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FINAL REPORT OF AN AUDIT  
CARRIED OUT IN  
POLAND  
FROM 09 MARCH 2015 TO 13 MARCH 2015  
IN ORDER TO  
EVALUATE THE ANIMAL WELFARE CONTROLS IN PLACE AT SLAUGHTER AND  
DURING RELATED OPERATIONS

*In response to information provided by the Competent Authority, any factual error noted in the draft report has been corrected; any clarification appears in the form of a footnote.*

## ***Executive Summary***

*This audit took place in Poland from 9 to 13 March 2015 to evaluate the effectiveness of controls in ensuring animals are spared any avoidable pain, distress or suffering during their killing and related operations, as required by Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009. In particular: the assurances given by official controls regarding the business operators' compliance with applicable requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009; whether official controls are carried out in accordance with the relevant requirements of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 and are suitable to ensure the effective implementation of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009 and Member State's and Competent Authorities' compliance with requirements such as guides to good practice, scientific support and certificates of competence and the effectiveness of implementation of those requirements.*

*In addition to the main objective, and as the official controls in slaughterhouses contribute to controls on animal welfare on farms and welfare during transport, the audit also evaluated whether: indications of poor welfare conditions of chickens kept for the production of meat are being detected at slaughterhouse level; only animals which are fit for transport are sent to slaughterhouses, and whether this is supported by "emergency slaughter" on farm. Furthermore the audit sought to identify good practices recognised by the Competent Authorities in relation to Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009.*

*The report concludes that business operators' compliance with the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009 is high. This has been facilitated by the early actions undertaken by the competent authority and the effective official controls being carried out by the local and regional competent authorities. Controls are similarly effective in detecting, and acting upon, cases of unfit animals arriving at slaughterhouses.*

*Although the system for the training, examination and provision of certificates of competence is not in place, the system put in place for previous national training requirements ensures that persons slaughtering animals possess basic competences.*

*Official controls are effective in detecting and acting on non-compliances although there is some area for improvement regarding the verification of effectiveness of these controls for the purposes of identifying key issues and areas for improvement.*

*The system that is to be implemented for the monitoring of welfare indicators of broilers at slaughterhouses takes into account the main animal based indicators but there is a risk of having only limited impact on the welfare conditions in farms.*

*The report makes a number of recommendations to the Polish authorities to address the deficiencies noted.*

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## ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS USED IN THIS REPORT

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
AWO	Animal Welfare Officer
BO	Business Operator
CA	Competent Authority
CCA	Central Competent Authority – the General Veterinary Inspectorate ( <i>Główny Inspektorat Weterynarii</i> )
CDMR	Cumulative Daily Mortality Rate
DVO	District Veterinary Office
EU	European Union
FVO	Food and Veterinary Office
OV	Official Veterinarian
RVO	Regional Veterinary Office
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure

## 1 INTRODUCTION

This audit took place in Poland from 9 to 13 March 2015 as part of the planned audit programme of the Food and Veterinary Office (FVO). An opening meeting was held with the Polish competent authorities on 9 March 2015. At this meeting, the objectives of, and itinerary for, the audit were confirmed by the audit team and additional information required for the satisfactory completion of the audit was requested.

The audit team comprised two auditors from the FVO and was accompanied throughout the audit by representatives from the Central Competent Authority (CCA) – the General Veterinary Inspectorate (*Główny Inspektorat Weterynarii*).

## 2 OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the audit was to evaluate the effectiveness of official controls on business operators to ensure animals are spared any avoidable pain, distress, or suffering during their killing and related operations, in particular:

- The assurances given by official controls regarding the business operators' compliance with applicable requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009 and the business operators' level of compliance;
- Whether official controls on animal welfare at the time of killing, carried out in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 882/2004, are suitable to ensure the effective implementation of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009; and
- The Member State's and Competent Authorities' compliance with specific requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009, such as guides to good practice, scientific support and certificates of competence and the effectiveness of the implementation of those requirements.

In addition to the main objective, and as the official controls in slaughterhouses contribute to controls on animal welfare on farms and welfare during transport, the audit also evaluated whether:

- Indications of poor welfare conditions of chickens kept for the production of meat are being detected at slaughterhouse level and subsequently reported and acted on as required by Article 3 and Annex III of Directive 2007/43/EC; and
- Only animals which are fit for transport are sent to slaughterhouses, as required by Article 3 and Chapter I of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1/2005, and whether this is supported by the implementation of procedures in Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 Annex III Section I Chapter VI, which facilitates the killing of "emergency slaughter" animals on farm and their carcasses sent to the slaughterhouse.

