



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

**D(2009) 411002**

**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANT HEALTH HELD ON  
26-27 MAY 2009**

Chairperson: Mr. H. Arijs.

All Member States (MS) present, except Luxembourg (27/5). All absent MS were represented at the moment of the vote.

Switzerland was present as observer.

**1. MISCELLANEOUS.**

Sweden confirmed the finding of PepMV in tomato plants grown for commercial production.

Malta announced the interception of *Tuta absoluta* which was initially found in glasshouses growing tomato. The insect has now escaped and is causing damage to open air tomato crops. Guidelines have been published by the competent authorities to contain the pest.

Italy announced the findings of *Paysandisia archon* in palm trees and has put in place official measures similar to these applied for red palm weevil.

Switzerland notified the presence of *Dryocosmus kuriphilus* in an area of 100 km<sup>2</sup> (low population density). Measures have been taken to suppress the spread of the pest.

The Commission requested the Member States to indicate the relevant nursery codes in the official interception form in case of bonsai interceptions from Japan.

2. **PRESENTATION BY THE COMMISSION (SANCO E1) OF, AND DISCUSSION ON THE RESPONSES BY MEMBER STATES TO THE COMMISSION LETTER OF 18 FEBRUARY 2009 CONCERNING THE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON NATIONAL PINE WOOD NEMATODE (PWN) MONITORING PROGRAMMES, IMPORT CONTROLS OF SUSCEPTIBLE WOOD AND CONTROLS OF SUSCEPTIBLE WOOD MOVING FROM PWN-DEMARCATED AREAS IN THE EU TO FREE AREAS.**

Postponed.

3. **PRESENTATION BY SPAIN AND DISCUSSION ON THE SPANISH ACTION PLAN AGAINST PINE WOOD NEMATODE.**

Spain presented to the Committee its National Action Plan for Pinewood Nematode control, covering surveillance, eradication measures taken at the outbreak in Extremadura, and contingency planning. A short discussion on the National Action Plan took place. The Committee concluded that the National Action Plan should be restricted to pine wood nematode surveillance and to the measures taken at the existing outbreak.

4. **PRESENTATION BY THE COMMISSION (FVO) AND DISCUSSION ON THE RESULTS OF SURVEYS CARRIED OUT IN 2008 BY MEMBER STATES ON THE PRESENCE OF *ANOPLOPHORA CHINENSIS*, IN APPLICATION OF COMMISSION DECISION 2008/840/EC.**

The Commission (FVO) presented an overview of the 2008 survey results in Member States, as laid down in Commission Decision 2008/840/EC. The Decision lays down EU emergency measures against *Anoplophora chinensis* (Chinese Long Horn Beetle or CLB). In 2008, CLB was found in a demarcated area in Italy and as isolated outbreaks in the Netherlands, Lithuania and UK.

5. **PRESENTATION BY THE COMMISSION (FVO) AND DISCUSSION ON THE RESULTS OF A MISSION TO CHINA CARRIED OUT FROM 02/02/09 TO 13/02/09 IN ORDER TO EVALUATE THE OFFICIAL CONTROL OF PLANTS EXPORTED TO THE EUROPEAN UNION WITH PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO MEASURES AGAINST *ANOPLOPHORA CHINENSIS* AND TO EVALUATE THE MEASURES TAKEN TO MEET EU REQUIREMENTS FOR WOOD PACKAGING MATERIAL.**

The Commission (FVO) presented the findings of the inspection mission. It appeared clearly from the presentation of the mission findings that the implementation of Decision 2008/840/EC is not carried out properly in China. Shortcomings have been identified not only as regards the growing conditions of CLB susceptible plants but also in the Chinese export certification system. This worrying situation was confirmed by several Member States in the Committee which emphasized on continued interceptions of CLB at import of consignments originating in China. The Committee insisted on the strict implementation of the existing measures.

**6. REVIEW OF DECISION 2008/840/EC ON EMERGENCY MEASURES TO PREVENT THE INTRODUCTION INTO AND THE SPREAD WITHIN THE COMMUNITY OF *ANOPLOPHORA CHINENSIS*.**

A first discussion on the review of Decision 2008/840/EC took place. The discussion will be continued in a forthcoming meeting of the Committee.

