team receives and sends notifications from and to the designated person of the central administrations (NFCSO Food and Feed Safety Directorate, NFCSO Directorate of Plant Protection and Soil Conservation), BIPs, public health authority (OCMO) and the Commission.

The investigations of the notifications are performed by the regional competent authority under the coordination of the professional directorates of NFCSO.

The manual of RASFF procedures is regularly updated.

**Laboratories**

**NFCSO**

The NFCSO-FFSD has four central NRL laboratories in Budapest. The NRLs provide guidance to seven regional laboratories and to two radio-analytical laboratories and are responsible for organising ring and proficiency tests and the adaptation of food control analytical methods. All laboratories are accredited according to EN ISO/IEC 17025:2005.

**OCMO**

NPHMOS regional institutes have accredited analytical laboratories to EN ISO/IEC 17025:2005.

**HACP**

The Food and Chemical Industry Laboratory, employing 14 staff, is accredited to EN ISO/IEC 17025:2005, and undertakes analyses of samples.
Competent authorities

The principal competent authorities are the Department of Food Chain Control in MA and the Food and Feed Safety Directorate in NFCSO (NFCSO-FFSD).

Official controls of GMO in food, including at import

The Presidential Decree 5/2013 introduces an integrated approach to improve the Food Chain Monitoring Plan. A coordinating working group (headed by NFCSO-SMSD) has been set up to ensure that the planning is in line with objectives, to carry out risk assessment, to identify the priorities in the control system, to follow up of the execution of the plan, and to coordinate the work of 12 Professional Panels (PP).

One of the 12 Professional Panels is the GMO professional panel (see the “Organisation and implementation of official control” section).
A guide for sampling was published on 19 September 2007. This was drawn up based on Commission Recommendation 787/2004/EC with input from the MA and the GMO panel of the former HFSO. Manual for official control on GMO’s in food is issued by NFCSO-FFSD. This document is part of a more hundreds page manual called Standard Operational Procedure (SOP). Governmental Decree 148/2003 (IX.22.) on gene technological fines empowers the competent authority to fine the food business operator in case of missing GMO labelling and in cases where it is established that an operator failed to take appropriate steps to avoid the presence of the GMO material as required by Art 12(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003.

Official controls of GMO in feed, including at import

Coordination of CAs and activities related to the preparation of the inspection plan for feed establishments is the responsibility of the NFCSO-SMSD (see the “Organisation and implementation of official control” section).

The Presidential Decree 5/2013 introduces an integrated approach to improve the Food Chain Monitoring Plan. A coordinating working group (headed by NFCSO-SMSD) has been set up to ensure that the planning is in line with objectives, to carry out risk assessment, to identify the priorities in the control system, to follow up of the execution of the plan, and to coordinate the work of 12 Professional Panels (PP). One of the 12 Professional Panels is the GMO professional panel. The programme specifies the number of inspections and analyses for different substances to be carried out in all Counties. The Counties are responsible for implementing this plan, including the taking of samples, and may decide on additional controls based on local factors (such as the risk ranking of feed mills).

A guide dealing with feed control has been prepared and was published.

Within the CGO DFCSP/DFCSAs, there are 19 designated feed inspectors, most of whom are qualified in either engineering or in veterinary medicine. Staff of the CGO DFCSP/DFCSAs located in BIPs is responsible for import controls including documentary, identity and physical checks relating to GMO content.

Official controls of GMO in propagating material

The NFCSO-Directorate for Plant Production and Horticulture-Seed certification and registration Department is responsible for GM seeds and propagating material and for the analysis of GMO. There are currently no GMO cultivated in Hungary.

Laboratories

Official analysis for GMO is carried out by the NFCSO-FFSD Food Microbiological National Reference Laboratory which is the NRL for food, feed and propagating materials related to GMO investigation.

The NRL is the only official control laboratory performing GMO analyses of food, feed and plant propagating materials in Hungary and undertakes screening, identification and quantification analyses. The laboratory’s quality control system is accredited according to MSZ EN ISO/IEC 17025:2005.
With regard to food, feed, and plant propagating material the following methods are available in the NRL: screening method for 35S promoter and NOS terminator; methods for qualitative detection and/or quantification of soy: Roundup Ready, A2704-12, 89788 (Roundup Ready 2); maize: MON810, Bt11, MON863, NK603, TC1507, GA21, T25, MON88017, MIR604, 59122; rice LLRICE62, LLRICE601, Bt63; flax: FP697 potato: EH92-527-1 (Amflora). In addition to the above listed accredited tests the laboratory perform tests for the so called LLP GMOs according to the 619/2011 Regulation. At present there are additional 43 (10 screening methods, 12 soybean, 9 maize, 10 oilseed rape, 1 sugarbeet, 1 papaya event identification methods) GMO tests under accreditation.

