



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH & CONSUMER PROTECTION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

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SUMMARY REPORT
OF THE MEETING OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANT HEALTH (SCPH) HELD ON
10 DECEMBER 2007

Chairman: Mr L. VAN DEN HAUTE
All Member States (MS) present except Italy

1. MISCELLANEOUS.

The Netherlands notified an outbreak of *Anaplophora chinensis* in its territory. The infestation could be traced back to young woody plants imported from China.

Lithuania notified the first finding of *Phytophthora ramorum* on potted *Rhododendron* plants in its territory.

The Commission (FVO) clarified the proposal to send the notifications of intercepted consignments through the EUROPHYT system to the country of origin. This would be an optional service from the Commission to standardize the notifications to third countries. The intercepting Member State would remain the responsible authority and reference point for any further contacts concerning the interception. The EUROPHYT system will be adapted for these purposes and a starting date will be communicated in a forthcoming Committee meeting.

2. POSEIDOM

- **Presentation and discussion on the application of the programme of actions in the phytosanitary field covering the year 2007.**
- **Presentation and discussion on the programme of actions in the phytosanitary health covering the year 2008.**

FR presented the preliminary report of the actions carried out under programme POSEIDOM, phytosanitary sector, for the year 2007. This programme was composed of three sub-programmes:

1. a sub-programme drawn up for the department of Martinique in two parts: plant health evaluation and diagnostics by use of the regional laboratory and its mobile unit (“labo vert”), and study of the biodiversity in fruit or vegetable farms;
2. a sub-programme drawn up for the department of Guyana in two parts: set up of an agricultural phytosanitary warning system for rice production, and strengthening of the diagnostic capacity by the use of the regional laboratory and its mobile unit (“labo vert”);
3. a sub-programme drawn up for the department of Guadeloupe in four parts: set up of a survey network for fruit flies, survey and follow-up of the coconut lethal yellowing disease, management of the risk of introduction of harmful organisms by tourist activity, and bio de-pollution of soils contaminated by chlordecone and HCH.

FR gave an overview of the current status of the different actions. It was noted that all actions were not yet completed, as the Decision for the Community financing for 2007 was published later than expected.

FR presented also its programme of actions for 2008. It contains an inter-DOM sub-programme (programme common to several "departments d'outre-mer" or DOMs) and 3 other sub-programmes respectively for Martinique, Guyana and Guadeloupe. The inter-DOM sub-programme will focus on the development of detection methods for harmful organisms based on quantitative polymerase chain reaction (PCR). Actions covered in the other sub-programmes include e.g. plant health evaluation and diagnostics by use of the regional laboratory and its mobile unit (“labo vert”), set up of an agricultural phytosanitary warning system for rice production; organisation of an survey network for fruit flies and management of the risk of introduction of harmful organisms by the touristic activity.

3. FURTHER DISCUSSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES TO BE TAKEN AS REGARDS *HELICOVERPA ARMIGERA*.

The Netherlands presented additional information to justify the re-listing of *Helicoverpa armigera* in the Annexes of Directive 2000/29/EC. A discussion took place and it was concluded to base a final decision on justification documents to be presented at the January meeting of the Committee.

4. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON THE RECENT RESPONSE PROVIDED BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN CITRUS BLACK SPOT EXPERT WORKING GROUP ON THE EVALUATION OF THE PEST RISK ANALYSIS FOR CITRUS BLACK SPOT ON FRESH CITRUS FRUITS FROM SOUTH AFRICA TO THE EU, IN RESPONSE TO THE EC WORKING GROUP REPORT.

The Commission (SANCO E.1) presented a summary of the recent response from the South African Citrus Black Spot Expert WG. Spain contributed by presenting recent research results and information on on-going research related to citrus black spot. A discussion followed and the Committee concluded to request a scientific opinion from EFSA.

5. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE OPINION ON DRAFT COMMISSION DECISION AMENDING COMMISSION DECISION 2006/923/EC ON A COMMUNITY FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION FOR 2006 AND 2007 TO COVER EXPENDITURE INCURRED BY PORTUGAL FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMBATING BURSAPHELENCHUS XYLOPHILUS (STEINER ET BUHRER) NICKLE ET AL. (PINWOOD NEMATODE) (DOC. SANCO/3490/2007).**

Discussion postponed.

6. **DISCUSSION AND TENTATIVE OPINION WITH A VIEW OF SUBMISSION TO THE SPS/WTO OF A DRAFT COMMISSION DIRECTIVE UPDATING THE LISTS OF ORGANISMS HARMFUL TO PLANTS OR PLANT PRODUCTS AND THE PROTECTIVE MEASURES AGAINST THEIR INTRODUCTION INTO THE COMMUNITY BY AMENDING ANNEXES I, II, IV AND V TO COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 2000/29/EC ON PROTECTIVE MEASURES AGAINST THE INTRODUCTION INTO THE COMMUNITY OF ORGANISMS HARMFUL TO PLANTS OR PLANT PRODUCTS AND AGAINST THEIR SPREAD WITHIN THE COMMUNITY (DOC. SANCO/3310/2007).**

As a follow-up to last meeting's discussion, the Commission presented a draft Directive to update the Annexes of Directive 2000/29/EC. Some textual changes needed to be inserted. Therefore, it was concluded to present an updated document for tentative opinion during the next meeting of the Committee.

7. **FURTHER DISCUSSION ON REVIEW OF COMMISSION DECISION 2006/133/EC AS REGARDS THE CONTROL OF PINWOOD NEMATODE IN PORTUGAL.**

A new version of the Portuguese action plan (update November 2007) was distributed during the Committee and briefly discussed. A first proposal to amend the pinewood nematode emergency measures laid down in Decision 2006/133/EC, in line with the conclusions of the expert working group and the discussions in previous Committee meetings, was presented by the Commission (SANCO E.1). The discussion will continue during the forthcoming meeting of the Committee.

Laurent Van den Haute

List of participants



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10 December 2007