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FINAL REPORT OF A MISSION
CARRIED OUT IN
HUNGARY
FROM 20 TO 31 MARCH 2006
IN ORDER TO EVALUATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
EU ANIMAL HEALTH REQUIREMENTS FOR INTRA-COMMUNITY TRADE
IN LIVE ANIMALS

Please note that factual errors in the draft report have been corrected. Clarification provided by the Hungarian Authorities is given as a footnote in bold, italic type to the relevant part of the report.



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ABBREVIATIONS & SPECIAL TERMS USED IN THE REPORT

AHFCD	Animal Health and Food Control Department (<i>Állat-egészségügyi és Élelmiszerellenőrzési Főosztályának képviselői kísérték</i>)
AC	Assembly Centre
AW	Animal Welfare
CAHFCS	County Animal Health and Food Control Station (<i>állat-egészségügyi és élelmiszer-ellenőrző állomás(ok) (megyei szintű)</i>)
CA	Competent Authority
CCA	Central Competent Authority
CDB	Central Database
DVO	District Veterinary Office
EBL	Enzootic bovine leucosis
FVO	Food and Veterinary Office
ICT	Intra-Community trade in live animals of the bovine, ovine, caprine, porcine and equine species
IBR	infectious bovine rhinotracheitis / infectious pustular vulvovaginitis
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (<i>Földművelésügyi és Vidékfejlesztési Minisztérium</i>)
MS	Member State
NIAQC/OMMI	National Institute for Agriculture Quality Control
OV	Official Veterinarian
SH	Slaughterhouse
TB	Bovine tuberculosis (<i>Mycobacterium bovis</i>)
TRACES	Trade Control and Expert System

1. INTRODUCTION

The mission took place in Hungary from 20 to 31 March 2006. The mission team comprised two FVO inspectors. The mission was undertaken as part of the Food and Veterinary Office's (FVO) planned mission programme and forms part of a series of missions. The mission team was accompanied throughout the mission by a representative of the Central Competent Authority (CCA).

An opening meeting was held on 20 March 2006 with the CCA. At the meeting, the objective of, and itinerary for the mission were confirmed by the inspection team, and additional information was requested for its satisfactory completion.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE MISSION

The objective of the mission was to evaluate the measures and control systems put in place to give effect to EU requirements concerning intra-Community trade in live animals of the bovine, porcine, ovine, caprine and equine species (ICT) in the framework of Council Directives 64/432/EEC, 91/68/EEC, 90/426/EEC and 90/425/EEC.

In pursuit of this objective, the following sites were visited:

VISITS		COMMENTS
COMPETENT AUTHORITIES		
Central	1	Initial and final meeting
Local	3	2 CAHFCS, 1 DVO
LIVE ANIMALS CONTROL SITES		
Animal holdings	6	3 cattle, 2 sheep, 1 pig
Assembly centres	10	4 sheep, 3 cattle, 2 pig, 1 horse
Dealers' premises	2	
Dealers	3	
Staging point	1	
ESTABLISHMENTS		
Slaughterhouse	2	2 pig

3. LEGAL BASIS FOR THE MISSION

The mission was carried out under the general provisions of Community legislation, and in particular Article 45 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.

A list of the relevant EU legislation is attached to this report (see Annex).

4. BACKGROUND

4.1. Background to present mission

Council Directives 64/432/EEC, 91/68/EEC and 90/426/EEC lay down the animal health requirements applicable to ICT.

In accordance with Council Directive 90/425/ECC the Member States (MS) have put in place control systems in order to ensure the implementation of veterinary and zootechnical checks applicable in ICT.

The considerable volume of ICT represents a risk of spreading animal diseases. Furthermore, previous FVO missions have identified deficiencies in the control systems in place in respect of animal health requirements for ICT. These mission reports can be consulted on the following Internet website:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/fs/inspections/index_en.html

Whilst certain aspects of ICT have been subject to various FVO inspections, the control system as a whole has not yet been evaluated.