Details available from the Hungarian accreditation Board:

2.8. Control system for imports of food of plant origin

MA Ministry of Agriculture
DFCC Department of Food Chain Control
PMO Prime Minister’s Office
NFCSO National Food Chain Safety Office
DFFS Directorate for Food and Feed Safety
DPPSCAE Directorate for Plant Protection, Soil Conservation and Agri-Environment
DAHAW Directorate for Animal Health and Animal Welfare
NTCA National Tax and Customs Administration
CGO County Government Office
DFCSPPSC/DFCSA Department for Food Chain Safety, Plant Protection and Soil Conservation or Department for Food Chain Safety and Agriculture
BIP Border Inspection Post (Veterinary and Phytosanitary)

Competent authorities

The Department of Food Chain Control in MA and the NFCSO are the CAs for control on imports of food of non-animal origin.

The Plant Protection, Soil Conservation and Agri-environment Directorate within NFCSO (NFCSO-DPPSCAE) is the CAs for control on non-processed food of non-animal origin imports (fruits and vegetables).
The Animal Health and Welfare Directorate (NFCSO-DAHAW) and the Food and Feed Safety Directorate (NFCSO-FFSD) in NFCSO are the CCAs for control on processed food and feed of non-animal origin.

Import controls

The CGO DFCSPPPSC/DFCSAs are responsible for all controls and are empowered to take samples at BIPs, as well as at Customs warehouses, and from the market.

Ministerial Decree Nr 141/2011 (XII. 23) assigns responsibilities to the CAs. The following tables give an overview of the distribution of responsibilities in relation to control systems, operational levels and the EU relevant legislation.

A) Distribution of responsibilities in relation to control on imports of non-processed food of non-animal origin (fruits and vegetables):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operational level</th>
<th>Competent Authority</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>National Food-chain Safety Office (NFCSO)</td>
<td>Coordination /monitoring sampling plan, collection and evaluation of data, decision making(second level), reporting, organization of trainings, preparation of guidelines</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B) Distribution of responsibilities in relation to control on imports of processed food and feed of non-animal origin:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operational level</th>
<th>Competent Authority</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>National Food Chain Safety Office</td>
<td>Coordination /monitoring sampling plan, collection and evaluation of data, decision making(second level), reporting, organization of trainings, preparation of guidelines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>CGO Department for Food Chain Safety, Plant Protection and Soil Conservation/Department for Food Chain Safety and Agriculture (CGO-DFCSPPSC/DFCSA)</td>
<td>Collection and evaluation data, decision making (second level), reporting to centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Veterinary Border Inspection Posts (BIPs) of CGO-DFCSPPSC/DFCSA</td>
<td>Sampling in the framework of implementation Regulation 2015/175/EC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Controls on foodstuffs which are not covered by specific Commission Decisions (Article 15 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004)

According to the agreement between the NFCSO and NTCA (National Tax and Customs Administration), the NTCA is responsible for notifying the CGO at the designated points of entry of the import of all consignments of foodstuffs of plant origin. The import procedure begins with the presentation of a single declaration form to the custom services by the importer.
Controls on foodstuffs covered by specific Commission Decisions

The CGO DFCSSPPSC/DFCSA and BIPs are responsible for checking that products covered by specific Commission Decisions are accompanied by the required original analytical reports. In the absence of such a report, the product is subject to analysis. The NTCA is responsible for normal customs checks and for final release of consignments onto the market. Products covered by specific Commission Decisions will not be released by the NTCA without clearance from the CGO DFCSSPPSC/DFCSA and BIPs.

Following the initial checks, the importer is referred to the BIPs where the inspector performs an additional documentary check for import into the EU. The inspector takes the samples including the homogenisation of sub-samples at designated points of entry in relation to the specific Commission Decisions.

Laboratories

The NFCSO-FFSD has designated laboratories with responsibility for analysis of samples taken from imported products. The laboratories undertake analyses for contaminants (for example toxins, metals) and food hygiene (microbiology).

With regard to control of pesticide residues at the point of entry, there are four analytical laboratories belonging to NFCSO-DPPSCAE.

All laboratories are accredited to GLP accreditation, according to OECD guidelines.

