



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH & CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

SANCO G – D(2011) 1362666

**SUMMARY RECORD OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE FOOD CHAIN AND ANIMAL HEALTH
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 8 & 9 NOVEMBER 2011
(Section Animal Health and Welfare)**

Chair: Alberto Laddomada.

All Member States were present. Greece was partly absent but represented.

1. Information from Bulgaria on the implementation of the programme for the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in wild animals (Commission Implementing Decision 2011/493/EU).

The Bulgarian representative made a [presentation](#), updating the Committee on the latest surveillance results for foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) in wild animals in the South East of the country carried out in accordance with the eradication plan approved in accordance with Commission Implementing Decision 2011/493/EU of 5 August 2011 approving the plan for the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in wild animals in Bulgaria ([see item 19 of the agenda of the meeting of this Committee of 5-6 July 2011](#)).

The Commission provided some information on the preliminary results obtained from surveillance for FMD in wild boar in Turkish Thrace. Both results would suggest that the infection in wildlife has largely remained within the ecosystem affected by the 2011 Bulgarian FMD outbreak. The Commission requested more detailed information on the age of the animals hunted in Bulgaria in order to progress in its evaluation on the persistence of the infection in, or the eradication of FMD from, the affected area.

2. Information from Romania on the state of play of implementation of classical swine fever surveillance.

Romania is listed in Part III to the Annex of Commission Decision 2008/855/EC concerning protection measures relating to classical swine fever in areas of certain Member States.

Currently Romania is working on the implementation of a "channelled system" intended to authorize the dispatch of fresh pig meat and meat preparations and meat products from pig holdings belonging to the system to other Member States, provided that certain health provisions are complied with.

The Romanian representative made a [presentation](#) updating on the state of play of the "channelled system". In July, the system was inspected by the Commission's Food and Veterinary Office (FVO) and all the recommendations provided by them have been addressed in the Action Plan. A good progress was made in the implementation of the enhanced surveillance related to the "channelled system"; about 40% of the activities foreseen in commercial farms and in small holdings have been finalized by the end of October 2011.

3. Information from Greece on the West Nile Fever situation.

The Greek representative made a [presentation](#) on the West Nile Fever Situation in Greece.

4. Bluetongue situation in the Member States.

[Spain](#) and [Portugal](#) reported on the Bluetongue situation in both Member States where BT virus serotype 1 has recently resurged in areas previously infected. Virus circulation was detected by the active surveillance system based on sentinel animals.

5. Information from Italy on the African swine fever outbreaks in Sardinia.

In the second part of 2011 a recrudescence of African swine fever (ASF) was observed in Sardinia, twenty – eight outbreaks were detected and seven out of eight provinces were affected. The Italian representative made a comprehensive [presentation](#) on the history of (ASF) in Sardinia, the epidemiological evolution, results of surveillance activities and the risk factors for persistence and spread of the disease. The epidemic peak was observed in September/October, when ASF spread outside the area considered at risk. Several factors contributed to this recrudescence such as illegal movement of animal, low level of bio-security and illegal swill feeding. Outbreaks were identified also in commercial farms. According to the information provided, in the Sardinian context, wild boars do not represent the major risk for the spread of the disease.

The information provided by the Italian representative highlighted a worrying situation for ASF in Sardinia. Several Member States expressed their concerns, as well as the Commission. Despite the effort made by the Veterinary Services in fighting the disease, the actions carried out in these last years do not lead to the eradication of the disease, due to the fact that relevant actions have not been undertaken to solve the main factors linked to the persistence of the ASF in Sardinia. (see also point 36)

6. Information from Italy on the results of the implementation of the African swine fever co-financed eradication programme for 2010.

This item was covered by the presentation of Italy made under item 5 of the agenda.

7. Information from Bulgaria, Germany, France, Luxembourg, Hungary, Romania, Slovenia and Slovakia on the results of the implementation of the classical swine fever co-financed eradication programmes for 2010.

The [Bulgarian](#), [Hungarian](#), [German](#), [Slovene](#), [Romanian](#) and [Slovakian](#) representatives made presentations on the results of the implementation of the classical swine fever (CSF) co-financed eradication programmes in 2010. France and Luxembourg didn't report.

Bulgaria had no cases of CSF in 2010, the latest cases were 8 PCR positive in young wild boars in November 2009. Pig farms are categorized according to the biosecurity measures in place. Three vaccination campaigns were carried out in wild boar within 40-km zone along the west and north borders of the country.