Furthermore the audit sought to identify good practices recognised by the Competent Authorities in relation to Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009.

In pursuit of the objectives, the following sites were visited:

<b>Meetings with Competent Authorities</b>			<b>Comments</b>
Competent authority	Central	3	Opening and closing meetings and one further meeting with representatives of the CCA
	Other	3	Three meetings with representatives of three District Veterinary Offices (DVOs) and the respective Regional Veterinary Offices (RVOs) of Malopolskie, Mazowieckie and Swietokryskie
Slaughterhouses		3	One poultry slaughterhouse using electrical waterbath stunning and two red meat slaughterhouses

### **3 LEGAL BASIS**

The audit was carried out under the general provisions of EU legislation and, in particular Article 45 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules.

EU legal acts quoted in this report are provided in Annex 1 and refer, where applicable, to the last amended version.

### **4 BACKGROUND**

Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009 (hereafter "the Regulation") applies from 1 January 2013 in all EU Member States and repeals the previous EU legislation Council Directive 93/119/EC, which was applicable in all Member States from 1995. The Regulation lays down rules for the killing of animals bred or kept for the production of food, wool, skin, fur or other products as well as the killing of animals for the purpose of depopulation and for related operations.

The Regulation requires a stronger system of Business Operator (BO) supervision than was previously the case, in particular regarding the layout, construction and equipment of slaughterhouses, handling and restraining of animals and stunning and slaughter. An animal welfare officer (AWO) is required to supervise operations and report directly to the BO. The manufacturers and/or retailers of restraining and stunning equipment must provide operating and maintenance instructions with all equipment sold. Competent Authorities (CAs) are required to ensure that appropriate courses leading to Certificates of Competence are available to relevant slaughterhouse staff and that guides to good practice are available to operators.

National legislation was being drafted in Poland to ban the slaughter of animals without prior stunning as from 2013. In December 2014 the Constitutional Court in Poland ruled that the ritual slaughter of animals should be allowed on the grounds of religious freedom. The slaughter of animals without prior stunning has been removed from the scope of this audit due to these recent changes.

## 5 FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

### 5.1 FRAMEWORK FOR CONTROLS

#### *5.1.1 Competent authorities involved*

##### **Legal requirements**

Articles 4(1), 4(3) and 4(5) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.

Article 21 of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009.

##### **Findings**

1. The organisation of the CA is described in the country profile, which is available at:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/country\\_profiles/details.cfm?co\\_id=PL](http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/country_profiles/details.cfm?co_id=PL)
2. The CCA is not complying with the requirements of Article 21 of the Regulation to:
  - ensure that training courses are available for personnel involved in killing and related operations (Article 21(1)(a));
  - deliver certificates of competence attesting the passing of an independent final examination (Article 21(1)(b));
  - approve training programmes of the courses (Article 21(1)(c)).

The CCA explained that the legal basis to implement these requirements is in a draft national law which is ready to be adopted except for one controversial issue. This law also bans the slaughter of animals without prior stunning and this ban has been challenged by stakeholders. The issue was brought to the Constitutional Court which suspended the application of certain provisions of the Animal Welfare Act that were directly related to the prohibition on the slaughter of animals without stunning. As a consequence the publication of the draft law implementing the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009 was suspended.

#### *5.1.2 Scientific support, guides to good practice and provision of certificates of competence*

##### **Legal requirements**

Articles 13, 20, 21 and 29(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009.

##### **Findings**

3. The CCA informed the audit team that:
  - it had not identified scientific support for the purposes of Article 20 of the Regulation;

- at the time of the audit it had not been contacted by stakeholder organisations to assess guides to good practice to facilitate the implementation of the Regulation;
- although the system for training and provision of certificates of competence, as required by Article 21(1) of the Regulation, is not yet in place new personnel involved in the slaughter of animals and related operations are required to undergo three months practical training in the slaughterhouse of employment. A certificate of training is issued by the local CA at the end of this training.

### **Conclusions on framework for controls**

4. The ruling of the Constitutional Court of Poland against the prohibition of ritual slaughter has delayed the CCA's compliance with the requirements of the Regulation regarding guides to good practice, scientific support for both the CAs and the BOs, and a system for the training, examination for and provision of certificates of competence. Although the three months' obligatory practical training provides a certain level of assurance that persons involved in the slaughter of animals have the required skills in these practices it does not provide full compliance with the training requirements of the Regulation.