4.2 Intra-Community trade information

The CCA did not provide detailed figures about the ICT volume in 2005. The CCA stated that the main trade partners for animals arriving in Hungary are Slovakia and Germany (pigs); Germany (cattle) and the Netherlands (pigs, cattle) and for animals leaving Hungary are Italy and Greece (cattle and sheep). Hungary is a transit country for horses from the Baltic Member States and Poland to Italy and Spain.

5. OUTCOME OF THE MISSION

5.1. Legislation

The EU Directives mainly relevant for ICT (Council Directives 64/432/EEC, 91/68/EEC and 90/426/EEC) have been transposed into Hungarian law by various pieces of legislation, as have provisions for animal welfare (AW) in transport contained in Council Regulation (EC) No 91/628.

The main provisions for animal health conditions for ICT have been transposed by Ministerial Decree 41/1997 and the conditions for approval of assembly centres (AC), dealers and transporters are contained in its Annexes.

The new Animal Health Act No. 176/2005 was approved at the end of 2005, ensuring the legal background required for the full implementation of the EU requirements for animal health and food control activities, including ICT. This Act also provides instruction for the implementation of official controls, on the basis of Council Regulations (EC) No 854/2004 and 882/2004.

Observation

- Annex A to Council Directive 64/432/EEC has been incorrectly transposed with regard to provisions for the testing regime for bovine brucellosis. The testing

frequency set out in national legislation is lower than required by EU legislation.
See also point 5.4.2

5.2. Competent Authority

5.2.1. Designation of competent authorities and operational criteria

The Department of Animal Health and Food Control (DAHFC) within the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) is designated as Central Competent Authority (CCA), responsible for legislation, implementation control, and communication with the European Commission on animal health and ICT matters.

A clear chain of command is in place between the DAHFC, the 20 County Animal Health and Food Control Stations (CAHFCSs) and the District Veterinary Offices (DVOs).

Official tasks, including certification for ICT, are carried out exclusively by official veterinarians (OVs), which are under the direct responsibility of the DVOs. Instructions and checklists are available, in order to assist the OVs in implementing their tasks. Private practitioners can be delegated for certain tasks by the local Competent Authority (CA), such as dog's vaccination and tuberculosis (TB) testing under the supervision of the DVOs, but not for official control tasks.

Enforcement activities in respect of animal health and animal welfare are carried out by the CAHFCSs who have the legal power to impose immediate fines and sanctions as well as to revoke approvals and initiate infringement procedures.

5.2.2. Training

When requested, evidence of well established training procedures has been presented to the mission team. Training was provided in 2004 regarding the application of the TRACES system.

5.2.3. Official controls within the veterinary service

Official control procedures are in place within the veterinary service. The CAHFCSs are responsible for preparing annual control plans on the DVOs activities in selected areas. Evidence was provided of protocols for official controls by the CAHFCSs to the DVO and by the DVOs to the OVs and to practitioners.

Observations

- Although an annual report system from the bottom to the top of the official service is in place, no evidence was provided of on the spot control and proper follow-up by the CCA on activities carried out by the CAHFCSs.

5.3. Holding registration, Animal identification, and movement control

5.3.1. Holding registration

According to the information provided by the CCA, all animal holdings are registered.

5.3.2. *Animal identification*

Central Databases (CDB) have been set up for animal identification and movement control of all relevant species (cattle, sheep, goats, pigs and horses).

According to the Hungarian legislation in force, the National Institute for Agriculture Quality Control (NIAQC/OMMI) is responsible for the operation of the national database. Different bodies are involved in the management of the identification and registration system, depending from the animal species. The breeders' associations also play an important role in the tagging in certain species. The NIAQC/OMMI is directly supervised by MARD, but is not part of the institutional system of the National Veterinary Service.

Individual identification is provided for all species.

Sheep are identified with a double eartag in the holding of birth in accordance with Council Regulation (EC) No 21/2004.