In **Germany**, no cases of CSF were reported in 2010. Vaccination is in place since spring 2009 in the 2 still under restriction areas, on the right side of the river Rhine (last CSF case in July 2009) and in the Pfalz region (last CSF case on 30 April 2009). The objective is to stop vaccination after spring 2012.

Hungary found in 2010 still some seropositives in wild boars in the 4 restricted areas however no virus could be found after PCR testing. The CSF infected area was reduced to 2 areas on 22 June 2011 (Commission Decision 2011/360/EU). The domestic pig population is continuously monitored in the CSF infected and surveillance areas; no positive in 2010.

In **Romania**, no cases were reported in 2010. Vaccination of wild boars was implemented in 2010 in the 10-km area border with Ukraine and Moldova. 103,273 official clinical inspections were carried out in backyard pig farms and 864 in commercial pig farms. (see also point 2)

Slovakia found no cases in domestic pigs (last occurrence in July 2008), no virologically positive results in wild boars (last positive result confirmed in May 2008). No vaccination of wild boars was performed in 2010. Information provided by Slovakia indicated that CSF in domestic and feral pigs has been eradicated in the restricted areas. As a consequence, Decision 2011/360/EU (amending Commission Decision 2008/855/EC) removes Slovakian territories listed in the annex which includes restriction zones in the EU.

Slovenia reported no cases in 2010 in domestic pigs or wild boars. The CSF monitoring programme is implemented in the domestic pig population in large pig farms and other pig holdings and in the wild boar population.

8. Information from Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Austria and Slovenia on the results of the implementation of the rabies co-financed eradication programmes 2010.

The [Finnish](#), [Estonian](#), [Latvian](#), [Lithuanian](#), [Austrian](#) and [Slovene](#) representatives made presentations on the results of the implementation of the rabies co-financed eradication programmes 2010.

In Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Slovenia oral vaccination campaigns against rabies were implemented in their whole territory. The rabies situation was significantly

improved in the past years and the vast majority of the observed cases in 2010 were located close to the borders with non vaccinating third countries. For Estonia, 2010 was the last year of implementing vaccination in its whole territory, since as of 2011 vaccination is implemented only along the borders with Russia and Latvia.

Finland and Austria have implemented oral vaccination in zones bordering infected areas of other countries in order to maintain their freedom. In 2010, no rabies case was detected in these Member States.

The Commission encouraged the Member States to continue their efforts to eradicate rabies and noted that in most Member States, cases are now detected only in areas bordering third countries. This indicates the need for action in third countries and the Commission is making efforts to make possible oral vaccination in all infected areas bordering the EU.

9. Information from the Commission and exchange of views on publicising of data on results for avian influenza surveillance data in poultry and wild birds carried out in Member States. (Doc. SANCO/7174/2011- Rev.1)

The Commission renewed its request of making public the data of the Member States' surveillance programmes for avian influenza in wild birds as set out in the discussion note which had been presented by the Commission under point 11 of the agenda of this meeting of 4/5 October. This should allow interested parties to use this wealth of data for further analysis.

While some Member States had already given their agreement to share the data, others made different suggestions for limiting the access of data.

It appeared that no agreement would be reached in this Committee on the approach prepared in document SANCO/7174/2011 – Rev.1 and the Commission therefore proposed to raise this matter at the next meeting of the Chief Veterinary Officers.

10. Information from the Commission and exchange of views on the technical specification for the format for the lists of approved or registered establishments, plant or operators handling animal by-products inside the EU and in third countries. (Doc. SANCO/7177/2010 – Rev.2)

Austria asked for clarification on the registration of game trophy plants and hunting areas in third countries. The Commission will raise this issue on the next animal by-product working group meeting.

Document SANCO/7177/2010 Rev.2 will be published on the DG SANCO's following web page:

http://ec.europa.eu/food/food/biosafety/establishments/docs/technical_specifications_d7177%202010_rev1_01%203%202011.pdf

11. Information from the Commission on animal transport to Turkey.

The Commission informed on welfare problems during transport of live animals from EU Member States to Turkey. The Commission is currently investigating the situation and emphasized the responsibilities of the competent authorities in relation to approving journey logs before long journeys.

12. Information from the Commission on the Community Veterinary Emergency Team.

The Commission's representative distributed a draft list with the members of the Community Veterinary Emergency Team for 2012, in accordance with the obligation laid down in Commission Decision 2007/142/EC.

