



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

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**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANT HEALTH ON
26-27 OCTOBER 2011**

Chair: Harry Arijs

All Member States present, except Luxembourg (absent and represented by Belgium) and Finland (absent and represented by Sweden). Switzerland was present as observer.

1. Miscellaneous.

The Netherlands informed the Committee of a finding of *Ralstonia solanacearum* in the potato variety Felsina. Additionally the Netherlands reported a high number of interceptions of citrus black spot in citrus fruit consignments originating in South Africa.

Slovenia reported the first finding on their territory of *Globodera pallida*. Also a suspicion of *Ralstonia solanacearum* infection of potatoes was reported. Slovenia also informed the Committee of their national emergency measures for Hop stunt viroid (HSV). Observation of first symptoms dates back to 2007.

The UK informed about their project on commodity risks of new trades to inform the ongoing review of the Plant Health Regime and requested other Member States' cooperation in this respect. The UK also reported an additional finding of *Phytophthora lateralis* in a natural environment.

Bulgaria reported a finding of Strawberry mild yellow-edge virus in strawberries and outbreaks in 4 districts outside their containment zone of *Diabrotica virgifera virgifera*.

2. Presentation of the report of the Working Group meeting on the Evaluation of Solidarity dossiers held on 14-15-16 June 2011.

As a follow-up to the Committee of September 2011, the Commission completed the presentation of the report of the working group "Examination of solidarity dossiers". Then it presented a non-paper laying down the EU possible co-financing in 2011 for the 19 dossiers introduced by 7 Member States (Germany, Spain, Italy, Cyprus, Malta, The Netherlands and Portugal).

The Commission also informed the Committee of the preparation of a new financing Decision for Portugal to cover expenditure for the implementation in 2006-2007 of a coniferous trees clear cut belt to control pinewood nematode.

3. Exchange of views on the request by the USDA-APHIS letter of 13/07/2011 concerning *Phytophthora ramorum* data on survey efforts and procedures for sampling and inspection.

An exchange of views on the request from USDA-APHIS took place. It was decided to convey the relevant information on the surveys carried out in the EU for *Phytophthora ramorum* and more detailed information on the sampling and inspection procedure after collecting it from the Member States.

4. Presentation by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) of the four scientific opinions listed below, followed by a discussion.

- Pest risk assessment of *Monilinia fructicola* for the EU territory and identification and evaluation of risk management options
- Scientific Opinion on the Pest Risk Analysis on *Phytophthora ramorum* prepared by the FP6 project RAPRA
- Scientific Opinion on a technical file submitted by the US Authorities to support a request to list a new option among the EU import requirements for wood of *Agrilus planipennis* host plants
- Scientific Opinion on the assessment of the risk of solanaceous pospiviroids for the EU territory and the identification and evaluation of risk management options

The four above-mentioned recently published scientific opinions of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) were presented by members of EFSA's Plant Health Panel. After the presentation of the each opinion the speakers answered questions from the Committee on the opinions.

5. Exchange of views on the interceptions at import of consignments of regulated products originating in Vietnam.

France presented an overview of the interceptions of plants and plant product imported from Vietnam. The Committee agreed that an action is needed to achieve promptly full compliance with the EU plant health import requirements.

6. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision authorising certain Member States to provide for temporary derogations from certain provisions of Council Directive 2000/29/EC in respect of seed potatoes originating in certain provinces of Canada. (Doc. SANCO/11916/2011) (Legal Base: Article 5 (1) of Council Directive 2000/29/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure)

The draft Implementing Decision, replacing Decision 2003/61/EC, was endorsed by the Committee. It will authorise certain Member States to provide for temporary derogations from certain provisions of the Directive 2000/29/EC in respect of seed potatoes originating in certain provinces of Canada for the next potato marketing seasons until 31 March 2014. Provisions including requirements for *Epitrix* species have been included

Vote: Qualified majority by 318 votes in favour, 27 abstentions.

7. **Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision authorising Member States temporarily to take emergency measures against the dissemination of *Ralstonia solanacearum* (Smith) Yabuuchi *et al.* as regards Egypt and repealing Decision 2004/4/EC. (Doc. SANCO/12229/2011) (Legal Base: Article 16 (3) of Council Directive 2000/29/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure)**

The draft Implementing Decision, replacing Decision 2004/4/EC, was endorsed by the Committee. It will neither include a general ban for Egyptian potatoes nor the automatic ban after a certain number of interceptions. Egypt would be solely responsible for its internal organisation and ensuring that potatoes exported to the Union are free from quarantine organisms. The Commission shall monitor closely the situation during the upcoming trading season/s and might consider more strict measures in cases where interceptions due to harmful organisms are notified.

Vote: Unanimity in favour

8. **Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on the Union position on the amendment of Article 5 and Appendix 1 to Annex 4 to the Agreement between the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on trade in agricultural products. (Doc. SANCO/11085/2011) (Legal Base: Article 5 (2) of Decision 2002/309/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure)**

Discussion postponed.

9. **Continued exchange of views on a draft Commission Implementing Decision as regards emergency measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Union of *Anoplophora chinensis* (Forster) and repealing Decision 2008/840/EC (Doc. SANCO/11099/2011) (Legal Base: Article 16.3 of Council Directive 2000/29/EC).**

An exchange of views was organised on the text for a draft Commission Decision as regards emergency measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Union of *Anoplophora chinensis*. The discussion will be continued.

10. **Exchange of views on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on a Union financial contribution for 2011 to cover expenditure incurred by Germany, Spain, Italy, Cyprus, Malta, The Netherlands and Portugal for the purpose of combating organisms harmful to plants or plant products (Doc. SANCO/12138/2011) (Legal Base: Article 23 (5) of Council Directive 2000/29/EC).**

The Commission presented a non-paper laying down the EU possible co-financing in 2011 for the 19 dossiers introduced by 7 Member States (Germany, Spain, Italy, Cyprus, Malta, The Netherlands and Portugal). That document, as well as the draft financing Decision for Portugal referred to in point 2 above, will be submitted to a meeting of the Committee at mid-November, in view of a possible opinion.