



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
29-30 SEPTEMBER 2011**

Chair: Harry Arijs

All Member States present, except Denmark (30/09) and Luxembourg. Switzerland was present as observer.

1. Miscellaneous

The UK reported of the finding of a single *Anoplophora chinensis* beetle in Greater Manchester. An *Acer palmatum* host plant with a single exit hole could be identified. The UK also reported new outbreaks of *Phytophthora lateralis* on *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana* in Northern Ireland and a new single finding in England.

The Netherlands informed the Committee of the finding of an *Anoplophora chinensis* exit hole in an *Acer palmatum* plant originating in China which had been planted last year. The Netherlands also reported the suspected occurrence of *Clavibacter michiganensis* subsp. *sepedonicus* in a ware potato lot.

Cyprus reported the finding of *Opogona sacchari* on ornamental plants in the warehouses of two traders. Cyprus also reported the finding of *Paysandisia archon* on four different palm species in two different warehouses of the same trader. The palm trees originated in Israel, Italy and the Netherlands.

France provided an update on the results of the 2011 national survey for *Diabrotica virgifera virgifera* in its territory.

The Czech Republic reported two findings of *Phytophthora ramorum*, in plants of *Pieris japonica* and *Rhododendron* sp., for the final consumer, originating in the Netherlands.

Germany provided an update on the results of the 2011 national survey for *Diabrotica virgifera virgifera* in its territory. Germany also reported the finding of an *Anoplophora chinensis* beetle in Bavaria. An *Anoplophora glabripennis* beetle was found in Bavaria, at a company trading granite stones originating in China. Another *Anoplophora glabripennis* beetle was found in Baden-Württemberg, also at a company trading Chinese stones.

Switzerland reported the first finding of an *Anoplophora glabripennis* beetle in its territory, probably introduced with a consignment of stones originating in China. Switzerland also reported the finding of *Dryocosmus kuriphilus* on *Castanea sativa* in several nurseries.

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

The Commission made a first presentation of the report of the working group "Examination of solidarity dossiers". The Working Group examined 19 dossiers introduced by seven different Member States (6 dossiers from The Netherlands, 4 dossiers from Italy, 3 dossiers from Spain, 2 dossiers from Germany and Portugal, 1 dossier from Cyprus and Malta) in support of their requests for allocation of a Union financial contribution (contribution based on articles 22 and 23 of Directive 2000/29/EC and also known as "solidarity") to cover expenditures incurred for the purpose of combating organisms harmful to plants or plant products.

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.

Postponed.

4. Exchange of views and possible opinion on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2003/61/EC 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 exchange of views continued on the draft Commission Implementing Decision for the extension of the derogation of seed potatoes originating in certain provinces of Canada. The Committee agreed to include specific requirements for some species of *Epitrix spp.* The discussion will be continued in the next SCPH.

5. 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). (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure)

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

- 6. Continued exchange of views on the import of Egyptian potatoes in relation to Decision 2004/4/EC and the dossier for the upcoming season.** (Doc. SANCO/12229/2011) (Legal Base: Article 16 (3) of Council Directive 2000/29/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure)

Guarantees and clarification supplied by Egypt on the new Egyptian control regime for the production and export of ware potatoes to the European Union was discussed. It received a positive welcome. The draft Implementing Decision was presented by the Commission which would neither include a general ban for Egyptian potatoes nor the automatic ban after a certain number of interceptions. The measures would be limited mainly to adequate labelling for traceability reasons and thorough import control at the Union border. Egypt would be solely responsible for its internal organisation and ensuring that potatoes exported to the Union are free from quarantine organisms.

- 7. Exchange of views on 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)

As a follow-up to a Working Group held on 1 April 2011 with Member States and Swiss colleagues, dealing with issues linked to the abolition of plant health checks between the Union and Switzerland, a first discussion took place on a draft Commission Implementing Decision laying down provisions for such abolition of controls.