Within six months of birth, horses must be provided with a passport and, at the same time, they are branded with an individual number that will be enrolled in the passport. In each country, the horse breeders' association supervisors are responsible for identification and registration of the horses in the database. Issuing of passports is carried out on the basis of the information available in the CDB.

Observations

- In one cattle holding visited, two animals did not bear eartags and several had only one.
- On one horse passport, the identification marks of the animal were not described, as required by Section III of Commission Decision 93/623/EEC. The CA explained that, according to the Hungarian legislation, this section is completed only if the animal is moved from the holding of origin.

5.3.3. *Movement control*

For internal movements cattle are accompanied by a “bovine letter” containing movement records and health information. Sheep and pigs are accompanied by an internal certificate (movement document), signed by the OV in the holding of origin, which also provides health guarantees for ICT. The individual identification of each animal is recorded in this document. A copy is sent to the CDB to notify the movement.

In general, animals were accompanied by adequate documentation at the sites visited.

Observations

- The duration of validity of the internal certificate (movement document) for sheep and pigs is not specified.
- The internal certificate does not contain specific information on the health status and residency of animals, which are necessary for issuing the ICT certificate.
- In one case, sheep moving from an AC to the adjacent holding were not accompanied by a movement document. Consequently, when animals are moved back to this AC for ICT, it is not possible to guarantee the minimum residency

- of 21 days on the farm of origin, as required by Article 4c of Council Directive 91/68/EEC.
- The notification of incoming movement of animals into ACs cannot be entered into the CDB, therefore the six days rules cannot be guaranteed as required by Article 6, first indent of Council Directive 64/432/EEC.
 - In the two slaughterhouses (SHs) visited, individual pigs were accepted for slaughter although they arrived without identification. In one of them, unidentified pigs were retagged with an eartag provided by the company.

5.3.4. Holding registers

5.3.4.1. Registers in farms

Registers on the farms visited were in general adequate with the exceptions specified below:

Observations

- On one cattle holding, there was no indication of the replacement eartags in the holding register, as required by Article 5 of Council Directive 92/102/EC.
- In several cases, shortcomings were found in the sheep holding register with regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 21/2004, namely:
 - on one sheep holding the register was not available;
 - the herd registers used on sheep farms were not in a format approved by the CCA (Article 5 of Council Regulation (EC) No 21/2004);
 - in several cases the herd registers did not contain all the elements required such as the geographical coordinates or information about replacement of eartags (Part B (1) of Council Regulation (EC) No 21/2004) and the signature of the representative of the CA who has checked the register (Part B (3) of Council Regulation (EC) No 21/2004).

5.3.4.2. Registers in Assembly Centres

In general, registers in the ACs visited were available and contained the information required by Article 11 of Council Directive 64/432/EEC and Article 8a of Council Directive 91/68/EEC. The supporting documentation related to health status and origin of the incoming animals was in general kept and properly filed.

Observations

- No register was available at one approved AC for horses and sheep. Only some registers related to the activities of certain dealers using the AC were presented.
- There was one AC approved for cattle and pigs, however no register for pigs was available.

5.3.4.3. Registers for dealers and dealers premises

In general registers in dealers' premises were available and contained the information required by Article 13 of Council Directive 64/432/EEEC and Article 8b of Council Directive 91/68/EEC.

Observation

- In one dealer’s premises, the records regarding movements between the holdings of origin and the premises were neither properly documented nor easy to be checked by the CA. On one occasion, according to the movement documents, 670 animals were dispatched but in reality only 654 were actually received at the dealer’s premises. Nevertheless, these animals had been notified to CDB as having left the holding of origin.¹

5.4. Animal health requirements

5.4.1. Situation in the country

Concerning the animal health situation (source OIE²), the last outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease was in 1973, classical swine fever in 1993, anthrax in 2004 (2 cases in cattle), rabies in 2004 (3 cases in cattle), bovine brucellosis (*B. abortus*) in 1985, contagious agalactia in 2003, pulmonary adenomatosis in 1970, dourine in 1952, glanders in 1956 and equine infectious anaemia in 1965. Bovine tuberculosis and enzootic bovine leucosis (EBL) occur every year but with declining incidence. Swine vesicular disease, ovine brucellosis (*B. melitensis*) and bluetongue have never occurred in Hungary.