For toxic heavy metals, the NFCSO-FFSD is responsible to have central and regional laboratories which undertake such analyses.
2.9. Control system for plant protection products (PPPs) and residues - Control of marketing and use

MA
DFCC
NFCSO
DPPSCAE
DAPYE
DFCCPPSC/DFCSA

PMO

Professional Management

Annual Inspection/Sampling Plan

1 undertakes formulation analyses

4 Regional Laboratories

Expert opinion

Analysis

19 CGO

Retailers
Wholesalers
Users
Producers
Packagers

MA Ministry of Agriculture
DFCC Department of Food Chain Control
PMO Prime Minister’s Office
NFCSO National Food Chain Safety Office
DPPSCAE Directorate for Plant Protection, Soil Conservation and Agri-Environment
DAPYE Department for Authorisation of Pesticides and Yield Enhancers
CGO County Government Office
DFCCPPSC/DFCSA Department for Food Chain Safety, Plant Protection and Soil Conservation or Department for Food Chain Safety and Agriculture
Competent authorities

The competent authorities are the Department of Food Chain Control, Division of Plant Protection and Soil Conservation in MA (DFCC) responsible for legislation and international issues and the National Food Chain Safety Office, Directorate of Plant Protection, Soil Conservation and Agri-Environment (NFCSO-DPPSCAE) responsible for PPP authorization and coordination of control.

The County Government Office Departments for Food Chain Safety, Plant Protection and Soil Conservation or Departments for Food Chain Safety and Agriculture (CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSA) are responsible for control at county level.

As part of the re-organisations process across the Ministries and Cas the MEW was merged in 2010 with the Ministry of Agriculture. As a result, detection, collection and destruction of obsolete pesticides are the responsibility of the Inspectorate for Environment, Nature and Water (IENW) under the Ministry of Agriculture.

Authorisation of PPP

Authorisation of pesticides and yield enhancers is carried out by a sub-directorate of NFCSO DPPSCAE. It is responsible for registration, issuing licences and for international relations.

Official database of the authorized PPPs is available at:
https://novenyvedoszer.nebih.gov.hu/Engedelykereso/kereso (in Hungarian only).

There are 23 staff working on authorisation of PPPs and on the EU evaluation programme for active substances under Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council, concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market.

As of 2013, there were 25 Hungarian authorised manufacturers, 85 foreign companies represented in Hungary and 295 wholesalers of PPPs, fertilisers and yield enhancers.
PPPs are classified into three marketing categories. Products of category 1 can only be sold by wholesalers licensed by the CGO DPPSC. For the marketing and use of such products, a third-level education is required. For marketing and use of category 2 products, and the storage of category 1 and 2 products, a training course of 80 hours is required. The training is provided by the Chamber of Plant Protection Engineers in co-operation with the CGO DFCSPSC/DFCSA. Refresher courses must be attended every five years. Category 3 products are not subject to special conditions for using.

There is a further requirement for users to keep detailed records of all applications of PPPs. Traders are required to keep records of sales of category 1 and 2 PPPs.

In addition, compulsory approval is required for spraying equipment for PPPs.

**Official controls on marketing/use**

Based on an Annual Plan adopted at central level, the CGO DPPSC is responsible for:

- inspections at producers, packagers, retailers, wholesalers and users of PPPs (record-keeping, staff training, labelling, storage, shelf-life, packaging, equipment);
- sampling for PPPs quality checks and pesticide residues monitoring programme;
- sampling for PPPs formulation analysis.

The pesticide residues monitoring programme is not usually part of the pesticide product control and all field inspectors of the CGO DPPSCs are responsible for taking samples for pesticide residue analysis.

**Laboratories**

With regard to PPPs formulation analysis, one of the four laboratories engaged in residue analysis also undertakes formulation analysis.

Since January 2009 the NFCSO-DPPSCAE laboratory is accredited according to MSZ EN ISO/EEC 17025 standard. Two analysts are involved in work carried out by the official laboratory. The laboratory takes part yearly in CIPAC collaborative studies with very good results which confirms the quality of its analytical work.

The sampling of PPPs is carried out at packagers, wholesalers and retailers according to an annual plan based on the results, and acquired knowledge from the controls of the previous years. Samples are analysed routinely for active substance content as well as key physical or chemical properties and in special cases for manufacturing impurities. This programme enables the authority to check a wide range of PPPs for the content of active substances and physical/chemical properties against the authorised active substance and other appropriate standards, e.g. FAO specifications.
Pesticide Residues

Competent authorities

The competent authorities are the Department of Food Chain Control in MA (DFCC), Division of Plant Protection and Soil Conservation and the National Food Chain Safety Office, Directorate of Plant Protection and Soil Conservation and Agri-Environment (NFCSO-DPPSCAE) and Food and Feed Safety Directorate (NFCSO – FFSD).

National legislation

Official controls on residues

According to the Ministerial Decree No 66/2010 the CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSA are responsible for official control of pesticide residues in products of plant origin and the District Offices are responsible for official control of pesticide residues in food and feed other than products of plant origin.