13. On request of France, information from France and exchange of views on the use of recombinant vaccines against rabies and the impact on the validity of the primary vaccination and intra-EU movements of domestic carnivores.

France [presented](#) to all Member States and to the Commission the case of a new EMA-approved recombinant anti-rabies vaccine for cats called "Purevax rabies" for which, according to the technical specifications of its marketing authorisation, the onset of immunity is four weeks after the completion of the primary vaccination course. The main question for discussion was whether, from a legal point of view, a cat vaccinated with this vaccine is allowed to move 21 days after the primary vaccination course.

The Commission's representative confirmed that according to Regulation (EC) No 998/2003, the use of a recombinant vaccine that has been granted a marketing authorisation in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 726/2004 is authorised and at least 21 days must have elapsed since the completion of the vaccination protocol, required by the manufacturer for the primary vaccination in accordance with the technical specifications of the marketing authorisation.

Therefore, cats vaccinated with "Purevax rabies" comply with Regulation (EC) No 998/2003 if they are being moved not less than 21 days after the completion of the primary vaccination course.

However, pending the necessary adaptation of Regulation (EC) No 998/2003 and Commission Decision 2003/803/EC in order to take account of onset of immunity of anti-rabies vaccines longer than 21 days, Member States should advise authorised veterinarians not to administer "Purevax rabies" to primo vaccinated cats intended to move to another Member State within less than 28 days following the completion of the primary vaccination course, as recommended by the manufacturer.

14. On request of the United Kingdom, information from the United Kingdom and exchange of views on difficulties as regards registration of individual movements of sheep and goats born before 31 December 2009, as required in the annex, point C.3 (b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 21/2004 establishing a system for the identification and registration of ovine and caprine animals and requesting to

defer individual reporting of movements from 31 December 2011 until 31 December 2016.

The United Kingdom requested a postponement of 5 years of the obligation laid down in Regulation (EC) No 21/2004 to record individual movements for sheep and goats born before 1 January 2010 (so called "historic flock"), for those movements other than moving to a slaughterhouse directly or via a channelling procedure. Current rules establish that, following a transitional period, this obligation shall apply as from 1 January 2012. The UK made a power point [presentation](#) explaining the reasons for such a request which included economic, farm management and husbandry considerations. The new deadline of 1 January 2017 was proposed by the UK, taking into account that at that time only a small number of animals born before 1 January 2010 will still be kept in farms. On the basis of the above-mentioned assessment, the UK asked that the date indicated in annex C.3 (B) of Regulation (EC) No 21/2004 is amended accordingly by Comitology.

A number of Member States showed not to be in favour of the UK request either because they have already adapted (or are about to adapt) their national systems of identification and recording of their historic flocks in line with to the current deadline or as a matter of principle against any further postponement of deadlines already established in the EU legislation. A few Member States also made a link between this request and the situation concerning the obligations and deadlines laid down in the legislation on the cages for laying hens. Conversely, several other Member States showed to be in favour of the postponement of the deadline, as requested by the UK.

The Commission representative concluded that the Commission will further reflect on the UK request.

14A. Applications and declarations from Member States to achieve a health status with regard to the diseases listed in Directive 2006/88/EC.

- **Declaration from Germany of a VHS and IHN free compartment in accordance with Article 50 of Council Directive 2006/88/EC.**

In accordance with Article 10 of Decision 2009/177/EC the information can be found in the following link:

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

The Commission informed about a declaration from Germany of a compartment free of VHS and IHN.

15. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on the evolution of animal diseases in the Union and in third countries.

No item raised.

- 16. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on a financial contribution from the Union towards certain measures to eradicate foot-and-mouth disease in wild animals in the South-East of Bulgaria in 2011-2012. (Legal base: Council Decision 2009/470/EC, and in particular Article 8(2), the second paragraph of Article 14(4), Article 20, Article 23, Article 31(2), Article 35(2) and Article 36(2) thereof) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/7104/2011 – Rev.2)**

The Commission introduced the draft Implementing Decision intended to provide for a legal base for the Commission to provide financial support to Bulgaria for the implementation of the plan approved by Commission Implementing Decision 2011/493/EU, highlighting the particular epidemiological situation at the border of Bulgaria with Turkey.

Vote: in favour, Greece represented by Cyprus.

