



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

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**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANT HEALTH HELD ON
10 MAY 2010**

Chair: Harry Arijs.

All Member States were present, except Luxembourg, Portugal and Romania. At the moment of the vote Estonia, Italy, Malta and Finland were also absent but represented. Switzerland was absent as observer.

1. MISCELLANEOUS.

France updated the Committee about the finding of *Phytophthora lateralis* in the Bretagne region. A detailed monitoring for this organism is planned.

The Netherlands updated the Committee about the situation in the area of Boskoop where an intensive monitoring by destructive sampling on all *Anoplophora chinensis* (CLB) potential host plants is now completed. So far no new cases of CLB were found.

Concerning the entry into force by 1 July 2010 of Council Directive 2007/33/EC on the control of potato cyst nematodes and repealing Directive 69/465/EEC, the Commission clarified that the requirements of Council Directive 2000/29/EC concerning potato cyst nematodes remain fully in force unless its Annexes are amended. Where both Directives have different requirements for the same topic, the most stringent measures will apply.

The Commission informed the Committee that a second Conference concerning the evaluation of the Common Plant Health Regime will take place on 28 September 2010 in Brussels. At the Conference, the final outcome of the evaluation will be presented and the way forward towards a new Common Plant Health Strategy will be discussed. The Conference will be open to the Chief Plant Health Officers and their services, stakeholders, non-governmental organisations and other interested parties.

2. PRESENTATION BY THE COMMISSION OF THE OVERVIEW OF MEMBER STATES' MONITORING RESULTS FOR *RHYNCHOPHORUS FERRUGINEUS* RELATED TO THE 2009 CAMPAIGN.

The Commission presented a summary report of the results of the survey for red palm weevil (according to Article 5 of Commission Decision 2007/365/EC) carried out by Member States in 2009. Slovenia became the 8th Member State with red palm weevil outbreaks. In most of the other Member States, where the insect had been found, it had spread to new areas. The insect had also been found on palm species not yet listed in the Decision.

3. PRESENTATION BY THE COMMISSION AND SPAIN OF THE MAIN CONCLUSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE ON THE CONTROL STRATEGY AGAINST *RHYNCHOPHORUS FERRUGINEUS* IN EUROPE, ORGANISED BY THE SPANISH PRESIDENCY AND THE COMMISSION IN VALENCIA ON 5-6 MAY 2010.

The Commission presented the outcome¹ of the international conference, which took place in Valencia, Spain on 5-6 May 2010. The key conclusion of the conference was that while confirming eradication strategy as a general long-term objective of the EU policy on red palm weevil, the containment measures, i.e. stopping the spread of the insect and suppression of the population, can be short-term objectives in certain areas, where red palm weevil is present for a longer period.

4. PRESENTATION BY BELGIUM OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY MEASURES TO PREVENT THE INTRODUCTION OF *ANOPLOPHORA CHINENSIS* FROM CHINA.

Belgium presented its national emergency measures which were taken recently and aim at banning the import of all *Anoplophora chinensis* susceptible plants from China, as a consequence of the interceptions of the insect in March 2010 in susceptible plants originating in China.

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE OPINION ON A DRAFT COMMISSION DECISION AMENDING DECISION 2008/840/EC ON EMERGENCY MEASURES TO PREVENT THE INTRODUCTION INTO AND THE SPREAD WITHIN THE COMMUNITY OF *ANOPLOPHORA CHINENSIS* (FORSTER) (SANCO/10876/2010).

This Decision would amend the Union emergency measures for *Anoplophora chinensis* (Citrus long horn beetle or CLB). The amendment will strengthen in particular, the measures as regards CLB susceptible plants from China and consists of *inter alia*:

- a prohibition to import maple plants (*Acer* spp.) from China for 2 years, until 30 April 2012;

¹ More information on the Conference, including the conclusions thereof, are available on DG SANCO website at http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/organisms/emergency/index_en.htm

- a possibility to import other host plants of *Anoplophora chinensis* from China only from places of production registered by the Chinese authorities and communicated to the Member States, with provisions to ensure the immediate update of the register in case of any non-compliance and a requirement to back any addition to the register with the explanatory information;
- a more severe inspection regime, for all third countries where CLB is present, to include a compulsory destructive sampling during both export and import inspection of plants.

Vote: favourable opinion by qualified majority.

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE OPINION ON A DRAFT COMMISSION DECISION AMENDING DECISION 2007/365/EC ON EMERGENCY MEASURES TO PREVENT THE INTRODUCTION INTO AND THE SPREAD WITHIN THE COMMUNITY OF *RHYNCHOPHORUS FERRUGINEUS* (OLIVIER) (SANCO/10820/2010).

The Commission presented the draft proposal to amend Commission Decision 2007/365/EC. The revision would provide more detailed provisions for (1) measures to be taken in demarcated areas after a finding of red palm weevil, (2) an action plan to be prepared, and (3) clear deadlines for notifications by Member States to the Commission concerning new findings and action plans. The discussion will be continued during the forthcoming meeting of the Committee.

Vote: Vote postponed.