## **5.2 PLANNING OF OFFICIAL CONTROLS**

### **Legal requirements**

Articles 3, 41 and 42 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.

Article 4(9) of Regulation (EC) No 854/2004.

### **Findings**

5. The CCA issued instructions on the procedures for carrying out inspections on animal welfare in slaughterhouses at the beginning of 2013. These instructions:
  - also provide checklists for carrying out official controls on the implementation of the Regulation;
  - had been identified as a best practice document during the desk study on documented procedures for official controls and guides to good practice on Council Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009 on the protection of animals at the time of killing (DG(SANCO) 2013-7124)<sup>1</sup>;
  - require the official veterinarians (OVs) working in slaughterhouses to regularly supervise the BOs' activities.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/overview\\_reports/details.cfm?rep\\_id=60](http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/overview_reports/details.cfm?rep_id=60)

6. Under these instructions the DVOs are to carry out controls in 20% of the slaughterhouses in their territory, with a minimum of four slaughterhouses, each year:
  - These inspections also serve to verify the effectiveness of the activities of the OV's in slaughterhouses.
  - The selection criteria of the slaughterhouses to control is based upon the BO's past record of non-compliance, the absence of reports of non-compliances from the OV's working at the slaughterhouse, and the presence of a new OV working at the slaughterhouse. These criteria do not identify particular operations (stunning methods, animal species or categories) to be of a higher risk for animal welfare.
  - The DVOs visited had carried out a higher proportion of controls in 2013 and 2014. The DVO representatives indicated that the novelty of the Regulation could cause a high level of BO non-compliances and thus be a risk to animal welfare.

#### **Conclusions on planning of official controls**

7. There is a risk-based system of official controls although no particular slaughtering activities, such as certain stunning methods or animal species or categories, have been identified to be of a higher risk to animal welfare. In addition CAs have autonomously increased the frequency of their controls to ensure a broader BO compliance to the new requirements of the Regulation.

### **5.3 OFFICIAL CONTROLS ON BUSINESS OPERATOR'S OBLIGATIONS**

#### **Legal requirements**

Articles 8, 9 and 10(2)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.

Article 5(1)(c) and Section I, Annex I, to Regulation (EC) No 854/2004.

Article 6 and 17 of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009.

#### **Findings**

8. The CCA informed the audit team that it had been engaged in activities to prepare BOs for the implementation of the Regulation since 2011. These activities included: organizing and participating in meetings with stakeholders to inform them of the new requirements, and training of OV's.
9. Inspections carried out by OV's at slaughterhouses and DVOs were recorded using the checklists provided in the instructions issued by the CCA, as required by Articles 8 and 9 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.
10. BOs of the slaughterhouses visited by the audit team had designated AWOs, as required by Article 17(1) of the Regulation.

11. Standard operating procedures (SOPs) seen by the audit team were in compliance with the requirements of Article 6 of the Regulation. These included the planning of the arrival of animals, correct use of stunning equipment and indication of relevant key parameters, signs of consciousness, sample sizes for monitoring checks and the frequency of these checks. These SOPs have been reviewed and updated by the BOs and the AWOs appointed by them and checked by the CAs.

### **Conclusions on official controls on business operator's obligations**

12. CAs are following documented procedures to carry out official controls on animal welfare at slaughter. This ensures that all the welfare requirements from both the operational and the documentary aspects of the BOs' activities are controlled.
13. AWOs have appointed to help BOs comply with the requirements of the Regulation, and have set up procedures for operators to follow in order to spare the animals unnecessary suffering at the time of slaughter.

#### *5.3.1 Killing animals in slaughterhouses*

##### *5.3.1.1 Layout, construction, equipment and approval of slaughterhouses*

#### **Legal requirements**

Articles 8, 14 and 29(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009.

Article 31(2) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.

Article 4(3) of Regulation (EC) No 853/2004.