- 17. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission implementing decision amending Annexes II and III to Decision 2010/221/EU as regards the amendments of national measures for preventing the introduction of certain aquatic animal diseases into parts of Ireland, Finland and Sweden. (Legal base: Article 43 of Directive 2006/88/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/7074/2011 – Rev. 1)**

The Commission presented a draft Implementing Decision extending the approval of the trade restrictions linked to the Finnish and Swedish eradication programmes for BKD and IPN for another 2 years. The draft Implementing Decision also limits the geographical coverage of the Finnish BKD eradication programme and the Irish surveillance programme for OsHV-1 μ var.

Vote: unanimous in favour.

- 18. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2008/855/EC as regards animal health control measures relating to classical swine fever in certain Member States. (Legal base: Article 9(4) of Council Directive 89/662/EEC and Article 10(4) of Council Directive 90/425/EEC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/7172/2009 – Rev.2)**

Withdrawn from the agenda.

- 19. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Annexes II to IV to Council Directive 2009/158/EC on animal health conditions governing intra-Union trade in, and imports from third countries of, poultry and hatching eggs. (Legal base: Articles 23, 26 and 34 of Council Directive 2009/158/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/7173/2011- Rev.2)**

Directive 2009/158/EC lays down animal health conditions governing intra-Union trade in, and imports from third countries of, poultry and hatching eggs. Annex II thereto sets out the rules for the approval of establishments for the purposes of intra-Union and in Annex IV the related veterinary certificates. Annexes II to that Directive as amended by Commission Decision 2011/214/EU lays down the diagnostic procedures for *Salmonella* and *Mycoplasma*. More specific details should be added for testing for *Salmonella arizonae*. Box 1.31. in Part I of the model veterinary certificate for day-old chicks set out in Annex IV to Directive 2009/158/EC includes a requirement to fill in detailed information in relation to the identification of the parent flocks from which the day-old chicks derive. However, this indication when linked to the indication of quantities appears to pose unnecessary administrative burdens on business operators, especially in view of the unpredictability of hatch. In addition, the quantities have to be filled in in other parts of the certificate. Those entries referring to quantities should therefore be deleted from box 1.31. in the model veterinary certificates for hatching eggs, day-old chicks and breeding and productive poultry and be replaced by the entry 'Approval number' providing clearer information on the origin of the respective commodities. Part I of the notes in Part II of those model certificates should therefore be amended accordingly.

Commission Regulation (EC) No 798/2008 lays down a list of third countries, territories, zones or compartments from which poultry and poultry products may be imported into and transit through the Union. Annex IX of that Regulation sets out specific conditions applicable to imports of ratites for breeding and production, hatching eggs and day-old chicks thereof. A concurrent amendment to that Regulation will provide that, where day-old chicks are not reared in the Member State which imported the hatching eggs, they are to be transported directly to the final destination and kept there for at least three weeks from the date of hatching. That requirement is to be reflected in the relevant model veterinary certificate for day-old chicks laid down in Annex IV to Directive 2009/158/EC. That model certificate should therefore be amended accordingly.

Vote: in favour, Greece represented by Cyprus.

20. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2006/415/EC as regards its period of application. (Legal base: Article 9(4) of Council Directive 89/662/EEC, Article 10(4) of Council Directive 90/425/EEC, Article 63(3) of Council Directive 2005/94/EC and Article 18 of Regulation 998/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/7176/2011- Rev.1)

The title of the draft Implementing Decision presented at the meeting has changed from the one included on the agenda to read as follows:

Draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2006/415/EC concerning certain protection measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza of the subtype H5N1 in poultry in the Community.

Commission Decision 2006/415/EC lays down certain protection measures to be applied in the event of an outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza of the subtype H5N1 in poultry. The measures laid down in that Decision are applicable until 31

December 2011. Outbreaks of that disease have last occurred in poultry in Romania in March 2010 and the virus has been detected in a wild bird in Bulgaria in April 2010. However, the infection is still present in several third countries and continues therefore to pose a threat to animal and human health in the Union. The measures laid down in Decision 2006/415/EC proved very effective and the publication of the zones that the competent authority has placed under restrictions in the *Official Journal of the European Union* has increased transparency and trust of non-affected Member States and third countries in those measures. However, a possible update of the measures was foreseen before the end of 2011 and they therefore were only extended until 31 December 2011. In September 2011, an external evaluation of the Union's emergency response network has started aiming at assessing the effectiveness of the network between the Commission and the Member States in responding to animal health emergencies. The results of that evaluation should be taken into account in a possible review of the measures laid down in Decision 2006/415/EC. The period of application of that Decision should therefore be extended until 31 December 2013.

Vote: in favour, Greece represented by Cyprus.

21. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down health rules as regards animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption and implementing Council Directive 97/78/EC as regards certain samples and items exempt from veterinary checks at the border under that Directive. (Legal base: Articles 42(2) and 45(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009) (Regulatory procedure with scrutiny of the European Parliament and of the Council) (Doc.SANCO/7188/2011)

Some Member States asked for clarification on:

1. Raw pet food of rodents for feeding to reptilian. Do we need derogation (clarification) for such intended use or should we register all owners of reptilian?,
2. the definition of "pet food" is necessary in order to avoid declaring the pet food as organic fertilisers,
3. the authorisation for the imports of trade samples,
4. the deadline for implementation of missing TRACES commercial documents,
5. Recitals (8) and (9).

The Netherlands expressed disagreement with the proposed requirements for traceability of processed manure.

The Commission will raise this issue on the next animal by- product working group meeting.

Vote: postponed.

- 22. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision establishing the financial contribution by the Union to the expenditure incurred in the context of the emergency measures taken to combat avian influenza in the Netherlands in 2010. (Legal base: Article 4 of Council Decision 2009/470/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/12264/2011)**

The purpose of this draft Implementing Decision is to fix the amount of the financial contribution from the Union to the Netherlands towards the expenditure that was incurred for compensation and operational costs in taking emergency measures to combat avian influenza in 2010.

Vote: unanimous in favour.

- 23. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision establishing the financial contribution by the Union to the expenditure incurred in the context of the emergency measures taken to combat swine vesicular disease in Italy in 2009. (Legal base: Article 3(4) of Council Decision 2009/470/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/12265/2011)**

The purpose of this draft Implementing Decision is to fix the amount of the financial contribution from the Union to Italy towards the expenditure that was incurred for compensation and operational costs in taking emergency measures to combat swine vesicular disease in Italy in 2009.

Vote: unanimous in favour.

- 24. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision establishing the financial contribution by the Union to the expenditure incurred in the context of the emergency measures taken to combat Newcastle disease in Spain in 2009. (Legal base: Article 6 of Council Decision 2009/470/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/12432/2011)**

The purpose of this draft Implementing Decision is to fix the amount of the financial contribution from the Union to Spain towards the expenditure that was incurred for compensation and operational costs in taking emergency measures to combat Newcastle disease in Spain in 2009.

Vote: unanimous in favour.

- 25. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2008/557/EC on a financial contribution from the Community towards emergency measures to combat avian influenza in Poland in 2007. (Legal base: Article 4 of Council Decision 2009/470/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/12286/2011)**

The title of the draft Implementing Decision presented at the meeting has changed from the one included on the agenda to read as follows:

Draft Commission Implementing Decision on a financial contribution from the Union towards emergency measures to combat avian influenza in Poland in 2007.

The purpose of this draft Implementing Decision is to fix the amount of a second tranche as part of the financial contribution from the Union to Poland towards the expenditure that was incurred for compensation and operational costs in taking emergency measures to combat avian influenza in Poland in 2007.

Vote: unanimous in favour.

26. **Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2009/581/EC on a financial contribution from the Community towards emergency measures to combat avian influenza in Cloppenburg, Germany in December 2008 and January 2009. (Legal base: Article 4 of Council Decision 2009/470/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/12307/2011)**

The title of the draft Implementing Decision presented at the meeting has changed from the one included on the agenda to read as follows:

Draft Commission Implementing Decision on a financial contribution from the Union towards emergency measures to combat avian influenza in Cloppenburg, Germany in December 2008 and January 2009.

The purpose of this draft Implementing Decision is to fix the amount of a second tranche as part of the financial contribution from the Union to Germany towards the expenditure that was incurred for compensation and operational costs in taking emergency measures to combat avian influenza in Germany in 2008-2009.

Vote: unanimous in favour.

27. **Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2008/444/EC on a financial contribution from the Community towards emergency measures to combat bluetongue in Germany in 2007. (Legal base: Article 3 of Council Decision 2009/470/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/12419/2011)**

The title of the draft Implementing Decision presented at the meeting has changed from the one included on the agenda to read as follows:

Draft Commission Implementing Decision on a financial contribution from the Union towards emergency measures to combat bluetongue in Germany in 2007.

The purpose of this draft Implementing Decision is to fix the amount of a second tranche as part of the financial contribution from the Union to Germany towards the

expenditure that was incurred for compensation and operational costs in taking emergency measures to combat bluetongue in Germany in 2007.

