

**Competent Authorities response received on 17 May 2011**

ANNEX

**Response of the Competent Authorities of Romania to the recommendations of Report ref. DG(SANCO)/2011-8950-MR carried out from 07 to 18 February 2011 in order to evaluate measures concerning Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE)**

<i>N°.</i>	<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Action Proposed by the Competent Authority</i>
1	To continue to develop the cattle database, so that it can become a useful tool for monitoring the implementation of BSE epidemio-surveillance required by Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001.	<p>Given that during the mission DG (SANCO) 2011-8950 found the usefulness of the reports referred to in 5.3.1, fifth paragraph, for supervise and control the BSE, we created the possibility to extract this reports from the central and the county level.</p> <p>The National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority has created the possibility of extracting reports from the National Data Base that are available to personnel involved in the supervision and control of BSE. From the national database will be extracted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Reports of dead or slaughtered cattle need a certain location, the farm where the event occurred and the period of time;</li> <li>-Reports cattle farms selected by age.</li> </ul>
2	To ensure that all eligible bovine animals slaughtered at farm level are subject to BSE monitoring, in line with the provisions laid down in Annex III (Chapter A, point 2.1 and point 2.2) to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001.	<p><b>GSVD</b> will organize a working group with representatives from the ICD, HVED and from the counties where the slaughter for own consumption of bovines has been reported, as a consequence of this event in NDB.</p> <p>The objective of this working group will be drafting a guide for owners regarding the slaughter for own consumption of bovines that will be based on the draft order for approval of minimum operating conditions of low capacity slaughterhouses. The slaughter for own consumption will be allowed only in low capacity slaughterhouses.</p> <p>A service note will be develop which will be sent to county SVFSD, by which they will be requested to verify the reality of cases for bovine slaughter in backyard farms, operated as own consumption slaughtered in the national database, and depending on age, the line with data on tests conducted for BSE surveillance.</p>

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3	To ensure that fallen bovine animals are subject to BSE monitoring, in line with the provisions laid down in Annex III (Chapter A, point 3) to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001.	<p>By service note no. 4151/4.04.2011, GSVD sent instructions to the county SVFSD with regards to the targets for testing of the categories subject to BSE testing, including dead bovines over 24 months. This targets for testing of dead bovines over 24 months have been settled taking into account the bovine population over 24 months of each county and the percentage of mortality.</p> <p>By service note no. 4151/4.04.2011, GSVD sent to the county SVFSD the list of holdings with bovines aged over 12 years, extracted from the NDB, and requested the county SVFSD to dispose supervisory measures by the official zonal veterinarian in order to meet the targets for testing and also in order not to miss animals from sampling.</p> <p>GSVD sent also ICD by letter no. 1221/04.04.2011 the list of holdings with bovine animals aged over 12 years, extracted from the BND, in order to include these data in the national plan of inspections.</p> <p>A service note will be develop which will be sent to county SVFSD, by which they will be requested to verify the reality of bovines operated as dead in NDB, and depending on age, also to verify the line with data on tests conducted for BSE surveillance in respect to this target group, especially for those registered in backyard farms. Also, by this service note an inspection procedure will be sent.</p>
4	To ensure that the measures taken following BSE suspicion are in line with the provisions laid down by Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001.	<p>By service note no. 4151/4.04.2011, GSVD sent a procedure to be applied in case of BSE suspicion, which includes the steps and measures to be followed and also the responsibilities of the owners, of the empowered free practice veterinarians, of the official zonal veterinarian, and of the county SVFSD.</p> <p>By this procedure county SVFSD were requested to organize and implement a system for notification of any illness so that the owner can easily tell such cases. (e.g. putting a <b>poster</b> in the city hall, the prefecture, the sanitary veterinary and food safety circuit or any other locations where animal owners have access, with the contact details and telephone number of a person designated to respond permanently or create a <b>number of call center</b> to be disseminated in the media so that the information reach also the animals owner). Also, in this procedure the county SVFSD were requested that, in</p>

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		<p>case an animal is suspected of BSE, any checks in this regard should be documented by stating clearly in writing the checks carried out when performing the epidemiological enquiry by county SVFSD together with the official zonal veterinarian, especially with regards to placing restrictions on the holding of origin or other holdings suspected of being infected with BSE, to cohort and to feed controls in the holding of origin or other holdings placed under restrictions due to BSE suspicion.</p>
5	<p>To ensure that SRM produced as a result of home slaughtering of bovine animals, are collected, transported and disposed of in compliance with requirements set out in Article 8.1 and Annex V to Regulation (EC) 999/2001.</p>	<p><b>GSVD</b> will organize a working group with representatives from the ICD, HVED and from the counties where the slaughter for own consumption of bovines has been reported, as a consequence of this event in NDB.</p> <p>The objective of this working group will be drafting a guide for owners regarding the slaughter for own consumption of bovines that will be based on the draft order for approval of minimum operating conditions of low capacity slaughterhouses. The slaughter for own consumption will be allowed only in low capacity slaughterhouses.</p> <p>According to Art. 3. par.(2), letter v) of the draft order for approval of minimum operating conditions of low-capacity slaughterhouses is regulated that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. animal by-products must be collected in a hygienic manner for each unit.</li> <li>2. whether within the same unit animals of several species are slaughter, and animal by-products generated fall into different risk categories, they must be collected separately according to regulations in the field.</li> <li>3. the use of a single container may be approved, in these case the animal by-products not intended for human consumption are classified in the category with the highest risk.</li> </ol>
6	<p>To take account of the reliability of the operators' own-checks for the organization of the official controls concerning the feed ban, as required by Article 3 of</p>	<p>In february 2011, from central level was sent to County Directorates the service note no. 4100, wich request verification and certification of own control programms in all feed meals which produces feedingstuffs for producing animals food.</p>

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	Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.	<p>Within self-control programs will be taken samples for physico-chemical, microbiological, toxicological laboratory testing, contaminants and residue determinations, including homogeneity test and <b>microscopic examination to identify the constituents of animal origin</b>, depending on the type of raw materials used, feed produced and species for which feed is intended.</p> <p>The results of laboratory testing analyses within own control programs will be taken into account for drawing up the Feed Numerical Control Plan for next years, in conformity with the Programme of the surveillance, prevention and control of animal disease, those transmitted from animals to humans, animal welfare and environmental protection -Section Sanitary Veterinary Expertise of Feed.</p> <p>Thus, the frequency of samples taken within the Feed Numerical Control Program for monitoring feed ban will be increased for next year and that unit will be subject of a intensified official controls.</p>