The official control of the pesticide residue content in plant products, food and feed is part of the annual Food-Chain Safety control plan. The priorities of pesticide residues monitoring are to check that residues do not exceed the statutory Maximum Residue Level (MRL) and to check that human dietary intakes of residues in foods are within acceptable levels.

The operation of the programme involves sample collection from all points in the supply chain and sample analysis. The plant health inspectors of the CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSA are responsible for the plant products sampling. The CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSA and BIPs may conduct their own surveillance of pesticide residues, in consultation with the NFCSO DPPSCAE and NFCSO DFSRA (consumer risk assessment).

The NFCSO publishes full details of the results of all monitoring activities in the form of an annual report available on the NFCSO web site:

http://www.nebih.gov.hu/szakteruletek/szakteruletek/noveny_talajvedelmi_ig/szakteruletek/novenyvedo_maradek/szermaradek_evesjel/)

The NFCSO is responsible for the submission of the results of the annual European harmonised residues monitoring programme and the national programme to the Commission in the following year, in line with the Commission’s prescribed timetable.

Laboratories

The four regional Pesticide Residues Analytical Laboratories belongs to the NFCSO DPPSCAE. The Department for Plant Protection within NFCSO-DPPSCAE has a co-ordination role and organises training and proficiency tests for the regional laboratories.

The number of the employees in the four official laboratories is 34.

Two laboratories in Miskolc and Velence County are designated as NRLs.

All four laboratories are accredited to EN ISO/IEC 17025 and certified to OECD-GLP standards.

The official laboratories are working in accordance with the European Analytical Quality Control Guidelines (SANCO/2009/10684).The Standard Operating Procedures used and the pesticides to be studied in the official analysis are specified in the Handbook of Analytical Methods of Hungarian Pesticide Residue Analytical Laboratories.

Each Pesticide Residue Analytical Laboratory has taken part in the European Commission’s Proficiency tests organised by Community Reference Laboratories and all the participating laboratories were ranked within the category of the first ten laboratories having achieved the best results.

They analyse about 3 000 samples per year for official food control. The number of active ingredients analysed for has increased from 70/80 to 200/250 (different pesticides and their metabolites).
2.10. Control system for animal welfare

Competent authorities

The competent authorities are the Department of Food Chain Control in MA (DFCC) and the Directorate for Animal Health and Animal Welfare in NFCSO (NFCSO-DAHAW).

At central level there are one FTE in MA and four FTE in the NFCSO. In each County, there is an inspector in charge of disseminating information, organising training and co-ordinating inspections on animal welfare.
Official controls on farm

According to Decree of MA No. 178/2009 (XII.29) the control of animal welfare on farm is targeted. General and specific risk indicators have been determined and included in the control plan.

Official controls during transport

The Minister of Agriculture has adopted Ministerial Decree 88/2008 for implementing Regulation (EC) No 1/2005. This decree contains provisions which:

- designate MA as the CCA responsible for implementing Regulation (EC) No 1/2005;
- empower the OVs to check data of the vehicle navigation system and the tachograph independently;
- repeals Ministerial Decree 52/2003 (transposing the repealed Council Directive 91/628/EEC);
- repeals the exemption concerning the transport of unfit animals for emergency slaughter.

The CGO DFCSSPPSC/DFCSAs issue licences to transporters.

There is a database at country level of transporters and approved vehicles available for the CAs. The data of approved vehicles are available at central level through TRACES. The NFCSO DAHAW has an official database about approved vehicles; however, this is not publicly available.

There are specific checklists for inspections for vehicles and guidance on the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1/2005.

The former Ministry for Economy and Transport, now Ministry for National Economy, is no longer formally involved in the animal welfare sector except for the mobile roadside checks which are organised at local level. The CGO – DFCSSPPSC/DFCSAs co-operate with Police and Customs in carrying out inspections as county officials do not have powers to stop vehicles. Mobile inspection teams which carry out multipurpose roadside checks have been organised in co-operation with the Police and the NTCA in several counties. Each team which includes an Official Veterinarian (OV) is organised so that the OV is on call for any request where roadside checks require veterinary expertise.

A new control system was introduced by the food chain control plan for 2014. This system includes the following:

1. The sending back of the journey logs have to be requested by the Competent Authority at the place of departure. The journey logs have to be checked, and a report about the number of checks should be sent to the Central Authority (NFCSO) each month. A template has been written for the requests, with the reference to the legislative provisions. This bilingual template (Hungarian and English) can be given to the drivers at the place of departure.