Vote: unanimous in favour.

- 28. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2010/148/EU on a financial contribution from the Community towards emergency measures to combat avian influenza in the Czech Republic, Germany, Spain, France and Italy in 2009. (Legal base: Article 4 of Council Decision 2009/470/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/12312/2011)**

The title of the draft Implementing Decision presented at the meeting has changed from the one included on the agenda to read as follows:

Draft Commission Implementing Decision on a financial contribution from the Union towards emergency measures to combat avian influenza in Spain in 2009.

The purpose of this draft Implementing Decision is to fix the amount of a first tranche as part of the financial contribution from the Union to Spain towards the expenditure that was incurred for compensation and operational costs in taking emergency measures to combat avian influenza in Spain in 2009.

Vote: unanimous in favour.

- 29. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision establishing the financial contribution by the Union to the expenditure incurred in the context of the emergency vaccination plans against bluetongue in the Netherlands in 2007 and 2008. (Legal base: Article 3(3), (4) and second indent of (6) of Council Decision 2009/470/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/11938/2011)**

The purpose of this draft Implementing Decision is to fix the amount of the financial contribution from the Union to the Netherlands towards the expenditure that was incurred for compensation and operational costs in taking emergency measures for vaccination plans against bluetongue in 2007 and 2008.

Vote: unanimous in favour.

- 30. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision establishing the financial contribution by the Union to the expenditure incurred in the context of the emergency vaccination plans against bluetongue in Luxembourg in 2007 and 2008. (Legal base: Article 3(3), (4) and second indent of (6) of Council Decision 2009/470/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/11937/2011)**

The purpose of this draft Implementing Decision is to fix the amount of the financial contribution from the Union to Luxembourg towards the expenditure that was incurred

for compensation and operational costs in taking emergency measures for vaccination plans against bluetongue in 2007 and 2008.

Vote: unanimous in favour.

- 31. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision establishing the financial contribution by the Union to the expenditure incurred in the context of the emergency vaccination plans against bluetongue in Austria in 2007 and 2008. (Legal base: Article 3(3), (4) and second indent of (6) of Council Decision 2009/470/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/11934/2011)**

The purpose of this draft Implementing Decision is to fix the amount of the financial contribution from the Union to Austria towards the expenditure that was incurred for compensation and operational costs in taking emergency measures for vaccination plans against bluetongue in 2007 and 2008.

Vote: unanimous in favour.

- 32. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2008/557/EC on a financial contribution from the Community towards emergency vaccination plans against bluetongue in Sweden in 2007 and 2008. (Legal base: Article 3(3), (4) and second indent of (6) of Council Decision 2009/470/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/11939/2011)**

The title of the draft Implementing Decision presented at the meeting has changed from the one included on the agenda to read as follows:

Draft Commission Implementing Decision establishing the financial contribution by the Union to the expenditure incurred in the context of the emergency vaccination plans against bluetongue in Sweden in 2007 and 2008.

The purpose of this draft Implementing Decision is to fix the amount of the financial contribution from the Union to Sweden towards the expenditure that was incurred for compensation and operational costs in taking emergency measures for vaccination plans against bluetongue in 2007 and 2008.

Vote: unanimous in favour.

- 33. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2009/581/EC on a financial contribution from the Community towards emergency vaccination plans against bluetongue in Italy in 2007 and 2008. (Legal base: Article 3(3), (4) and second indent of (6) of Council Decision 2009/470/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/11936/2011)**

The title of the draft Implementing Decision presented at the meeting has changed from the one included on the agenda to read as follows:

Draft Commission Implementing Decision establishing the financial contribution by the Union to the expenditure incurred in the context of the emergency vaccination plans against bluetongue in Italy in 2007 and 2008.

The purpose of this draft Implementing Decision is to fix the amount of the financial contribution from the Union to Italy towards the expenditure that was incurred for compensation and operational costs in taking emergency measures for vaccination plans against bluetongue in 2007 and 2008.

Vote: unanimous in favour.

- 34. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2008/444/EC on a financial contribution from the Community towards emergency vaccination plans against bluetongue in France in 2007 and 2008. (Legal base: Article 3(3), (4) and second indent of (6) of Council Decision 2009/470/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/11940/2011)**

The title of the draft Implementing Decision presented at the meeting has changed from the one included on the agenda to read as follows:

Draft Commission Implementing Decision establishing the financial contribution by the Union to the expenditure incurred in the context of the emergency vaccination plans against bluetongue in France in 2007 and 2008.

