

ANNEX

Response of the Competent Authorities of Latvia to the recommendations of Report ref. DG(SANCO)/2013-6761-MR of an audit carried out from 19 to 27 February 2013 in order to evaluate the control of residues and contaminants in live animals and animal products including the monitoring and control of dioxins, furans and PCBs in fish from the Baltic region

N°.	Recommendation	Action Proposed by the Competent Authority
1	To implement suspect sampling systematically in line with the requirements of Article 24 of Council Directive 96/23/EC.	<p>FVS has requested additional financing from the Ministry of Agriculture in January 2013 in order to perform the testing of suspecting samples.</p> <p>Update received from CA 19 September 2013 CA 12.07.2013. CA will secure the testing of suspecting samples from 1 January 2014 within the allocated state budget.</p>
2	To ensure that laboratory turnaround times from the delivery of samples to the reporting of results are short enough to allow for effective follow-up in the case of non-compliant results in line with the requirements of Articles 16-19 of Council Directive 96/23/EC.	<p>Since 01.03.2013. the agreed turnaround times for residue samples are checked weekly using the database JUNDA.</p> <p>Update received from CA 19 September 2013 CA 12.07.2013. The Competent Authority will follow the execution of agreed turn – around times and in case of exceeding of target values the director of BIOR will be informed with applying of following possibilities to postpone a payment for delayed analysis. The possibility of shortening of targeted turn-around</p>

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		times will be evaluated at BIOR in September 1st 2013, when information of 9 months will be summarized and new GC/MS/MS system will be installed.
3	To ensure that analytical methods for residues of pharmacologically active substances are validated in accordance with the requirements laid down in Articles 3, 4, 5 and 6 of Commission Decision 2002/657/EC, in particular that methods are validated in matrices appropriate to the samples to be tested and with critical concentrations calculated and applied as appropriate to screening and confirmatory analyses.	The laboratory internal procedure DC-RI-M90 for the validation will be extended with detailed instructions about calculation of critical concentration for screening and confirmatory analyses. Deadline for implementation of new procedure is 01.07.2013. The following dead-lines are set for validation of methods with extended list of matrices: Nitrofurans – until 01.10.2013. Chloramphenicol – until 01.09.2013. Antibiotics – until 01.12.2013.
4	To ensure that official controls, carried out to verify compliance with national measures aimed at ensuring that herring and sprat from the Baltic Sea placed on the EU market comply with EU maximum levels for dioxins	FVS has requested additional financing from the Ministry of Agriculture in January 2013 in order to perform the monitoring of the levels for dioxins and PCBs and secure the effective control in all steps of processing and delivery. FVS has informed all fish processing enterprises (a

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	<p>and PCBs, are effective in achieving this aim for fish intended for human consumption, as required by Article 4.2(a) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.</p>	<p>letter from 08.03.2013.) and TSUs on high risk level of dioxins in fat fish cached in the Baltic sea and the Riga Bay as well as has suggested the action how to avoid from the placing on the market contaminated production.</p> <p>According to the Order of the FVS from 03.03.2013. the control of the production from cod liver should be reinforced.</p> <p>FVS has repeatedly informed the inspectors of necessity to perform the traceability control of fish products that could contain too high level of dioxins and PCBs and to be sure that these products are not placed on the market.</p> <p>Update received from CA 19 September 2013 CA 12.07.2013. Basing on the order of FVS (3.03.2013.) to verify the effectiveness of the control of dioxins the inspectors will devote a special attention to how the BO follow the instruction. And additionally the field managers from central level will check the food inspectors weather they act according the procedure.</p>