2. If the Hungarian transporter does not send back the journey log, the Local Authority has to inform the Competent Authority issuing the transporter’s authorisation (and also the Central Authority – NFCSO).
3. If the transporter received its authorization from the Authority of another Member State, and did not send back the journey log, the Local Authority has to inform the Central Authority – the national contact point according to Regulation (EC) No 1/2005. The national contact point requests the journey log from its counterpart from the authorizing Member State.

There is also a bilingual template for the reporting of missing journey logs. This template should be used also for reporting other kind of infringements.

4. Concerning the checks of GPS data, each District Office has to check the GPS and the temperature data of two consignments dispatched from the District (in the case of transports where the vehicle has to be equipped with navigation system and temperature monitoring system according to the relevant provisions). GPS data has to be compared against the data of the journey log.

A brief checklist or guidance was edited, summarising what questions has to be checked during the control of GPS data. A bilingual template helps the requests of GPS and temperature data from the transporter.

Official controls at slaughter

Decree No. 140/2012 (XII.22) designates the CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSA to ensure compliance with the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009. This Decree also designates the NFCSO as the CCA responsible, under Article 21 of the Regulation, for:

• ensuring that training courses are available for personnel involved in killing and related operations;

• delivering certificates of competence attesting the passing of an independent final examination;

• approving the programmes of the training courses.

Communication of new procedures and checklists from the CCA to the local CAs is carried out electronically through the County and District CAs. The CCA holds regular meetings with representatives from the County CAs to discuss changes in legislation and procedures.

Inspections in slaughterhouses are performed according to a risk based control plan, by the CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSA, using checklists issued by the CA. There are specific checklists for inspections in poultry and red meat slaughterhouses. Guidance was issued by the CCA in 2009. Also a supplementing new guidance was issued on the approval of new slaughterhouses. It also contains instructions and aspects concerning the official checks of slaughterhouses. New checklists were also issued in 2014.

Enforcement

The Governmental Decree No. 244/1998 (XII. 31.) on the animal welfare penalties was amended on 1.08.2012 by the Governmental Decree No. 115/2012 (VI. 11). The Decree entered into force from 1.08.2012 and is being used by local authorities. In relation to animal welfare infringements the objective criteria were introduced upon which the fines are calculated (differentiate scale of fines) and new rates (minimum 15 000 HUF or 50 euro with no upper limit). The amended Decree contains four Annexes with different factors which are applied depending from the type of animal suffering, purpose of keeping that animal (i.e. laboratory animal, farm animal – on a large/small scale farm, pet, CITES species, etc.), the number of the animal (concerned percentage of the population), type of infringement (i.e. activity without approval, special for transport: space allowances did not comply with the
provisions, journey or resting times were not correct, or other condition of the journey was inadequate). The basis minimum rate shall be multiplied by the given multiplier factors. In the cases of more infringements the factors shall be added together. Fines can be imposed by inspectors or notaries in local authorities. However, in practise almost all fines are imposed by inspectors in local authorities and therefore all material (documentation) is prepared by CA. It was acknowledged that sometimes authorities face difficulties in collecting fines from other country representatives.

Another important element, that would most likely strengthen enforcement of animal welfare requirements, is a new policy launched in 2013 to employ animal welfare specialists in large animal holdings. According to this new policy more than 4 500 specialists were trained on the animal welfare standards across the country. Their main tasks will be to monitor animal welfare standards and provide advice to the operators. By the end of 2013 all large holdings should have these animal welfare specialists employed.
2.11. Control system for plant health

MA

DFCC

NFCSO

DPPSCAE

DPMCPRM

DFCSPPSC/DFCSA

PPSCU

BIP

PMO

19 CGO

National register of producers, distributors and importers

Laboratories for Phytosanitary

Professional Management

Inspection

Registration

Surveys

Data on Production or distribution sites

Competent authorities

The competent authorities are the Department of Food Chain Control in MA (DFCC), Division of Plant Protection and Soil Conservation and the National Food Chain Safety Office, Directorate of Plant Protection, Soil Conservation and Agri-Environment (NFCSO DPPSCAE).

The NFCSO DPPSCAE co-ordinates plant health work carried out by the CGO DFCSPPSC/DFCSA. There are eight FTE staff in the Department for Phytosanitary Measures and the Control of Planting Materials.
The total number of inspectors involved in plant health in the County Government Office Directorates for Plant Protection and Soil Conservation (CGO DFCSPPPSC/DFCSA) is 170 (including 19 chief county inspectors) with another 26 at the BIPs. The inspectors at the BIPs are responsible for taking samples for phytosanitary purposes, samplings for pesticide residues and aflatoxin analyses and other kinds of inspection (quality checks on fresh fruit and vegetables and export).