The purpose of this draft Implementing Decision is to fix the amount of the financial contribution from the Union to France towards the expenditure that was incurred for compensation and operational costs in taking emergency measures for vaccination plans against bluetongue in 2007 and 2008.

Vote: unanimous in favour.

- 35. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision approving annual and multiannual programmes and the financial contribution from the Union for the eradication, control and monitoring of certain animal diseases and zoonoses presented by the Member States for 2012 and following years. (Legal base: Article 27 (5) of Decision 2009/470/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/12297/2011 - Rev.1)**

The content of the document was briefly presented and the main changes in relation to the previous year were highlighted. In particular, in order to reduce administrative burdens at Member States' and Commission level as well as to simplify administrative procedures, a lump sum to co-finance the cost for testing, laboratory tests and vaccination have been proposed for most of the diseases for which EU financial contribution is foreseen, except for salmonellosis and rabies. There was still a pending issue regarding the approval of the bovine tuberculosis (TB) eradication programme

submitted by the United Kingdom. The pending issue was solved during the presentation of the draft Implementing Decision. Member States were informed on the final amount to be allocated to the UK for the TB programme and they were requested to provide their opinion, with the commitment of the Commission that the modification would be introduced later (Revision 4 of the document).

Some clarifications regarding the use of the lump sum and the calculation of the total amount allocated per disease were requested by some Member States. The replies given by the Commission were satisfactory.

Vote: unanimous in favour.

36. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Commission Decision 2005/363/EC concerning animal health protection measures against African swine fever in Sardinia, Italy. (Legal base: Article 9(4) of Council Directive 89/662/EEC, Article 10(4) of Council Directive 90/425/EEC and Article 4(3) of Council Directive 2002/99/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/7183/2011 – Rev.1)

The Commission's representative presented the draft Implementing Decision.

Commission Decision 2005/363/EC was adopted in response to a serious recrudescence of African swine fever in Sardinia. However, the Decision provides for certain derogations as regards the dispatch of certain pig meat products derived from pigs originating in holdings outside the risk area defined in Annex I to the Decision. During the past weeks Italy has informed the Commission of a significant increase in number and territorial extension of outbreaks of African swine fever in Sardinia and the current situation is liable to endanger the pig herds in other regions of Italy and in other Member States. It is therefore necessary to extend the risk areas in Annex I to Decision 2005/363/EC to the whole of the region of Sardinia.

Vote: in favour, Greece represented by Cyprus.

Italy has made the following declaration:

Original in Italian:

"L'Italia prende atto del contenuto della proposta di decisione della Commissione inerente le misure sanitarie da adottare nei confronti della Sardegna a seguito dei focolai di peste suina africana recentemente evidenziati.

Tali misure appaiono non commisurate alla situazione epidemiologica in Sardegna, benché l'insorgenza di nuovi focolai, prontamente contenuti, indichi un picco di recrudescenza della malattia.

Numerosi e consistenti sforzi sanitari sono stati effettuati dai servizi veterinari nella Regione, ma particolari e contingenti situazioni orografiche e sistemi di allevamenti hanno sinora impedito la completa eradicazione della malattia. Le misure adottate

hanno consentito comunque, sinora, di impedire qualsiasi tipo di disseminazione del virus al di fuori dell'isola.

Le rigorose misure de biosicurezza adottate da molti operatori ed allevatori sono senza dubbio un passo molto importante per garantire un rapido evolvere favorevole della situazione.

Alla luce degli sforzi sanitari ed economici effettuati dalle Amministrazioni regionali, locali, sanitarie, e dagli operatori, si richiede alla Commissione un impegno formale a rivedere rapidamente e con atteggiamento costruttivo, le misure contenute nella relativa decisione non appena la situazione epidemiologica dimostri un miglioramento.

L'Italia si impegna nel contempo a fornire alla Commissione ed ai Paesi membri tutte le informazioni epidemiologiche aggiornate necessarie a valutare la situazione sanitaria."

English translation:

"Italy notes the content of the draft Commission Decision incorporating health measures to be taken with regard to Sardinia following the outbreaks of African swine fever which have recently been reported.

Those measures seem disproportionate to the epidemiological situation in Sardinia, although the occurrence of new outbreaks, which have swiftly been contained, points to a certain upsurge in the disease.

The veterinary services in Sardinia have carried out a large number of substantial health measures, but specific characteristics of the terrain and stock-rearing systems have so far made it impossible to eradicate the disease completely. However, the measures taken have so far made it possible to prevent the virus spreading in any way beyond the island.