**7. PRESENTATION BY THE COMMISSION (FVO) AND DISCUSSION ON THE RESULTS OF SURVEYS CARRIED OUT IN 2008 BY MEMBER STATES ON THE PRESENCE OF PEPINO MOSAIC VIRUS.**

The Commission (FVO) presented an overview of the surveys organised by the MS for the presence of PMV on their territory in 2008, as laid down in Decision 2004/200/EC. It was noted that compared to 2007 the number of PepMV outbreaks in both fruit and plant for planting had considerably increased. Based on the reports received during 2008 the virus was found in ten Member States.

**8. PRESENTATION OF PEPEIRA-RESEARCH PROJECT CONCERNING PEPINO MOSAIC VIRUS BY THE PROJECT COORDINATOR.**

The project's objectives are to assess and model the economic impact that PepMV could have on European tomato crops, to examine the threat of new virus genotypes, to improve the understanding of PepMV epidemiology and to harmonize the risk management strategies. The project initially focused on the epidemiological characteristics of PepMV which indicated that today within each of the four recognised strains, exist both mild and "aggressive" isolates. Their biological differences can be associated to the severity of the infection, the morphological characteristics of the symptoms on fruits and leaves and their impact on the yield and the fruit quality. Four working packages including field trials to assess the economic impact have been developed. One of the deliverables of the project will be an EU-wide pest risk analysis produced according to the relevant ISPM guidelines which will cover tomato production by January of 2010.

**9. FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION ON BULGARIAN EMERGENCY MEASURES AGAINST WARE POTATOES IMPORTED FROM CERTAIN AREAS OF TURKEY AND CONTAMINATED BY *SYNCHYTRIUM ENDOBIOTICUM*.**

Postponed.

**10. FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION ON THE MEMBER STATES' SURVEY RESULTS FOR THE PRESENCE OF *RHYNCHOPHORUS FERRUGINEUS*, IN APPLICATION OF COMMISSION DECISION 2007/365/EC.**

Postponed.

11. **PRESENTATION BY THE COMMISSION AND DISCUSSION ON THE REQUEST OF USDA-APHIS OF 23 MARCH 2009 TO THE USDA-APHIS QUANTITATIVE PATHWAY ANALYSIS "THE LIKELIHOOD OF KARNAL BUNT, (*TILLETIA INDICA* M.), INTRODUCTION AS A RESULT OF THE IMPORTATION OF UNITED STATES WHEAT FOR GRAIN INTO THE EUROPEAN UNION AND DESERT DURUM WHEAT FOR GRAIN INTO ITALY" AS UPDATED IN APRIL 2008.**

Postponed.

12. **COMMISSION DECISION AMENDING DECISION 2006/133/EC REQUIRING MEMBER STATES TEMPORARILY TO TAKE ADDITIONAL MEASURES AGAINST THE DISSEMINATION OF *BURSAPHELENCHUS XYLOPHILUS* (STEINER ET BUHRER) NICKLE *ET AL.* (THE PINE WOOD NEMATODE) AS REGARDS AREAS IN PORTUGAL, OTHER THAN THOSE IN WHICH IT IS KNOWN NOT TO OCCUR.**

After a presentation by representatives of the wood packaging industry on the technical capacity for complying with the latest amendments of the pine wood nematode emergency measures, the Commission (SANCO E1) proposed a draft Decision providing for transitory measures to the obligation to treat and mark wood packaging material not originating from continental Portugal moving from continental Portugal to other areas in accordance with FAO International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures No 15. The Committee agreed to postpone the date of entry into force of the ISPM 15 compliance requirement for wood packaging material leaving continental Portugal but originating from outside the demarcated area until 1 January 2010.

Vote: favourable opinion by qualified majority. Official declarations were made at the vote by Austria (Annex 1), Denmark (Annex 2), Estonia (Annex 3), France (Annex 4) and Sweden (Annex 5).

**Annex 1 :**



P:\\_NEW FILING  
STRUCTURE\HARMFL

**Annex 2 :**



P:\\_NEW FILING  
STRUCTURE\HARMFL

**Annex 3 :**



P:\\_NEW FILING  
STRUCTURE\HARMFL

**Annex 4 :**



P:\\_NEW FILING  
STRUCTURE\HARMFL

**Annex 5 :**



P:\\_NEW FILING  
STRUCTURE\HARMFL