The five BIPs are under the control of CGO DFCSPPPSC/DFCSAs. From an operational point of view each County is divided into Districts.

The internal databases PHYSAN and AIR allow information, import, export and internal control data to be transferred quickly between all levels of the organisation. The databases also provide the inspectors with models for the official documents to be used in the phytosanitary procedures.

Plant passport system and internal market checks

The CGO DFCSPPPSC/DFCSAs (including the five BIPs) are responsible for issuing plant passports. The Directorate for Plant Productions and Horticulture of the NFCSO is responsible for issuing plant passports for seed potatoes and for seeds and propagating material, based on results of analysis by the phytosanitary laboratories.

In relation to harmful organisms, the CGO DFCSPPPSC/DFCSAs are also responsible for:

- inspections at places of production and for surveys;
- import and export certification;
- diagnostic activities;
- registration of producers, distributors, importers etc. of plants and plant products.

Import controls

A national co-operation agreement on import inspections was concluded between the NFCSO and the NCTA in November 2012, replacing the one dating back to 2004. It provides for mutual exchange of information and for co-operation, e.g. in cases of interception, and also specifies direct involvement by customs officers in some checks on non-regulated products, such as wood packing materials. The national co-operation agreement is supplemented by local agreements at the BIPs, between the local customs authorities and the relevant CGO DFCSPPPSC/DFCSAs, which set out the relationship and specifies the procedure according to their specific situation.

Importers must be registered in accordance with Article 33 of Decree 7/2001 (about 370 are registered).

The first step in the procedure is taken by the customs officers, who notify the inspectors of the need for a phytosanitary inspection by indicating the presence of a phytosanitary certificate accompanying the commodity and/or by referring to the list of regulated products.
Laboratories

Detailed investigations of samples requiring special facilities are carried out by three NRL responsible for diagnostic of regulated harmful organisms: the Plant Health and Molecular Biology National Reference Laboratory (PHMBL) is the laboratory for diagnostics of plant pathogenic viruses, viroids, phytoplasms, fungi, insects, nematodes, the Bacteriological Laboratory in Pécs (Baranya County) is the laboratory for diagnostics of plant pathogenic bacteria and the Virological Laboratory in Velence (Fejér County) is the laboratory specialized in fruit, grapes and arable crops. Its main task is testing of propagating materials in the context of certification schemes. Routine analyses are performed by the CGO DFCSPSC/DFCSA. Within each BIP there is a laboratory where the inspectors carry out only simple checks. The PHMBL is also responsible for supervising and co-ordinating the related activities of the CGO DFCSPSC/DFCSAs and BIPs.
2.12 Control System for Food Quality Labelling (Organic, PDO/PGI/TSG)

MA  Ministry of Agriculture
DFP  Department for Food Processing
PMO  Prime Minister’s Office
MND  Ministry of National Development
HACP  National Authority for Consumer Protection
HCOP  Hungarian Council of Origin Protection
NFCSO  National Food Chain Safety Office
DFFS  Directorate for Food and Feed Safety
DPPSCAE  Directorate for Plant Protection, Soil Conservation and Agri-Environment
DOAB  Directorate of Oenology and Alcoholic Beverages
DAHAW  Directorate for Animal Health and Animal Welfare
DAB  Directorate for Animal Breeding
CGO  County Government Office
DFCSPPSC/DFCSA  Department for Food Chain Safety, Plant Protection and Soil Conservation or Department for Food Chain Safety and Agriculture or
DTACP  Department for Technical Authorisation and Consumer Protection

MA  DFP  NFCSO  DFFS  DAHAW  DPPSCAE  DOAB

PMO  HCOP  19 CGO

MND  HACP  DTACP

Foodstuffs at Production  Fruits and vegetables at Growers
Foodstuffs at Market  Fruits and vegetables at Distributors

Misleading labelling and advertising of foodstuffs

Opinion on recommendations

Professional management

Professional management

DFCSPSC/DFCSA

DG(SANTE)/2015-7713
Administrative update
Version December 2015
The Department of Food Processing (DFP) is one division of the State Secretariat for the Food Chain within MA and is responsible for the policy regarding food legislation including PDO/PGI/TSG for agricultural products and foodstuffs.

According to Article 11(2) of Government Decree No 158/2009 of 30 July (on the procedure for the protection of geographical indications of agricultural products, foodstuffs and spirit drinks as well as the inspection of these products) in respect of PDOs and PGIs, the verification of compliance with the product specification or with the single document is ensured by the control authority at the place of production, preparation and distribution.