The rigorous biosecurity measures adopted by many operators and livestock farmers are undoubtedly an extremely important step towards ensuring that the situation moves swiftly in the right direction.

In the light of the economic and health endeavours undertaken by the regional, local and health authorities and by operators, we hereby ask the Commission for a formal undertaking to conduct an early, constructive review of the measures in the Decision in question as soon as the epidemiological situation shows an improvement.

At the same time, Italy undertakes to provide the Commission and the Member States with all the up-to-date epidemiological information needed to assess the health situation."

- 37. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2008/855/EC concerning animal health control measures relating to classical swine fever in certain Member States. (Legal base: Article 9(4) of Council Directive 89/662/EEC and Article**

10(4) of Council Directive 90/425/EEC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/7139/2011 – Rev.1)

The Commission's representative presented the draft Implementing Decision.

The measures foreseen in Commission Decision 2008/855/EC are related to the dispatch, movements and transit of live pigs and porcine semen and ova and embryos of swine from certain Member States. The Decision is to apply until 31 December 2011. In the light of the disease situation in certain areas of Bulgaria, Germany, Hungary and Romania, it is appropriate to extend the period of application of that Decision until 31 December 2013.

Vote: in favour, Greece represented by Cyprus.

38. Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Annexes B, C and D to Council Directive 90/429/EEC as regards animal health requirements for brucellosis and Aujeszky's disease. (Legal base: Article 17 of Directive 90/429/EEC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure) (Doc. SANCO/7178/2011)

Directive 90/429/EEC lays down the animal health requirements governing intra-Union trade in and imports of semen of domestic animals of the porcine species and establishes a model animal health certificate for such trade in that commodity. The purpose of this Decision is to amend Annexes B, C and D to Directive 90/429/EEC in order:

- i.** to include, following the European Food Safety Authority's scientific opinion on porcine brucellosis adopted on 5 June 2009, a competitive enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (cELISA) and an indirect enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (iELISA) for the purpose of donor boars testing for brucellosis at the admission to the semen collection centres and within compulsory routine testing during their stay or on exit from thereof;
- ii.** to review animal health requirements for donor boars and semen thereof as regards Aujeszky's disease taking into account provisions set out in Commission Decision 2008/185/EC on additional guarantees in intra-Union trade in pigs relating to Aujeszky's disease and criteria to provide information on this disease;
- iii.** to align consequently the model animal health certificates for intra-Union trade in semen of domestic animals of the porcine species provided for in Annex D to Directive 90/429/EEC and to present it in accordance with the standardised layout of veterinary certificates as set out in Commission Regulation No (EC) 599/2004 concerning the adoption of a harmonised model certificate and inspection report linked to intra-Union trade in animals and products of animal origin.

The Commission's representative presented the draft Regulation and requested Member States to provide their comments by the end of November 2011.

Miscellaneous

Issues raised by the Member States:

- The representative of **Belgium** raised an issue concerning the procedure for listing of control posts approved in accordance with Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/97.

Council Directive 2008/73/EC amended 22 directives and introduced a simplified procedure for listing certain establishments included in the scopes thereof. However, those amendments have not covered control posts as due to the legal principles Regulation (EC) No 1255/97 could have not been amended by a directive.

Currently the list of approved control posts is available on the following website of the DG SANCO:

http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/welfare/transport/docs/council_regulation_1255_97.pdf
and it is the only list which is kept up-to-date.

Nevertheless, under the "List of control posts" on the following CIRCA website: <http://circa.europa.eu/Members/irc/sanco/vets/information?cookie=1> a hyperlink to the DG SANCO website was introduced so the up-to-date list can be reached now through both websites.

- **Information from Italy on low pathogenic avian influenza:**

The Italian representative gave a [presentation](#) informing about positive findings for low pathogenic avian influenza of the H7 subtype on six rural farms during the period between 8 September and 31 October. All concerned holdings were situated in the Basilicata Region (four in Matera and two in Potenza Province). Poultry present on the farms were stamped out, cleaning and disinfection carried out and a restricted zone was established around the concerned holdings. Epidemiological investigations did not reveal the source of the infections. Further laboratory investigations are carried out on the carcasses.

Issues raised by the Commission:

- Paraguay has sent an update to the Commission on the actions taken in the country to deal with the outbreak of FMD occurred last September. Copy of the document has been distributed by the Commission during the meeting and Member States were invited to send their comments.