#### **Findings**

14. The slaughterhouse layout and equipment seen by the audit team was generally in compliance with the requirements of Annex II of the Regulation.
15. In one of the red meat slaughterhouses visited the restraining box was too big for the size of some of the animals and the BO and the CAs concerned were aware that this would have to be changed by 8 December 2019, as envisaged by Article 29(1) of the Regulation.
16. The audit team noted that in the poultry slaughterhouse visited a breast plate going from the point of shackling to the point of entry into the waterbath stunner and a new control panel for the waterbath stunning device capable of recording key electrical parameters had been installed well in advance to the required deadline. These two requirements will apply to that slaughterhouse as from 8 December 2019, as indicated in Article 29(1) of the Regulation.
17. The digital records kept in the poultry slaughterhouse visited were being used by the DVO and RVO to verify compliance with key parameters of Annex I of the Regulation but not by the BO e.g. to analyse the data or look out for any anomalies

that may indicate early malfunctioning of the equipment.

#### *5.3.1.2 Handling and restraining operations at slaughterhouses*

##### **Legal requirements**

Articles 9 and 15 of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009.

##### **Findings**

18. Handling and restraining operations in the three slaughterhouses visited were carried out according to the requirements of Articles 9 and 15 of the Regulation.

#### *5.3.1.3 Stunning methods and checks on stunning*

##### **Legal requirements**

Articles 5, 9 and 16, and Annex I of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009.

##### **Findings**

19. In the slaughterhouses visited:

- animals were stunned following the SOPs using stunning methods and parameters listed in Annex I of the Regulation.;
- operators were regularly checking the animals for signs of consciousness in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the stun, as required by Article 5 of the Regulation;
- backup stunning equipment was immediately available on the spot, as required by Article 9(2) of the Regulation;
- AWOs were implementing the monitoring procedures on the effectiveness of the stunning, as required by Article 16 of the Regulation.

20. In the poultry slaughterhouse, records of the key electrical parameters used in the waterbath stunner were being kept by the BO, as required by Point 5.10 of Annex II of the Regulation.

### **Conclusions on killing animals in slaughterhouses**

21. There is a high level of BO compliance with the requirements of the Regulation which has been facilitated by the early actions undertaken by the CCA since 2011. This provides assurances that animals are spared any avoidable pain, distress, or suffering during slaughter.

### 5.3.2 Killing animals outside slaughterhouses

#### **Legal requirements**

Articles 6 and 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009.

#### **Findings**

22. The CCA indicated that, according to the Act of 21 August 1997 on the protection of animals, the emergency killing on farm of non-productive animals that are unfit for human consumption is performed by a veterinarian. It has therefore not issued instructions to farmers in this regard.

#### 5.3.2.1 *Emergency slaughter outside the slaughterhouse*

#### **Legal requirements**

Article 3 and Chapter I of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1/2005.

Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 Annex III Section I Chapter VI.

#### **Findings**

23. According to the data collected by the CCA there are limited numbers of reported cases of animals unfit for transport arriving in slaughterhouses. :
- In one of the regions visited by the audit team the incidence had fallen by 60% between 2013 and 2014. During the same period the number of animals emergency slaughtered on farm in this region increased by 235%. The slaughterhouse visited in this region offered an on-farm emergency slaughter service to holdings located in the region and in neighbouring regions;
  - In another region visited by the audit team there were no reported cases of animals unfit for transport arriving in slaughterhouses.
24. The audit team reviewed official reports of animals unfit for transport arriving at slaughterhouses and the flow of this information from the OV at the slaughterhouse to the supervising DVO and the subsequent actions taken (investigation, collection of information, and communication with other DVOs).

#### **Conclusion on killing animals outside slaughterhouses**

25. Official controls are detecting, and following-up, cases of unfit animals arriving at slaughterhouses. These controls, in conjunction with the possibility to emergency slaughter animals on farm are reducing the incidence of unfit animals transported to slaughterhouses.

## **5.4 MONITORING OF BROILER WELFARE AT THE SLAUGHTERHOUSE AND FOLLOW UP**

### **Legal requirements**

Article 3(1)(b) and Point 3 of Annex III of Directive 2007/43/EC.