The NFCSO is responsible for the implementation of administration and controls and it coordinates and supervises official controls undertaken by the County Government Offices Department for Food Chain Safety, Plant Protection and Soil Conservation or Department for Food Chain Safety and Agriculture. The NFCSO, Food and Feed Safety Directorate (NFCSO-FFSD) has overall operational responsibility for official controls relating to PDO/PGI/TSG for foodstuffs covering both the production level and in the market place. In addition the NFCSO Directorate for Plant Protection, Soil Conservation and Agri-environment (NFCSO-DPPSCAE) has overall operational responsibility for official controls relating to PDO/PGI/TSG for growers and distributors of fruit and vegetables.

Article 7(1) of the Ministerial Decree No 15/2008 designates as CAs the plant and soil protection directorate of the CGO and the NFCSO in case of growers of fruit and vegetables and the DOs in case of other foodstuffs.

According to Article 7(2), in respect of TSGs, the verification of compliance with the product specification is ensured by the CA at the place of production, preparation and distribution.


The authority of consumer protection has responsibility for official controls relating to misleading information on labelling and advertising of foodstuffs. The authority of consumer protection can start proceedings if an infringement relates to misleading labelling, on request and of its own initiative in the event of an unfair commercial practice. In public administrative proceedings the CP CGO-s act in first instance and the HACP acts in the second instance.

The Hungarian Council of Origin Protection (HCOP) provides opinions and recommendations to the MA, based on which the Minister takes the final decision. The HCOP comprises fifteen members representing the educational and research institutes linked to the agricultural sector with three people, the professional interest bodies of producers of agricultural products and foodstuffs with three people, non-governmental organisations representing consumer interests with one person, the MA with three people, the Hungarian Intellectual Property Office (HIPO) with one person, the AO with three people and the HACP with one person. The president and the secretary of the HCOP are appointed by the Minister from among the representatives of the MA in HCOP.
The role of the HIPO which is supervised by the Ministry of Justice is to assess registered geographical names from an industrial property point of view.

**Organic farming**

**Competent Authorities**

The responsibility for organic farming was assigned by MA to NFCSO in July 2009. Two certified bodies have been delegated by the CA for the control of organic farming and issuing certificates for organic farmers.
# ANNEX I – STAFF RESOURCES

## Number of Control Staff in Hungary

### Summary Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National level</th>
<th>Staffing (Full time equivalent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MA – DFCC</td>
<td>Department of Food Chain Control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Directorate for System Management and Supervision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Directorate for Food Safety Risk Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Directorate for Priority Cases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Directorate for Animal Health and Animal Welfare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Directorate for Veterinary Diagnostics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Food and Feed Safety Directorate,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Veterinary Medicinal Products Directorate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Directorate of Oenology and Alcoholic Beverages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Directorate of Plant Protection, Soil Conservation and Agri-environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFCSO – Directorates involved in food chain safety control</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MHC SSH</td>
<td>Ministry of Human Capacities, State Secretariat for Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCMO</td>
<td>Office of the Chief Medical Officers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIPN</td>
<td>National Institute of Pharmacy and Nutrition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MND</td>
<td>Ministry of National Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The HACP</td>
<td>Hungarian Authority for Consumer Protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>2986</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County level</th>
<th>Staffing (Full time equivalent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CGO DFCSPSC/DFCSA</td>
<td>County Government Office Department for Food Chain Safety, Plant Protection and Soil Conservation or Department for Food Chain Safety and Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GO PASP (currently Main Department of Public Health)</td>
<td>Government Offices Policy Administration Services of Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP CGOs</td>
<td>CGO’s acting within competence for consumer protection</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** All staff numbers are recorded as full-time equivalents.

