

**ANNEX**

Response of the Competent Authorities of Italy to the recommendations of Report ref. DG(SANCO)/2013-6899 -MR of a/an audit carried out from 04 November 2013 to 08 November 2013 in order to evaluate the use of the TRACES system.

N°	Recommendation	Action Proposed by the Competent Authority
1	<p>To ensure that all LVUs enter the required data into TRACES, including relevant official controls at abattoirs and control posts and controls on consignments which require confirmation of receipt at destination, e.g. Intra-EU movements of certain animal by-products, channelled or re-imported consignments as required by Decision 2004/292/EC, to improve communication between Member States on the arrival of goods as well as the traceability of such consignments.</p>	<p>In relation to import of consignments of veterinary interest subject to canalization procedures (e.g. re-importation etc.), guidance in the guidelines of BIPs published in the website of Ministry of Health have been added.  <a href="http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/ministero/file/archivio%202013/n linee%20guida%20procedure%20pif/NUOVOPROCEDURE2013.pdf">http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/ministero/file/archivio%202013/n linee%20guida%20procedure%20pif/NUOVOPROCEDURE2013.pdf</a></p> <p>In particular, at Chapter 5.7, point 7.1 of page 58 of the above mentioned Guidelines, is established that the LVU involved must confirm through TRACES system the arrival at destination of canalized consignments. The application of such instructions is regularly verified and it will be verified also in the future during the Audit of the Competent Authority at BIPs.</p> <p>Moreover, written instructions will be quickly provided to the competent Local Veterinary Units in order to enter the requested data into TRACES system at the level of staging points for animal welfare during transports.</p> <p>Moreover, in order to improve the use of TRACES on National territory the office of the Ministry of Health responsible for training, has planned the following training courses, that will be held in the period 2014-2015 (Piano Formazione DSVETOC – Annex 2 and Annex 2 bis )</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Specific course for teachers:</b> teachers will be identified among the staff in peripheral offices and teaching materials and methodology trainer will be provided to them, in order to make uniform training throughout the</li> </ul>

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		<p>country. This staff will be involved in the formation of TRACES on the territory.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Courses for Border Inspection Posts:</b> updating about changes in TRACES system.</li> <li>➤ <b>Courses for UVAC (Veterinary Offices for Community affairs) and LVU :</b> The course, will be itinerant and will aim to solve the problems emerged during the FVO Audit.</li> </ul>
2	To establish contingency measures in the event that access to TRACES is unavailable for an extended period of time, as required by Article 4.2(f) of Regulation No 882/2004.	<p>An emergency plan in case of prolonged unavailability of the website of TRACES have been prepared and sent to BIPs (Annex 3).</p> <p>The preparation of an emergency plan for LVU is ongoing.</p>
3	To ensure that the system for verification covers effectively the use of TRACES, especially in LVUs, and contributes to the improvement of the related official controls , as required by Articles 4.2(a) and 8.3 of Regulation No 882/2004.	<p>Audits that the Ministry of Health regularly performs at the Regions and UVL, starting from the current year will also include the verification of the correct use of TRACES. For this purpose a special refresher course on TRACES addressed to the auditors of the sectors concerned will be created (Letter ref. DSVETOC 0001195-P- 27/02/2014 - Annex 4).</p>