### **Findings**

26. A document indicating the daily mortality rate, cumulative daily mortality rate (CDMR), and the hybrid or breed of the birds accompanies broilers, originating from flocks with stocking densities above 33kg/m<sup>2</sup>, to the slaughterhouse, as required by Point 1.1 of Annex III of Directive 2007/43/EC.
27. The CCA had very recently issued detailed instructions for OV's working in poultry slaughterhouses to monitor animal welfare indicators in broilers as required by Point 2 of Annex III of Directive 2007/43/EC. These instructions include the evaluation of samples of chicken's feet for footpad dermatitis and a relevant scoring system with two trigger levels of action depending on the severity of the welfare conditions of the birds:
  - A trigger level for average welfare conditions, in which the OV at the slaughterhouse reports the findings to the supervising DVO. This information is kept at the supervising DVO and only communicated to the DVO of the farm of origin if a second notification is made.
  - A trigger level of poor welfare conditions, in which the OV at the slaughterhouse reports the findings to the supervising DVO. The DVO in turn communicates the findings to the DVO of the farm of origin for necessary action.
28. A cumulative daily mortality rate of more than 5% triggers a notification of poor welfare conditions. This value is significantly higher than the maximum permitted CDMR in poultry flocks being kept at stocking densities between 39 and 42 kg/m<sup>2</sup>, as indicated in Point 1(c) of Annex V of Directive 2007/43/EC.
29. The data collected in the slaughterhouses on the welfare indicators of broilers is kept at the slaughterhouse unless this requires action according to the trigger system.

### **Conclusions on monitoring of broiler welfare at the slaughterhouse and follow up**

30. The system that has started being implemented for the monitoring of welfare indicators of broilers at slaughterhouses takes into account the main animal based indicators but there is a risk of having only limited impact on the welfare conditions in farms. This is due to the high trigger values for the CDMR and the lack of availability of this data at the CAs where this matters, namely the DVO of the farm of origin and the CCA.

## **5.5 ACTIONS TAKEN IN CASE OF NON-COMPLIANCE**

### **Legal requirements**

Articles 22 and 23 of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009.

### **Findings**

31. The audit team reviewed CA reports where non-compliances have been detected and corrective action requests, including those indicated in Article 22 of the Regulation, were made to the BOs. Follow-up reports indicated that BOs implemented these corrective actions.

### **Conclusions on actions taken in case of non-compliance**

32. The controls being carried out by the local and regional CAs are effectively detecting non-compliances and taking the relevant necessary enforcement action in order to ensuring BO compliance with the requirements of the Regulation and spare the animals any avoidable pain, distress, or suffering during slaughter.

## **5.6 EVALUATION AND REVIEW OF OFFICIAL CONTROLS**

### **Legal requirements**

Articles 4(6) and 8(3) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.

### **Findings**

33. Audits carried out by the RVOs on the DVOs include documentary checks and shadow inspections on all areas of activity of the establishment selected, including animal welfare at slaughter when this is a slaughterhouse.
34. The DVOs send bi-annual reports to the RVOs which are structured so as to provide:
- the number of SHs in the district, and number of those inspected;
  - the number of SHs where non-compliances have been detected;
  - the type and number of non-compliances found;
  - the number and type of corrective action taken for each non-compliance listed and number of follow-up visits carried out for this non-compliance.
35. When analysing these reports it is not possible to identify repeat offenders, trends in non-compliances in slaughterhouses of specific characteristics (throughput, species slaughtered, stunning method, etc.). Furthermore, these reports are not accompanied by any data analysis that could have been made by the reporting DVO.

36. The RVOs send bi-annual reports to the CCA following a similar format as those submitted by the DVOs, with some additional information:
- the number of shadow inspections carried out by the RVO on the DVOs;
  - the number of shadow inspections where the outcome of the RVO's inspection did not correspond to the outcome of the DVO's inspection.
37. Similarly to the reports sent by the DVOs to the RVOs, these are not accompanied by any data analysis that may have been carried out by the reporting RVO. Furthermore, the format adopted by the CCA for the collection of data, including the data categories selected by the CCA, does not allow the CCA to carry out an effective analysis of the results of official controls (e.g. trends in non-compliances detected and repeat offenders). This notwithstanding that Section 9.2.2 of the Annex to Commission Decision 2008/654/EC provides guidance on the analysis of non-compliances for the submission of consistent annual reports to the Commission as required by Article 44 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.

#### **Conclusions on evaluation and review of official controls**

38. Regional and district CAs are effectively carrying out the evaluation of official controls on compliance with the Regulation. The CCA has put in place a system to collect results of official controls for the purpose of further analysis and review. The process of data collection aggregates data in two phases and as a consequence, some information is lost in the process. From the aggregate data reaching the CCA, it is not possible to effectively analyse certain aspects of compliance e.g. trends in non-compliances or recurring issues. This undermines the CCA's ability to achieve the objectives laid down in point 2(b) and 9.2 of the Annex to Commission Decision 2008/654/EC (to outline progress and analyse non-compliances).