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1 Statistics on control staff have been provided by the Hungarian Authorities on a non-standardised basis.
### ANNEX II – ACRONYMS, ABBREVIATIONS AND SPECIAL TERMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACRONYM</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ABP</td>
<td>Animal by-products as defined in the ABP Regulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AI</td>
<td>Avian Influenza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AR</td>
<td>Annual Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASF</td>
<td>African Swine Fever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIP</td>
<td>Border Inspection Post</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSE</td>
<td>Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BT</td>
<td>Blue Tongue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Competent Authority (of the Member State)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAO</td>
<td>Central Agriculture Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCA</td>
<td>Central Competent Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CGO</td>
<td>County Government Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CGO DFCSSPSC/DFCSA</td>
<td>Department for Food Chain Safety, Plant Protection and Soil Conservation or Department for Food Chain Safety and Agriculture (part of CGO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP</td>
<td>Contingency Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP CGO</td>
<td>CGO’s acting within competence for consumer protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMO</td>
<td>Chief Medical Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPHO</td>
<td>Chief Plant Health Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSF</td>
<td>Classical Swine Fever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CVO</td>
<td>Chief Veterinary Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCRL</td>
<td>Department for co-ordination of regional laboratories (part of NFCSO-FFSD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DFCC</td>
<td>Department of Food Chain Control (in MA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DFCD</td>
<td>Department for Food Chain Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DFCSAHU</td>
<td>District Food Chain Safety and Animal Health Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DFSRA</td>
<td>Directorate for Food Safety Risk Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DFP</td>
<td>Department of Food Processing (in MA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DGO</td>
<td>District Government Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPH</td>
<td>Department of Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DTACP</td>
<td>Department for Technical Authorisation and Consumer Protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DVD data base</td>
<td>Data base of the Directorate for Veterinary Diagnostics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EFSA</td>
<td>European Food Safety Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENAR system</td>
<td>The national bovine identification and registration system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAO</td>
<td>Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FBO</td>
<td>Food Business Operator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCIL</td>
<td>Food and Chemical Industry Laboratory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCM</td>
<td>Food Contact Material</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACRONYM</td>
<td>DESCRIPTION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FELIR</td>
<td>Electronic database</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FMD</td>
<td>Foot and Mouth Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FTE</td>
<td>Full time equivalent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FVO</td>
<td>Food and Veterinary Office of the European Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GMO</td>
<td>Genetically Modified Organisms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GO PASPs (currently Main Department of Public Health)</td>
<td>Government Office, Policy Administration Services of Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HACCP</td>
<td>Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HACP</td>
<td>Hungarian Authority for Consumer Protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCOP</td>
<td>Hungarian Council of Origin Protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDRI</td>
<td>Hungarian Dairy Research Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HFSO</td>
<td>Hungarian Food Safety Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUF</td>
<td>Hungarian currency – Forint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MA</td>
<td>Ministry for Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANCP</td>
<td>Multi Annual National Control Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAT</td>
<td>Microscopic analytical method for the determination of constituents of animal origin in feedingstuffs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MBM</td>
<td>Meat and Bone Meal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEW</td>
<td>Ministry for Environment and Water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MHCS SSH</td>
<td>Ministry of Human Capacities, State Secretariat for Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MND</td>
<td>Ministry of National Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MRL</td>
<td>Maximum Residue Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCE</td>
<td>National Centre for Epidemiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ND</td>
<td>New Castle Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFCSO-DAB</td>
<td>National Food Chain Safety Office, Directorate for Animal Breeding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFCSO-DFSRA</td>
<td>National Food Chain Safety Office, Directorate for Food Safety Risk Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>NFCSO-DPC</td>
<td>National Food Chain Safety Office, Directorate for Priority Cases</td>
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<tr>
<td>NFCSO-DPPSCAE</td>
<td>National Food Chain Safety Office, Directorate for Plant Protection, Soil Conservation and Agri-Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFCSO-DVD</td>
<td>National Food Chain Safety Office, Directorate for Veterinary Diagnostics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFCSO-DVMP</td>
<td>National Food Chain Safety Office, Directorate for Veterinary Medicinal Products</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFCSO-DAOB</td>
<td>National Food Chain Safety Office, Directorate of Oenology and Alcoholic Beverages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFCSO-FFSD</td>
<td>National Food Chain Safety Office, Food and Feed Safety Directorate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACRONYM</td>
<td>DESCRIPTION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFCSO-SMSD</td>
<td>National Food Chain Safety Office, System Management and Supervision Directorate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIFNS</td>
<td>National Institute for Food and Nutritional Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIPN</td>
<td>National Institute of Pharmacy and Nutrition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPHMOS-OCMO</td>
<td>National Public Health and Medical Officer Service’s Office of the Chief Medical Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRCP</td>
<td>National Residue Control Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRL</td>
<td>National Reference Laboratory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTCA</td>
<td>National Tax and Customs Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCMO</td>
<td>Office of the Chief Medical Officers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OIE</td>
<td>World Organisation for Animal Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OV</td>
<td>Official Veterinarian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAP</td>
<td>Processed Animal Protein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PDO/PGI/TSG</td>
<td>Protected Designation of Origin / Protected Geographical Indication / Traditional Speciality Guaranteed, respectively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PMO</td>
<td>Prime Minister’s Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPPs</td>
<td>Plant Protection Products</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RASFF</td>
<td>Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RFCL</td>
<td>Regional Food Chain Laboratories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOP</td>
<td>Standard Operating Procedures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMSD SU</td>
<td>System Management and Supervision Directorate Supervision Unit (part of NFCSO, former ICAD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SRM</td>
<td>Specified Risk Materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TSE</td>
<td>Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VMP</td>
<td>Veterinary Medicinal Products</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organization</td>
</tr>
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</table>