## **6 OVERALL CONCLUSIONS**

There is a high level of BO compliance with the requirements of the Regulation which has been facilitated by the early actions undertaken by the CA since 2011 and the effective official controls being carried out by the local and regional CAs. Controls are similarly effective in detecting, and acting upon, cases of unfit animals arriving at slaughterhouses.

Although the system for the training, examination and provision of certificates of competence is not in place, the system put in place for previous national training requirements ensures that persons slaughtering animals possess basic competences.

Regional and district CAs are effectively carrying out the evaluation of official controls on the requirements of the Regulation. The CCA's system for the verification of the effectiveness of official controls utilises results of controls carried out for the purpose of further analysis and review. The information in these reports provides some degree of overview but not a full and clear picture of what is happening on the ground. This does not allow the CCA to carry out an effective analysis of the results of official controls for the purposes of identifying key issues and areas for improvement.

The system that is to be implemented for the monitoring of welfare indicators of broilers at slaughterhouses takes into account the main animal based indicators but there is a risk of having limited impact on the welfare conditions in farms.

## **7 CLOSING MEETING**

A closing meeting was held on 13 March 2015 with representatives of the CAs, at which the main findings and preliminary conclusions of the audit were presented by the audit team.

## 8 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Competent Authorities are invited to provide, within 25 working days of receipt of the report, an action plan containing details of the actions taken and planned, including deadlines for their completion, aimed at addressing the recommendation set out below:

<b>No.</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
<b>1.</b>	<p>To set up a system for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• training personnel involved in killing and related operations and the approval of the training programmes for these courses; and</li><li>• delivering certificates of competence attesting the passing of an independent final examination on the operations referred to in Article 7(2) and (3), and to the subjects set out in Annex IV of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009;</li></ul> <p>as required by Article 21 of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009.</p> <p>Recommendation based on conclusion 4</p> <p>Associated findings: 2 and 3</p>
<b>2.</b>	<p>To ensure that there is sufficient independent scientific support which provides the necessary scientific and technical expertise, recommendations and opinions to the competent authorities when necessary, as required by Article 20(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009.</p> <p>Recommendation based on conclusion 4</p> <p>Associated finding: 3</p>
<b>3.</b>	<p>To modify the "trigger levels" for cumulative daily mortality rates so official controls at the slaughterhouse effectively detect poor welfare conditions of chickens at the farm of origin and communicate these conditions to the owner or keeper of the animals and to the competent authority, as required by Points 2 and 3 of Annex III of Directive 2007/43/EC, in order to improve their welfare.</p> <p>Recommendation based on conclusion 30</p> <p>Associated findings: 27 and 28</p>
<b>4.</b>	<p>To ensure that the data collection systems enable the CCA to achieve the objectives of analysing and reporting non-compliances as required by Article 44.1(c) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 and as further outlined in points 2(b) and 9.2 of the Annex to Commission Decision 2008/654/EC.</p>

	Recommendation based on conclusions 30 and 38
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	Associated findings: 27, 29, 35 and 37
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## ANNEX 1 – LEGAL REFERENCES

<b>Legal Reference</b>	<b>Official Journal</b>	<b>Title</b>
Reg. 882/2004	OJ L 165, 30.4.2004, p. 1, Corrected and re-published in OJ L 191, 28.5.2004, p. 1	Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules
Reg. 1099/2009	OJ L 303, 18.11.2009, p. 1-30	Council Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009 of 24 September 2009 on the protection of animals at the time of killing
Reg. 1/2005	OJ L 3, 5.1.2005, p. 1-44	Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 of 22 December 2004 on the protection of animals during transport and related operations and amending Directives 64/432/EEC and 93/119/EC and Regulation (EC) No 1255/97
Dir. 2007/43/EC	OJ L 182, 12.7.2007, p. 19-28	Council Directive 2007/43/EC of 28 June 2007 laying down minimum rules for the protection of chickens kept for meat production
Reg. 853/2004	OJ L 139, 30.4.2004, p. 55, Corrected and re-published in OJ L 226, 25.6.2004, p. 22	Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin
Reg. 854/2004	OJ L 139, 30.4.2004, p. 206, Corrected and re-published in OJ L 226, 25.6.2004, p. 83	Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 laying down specific rules for the organisation of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption
Dec. 2008/654/EC	OJ L 214, 9.8.2008, p. 56-65	2008/654/EC: Commission Decision of 24 July 2008 on guidelines to assist Member States in preparing the annual report on the single integrated multiannual national control plan provided for in Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council