5.4.2. Eradication and monitoring programmes

Tuberculosis

Hungary is not recognised as officially TB free by the Commission. In order to retain the officially TB-free herd status, all cattle older than 6 weeks are tested annually and when they are moved between holdings. This is in accordance with Annex A of Council Directive 64/432/ECC. As well as the herd status “officially TB free” and “non officially TB-free”, a third herd health status (“para-allergic”), as described by FVO mission report DG(SANCO)/7619/2005, still exists, which is not in accordance with Annex A of Council Directive 64/432/ECC. The CCA stated that these herds are officially TB-free herds according to EU legislation and cattle originating from “para-allergic” herds are allowed, after testing negative, to participate in ICT.

Observation

- In a “para-allergic” cattle herd, checked by the mission team, 479 animals were comparatively tested in November 2005 with the result of 10 inconclusive and 2 positive cases. The CA decided to repeat the comparative skin test for these cows after 42 days which is in line with Point 2.2.5.3.2 of Annex B to Council Directive 64/432/EEC. All animals then reacted negative.

¹ *In their comments to the draft report, the CA stated that this situation could happen because the notification of the arrival of a consignment to the CDB is carried out in paper form.*

² World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE); www.oie.int

Bovine brucellosis

Hungary is not recognised as officially brucellosis-free (*B. abortus*) by the Commission. Point II (2) (a) of Annex A to Council Directive 64/432/EEC lays down that the CA of a Member State (MS) which is not officially brucellosis-free but where all herds are subject to an official programme to combat brucellosis can alter the frequency of routine tests: the interval between checks may be extended to two years if all animals over 12 months of age are tested serologically, or testing may be restricted to animals over 24 months of age if herds continue to be tested serologically each year.

Observation

- The Hungarian eradication programme for brucellosis requires that for retaining the officially brucellosis-free herd status 10 % of the cows of herds with more than 50 cows are tested annually (blood samples); in herds with fewer than 50 cows all animals are tested every three years (together with the testing for enzootic bovine leucosis) and when they are moved between farms.

Enzootic bovine leucosis

Hungary is not recognised as officially leucosis-free by the Commission. Chapter 1 (B) of Annex D to Council Directive 64/432/EEC lays down the conditions for retaining the officially leucosis-free herd status.

Observation

- All animals over 24 months of age are tested serologically at intervals of three years. The frequency of testing and the selection of tested population are in line with the relevant EU legislation in order to fulfil the conditions for retaining of the officially leucosis-free herd status.

Ovine brucellosis

In 2004, Hungary was declared officially brucellosis-free (*B. melitensis*) by Commission Decision 2004/320/EC. In order to fulfil the condition for retaining the officially brucellosis free-herd status stated in Chapter I (II.) (2.) (i) of Annex A of Council Directive 91/68/EEC, at least 10 % of the ovine and caprine animals over six months of age must be submitted to a serological test with a negative result.

Observation

- In 2005 (and so far in 2006), no serological testing for brucellosis in sheep and goats was carried out.

Other programmes

Compulsory national control programmes are in place for infectious bovine rhinotracheitis / infectious pustular vulvovaginitis (IBR) and Aujeszky's disease. They are not yet approved under the conditions of Article 9 of Council Directive 64/432/EEC.

As described by the FVO mission report DG(SANCO)/7619/2005, surveillance programmes for foot and mouth disease, swine vesicular diseases and classical swine fever are in place and, for rabies, a vaccination policy is applied.

For horses, monitoring programmes for glanders and equine infectious anaemia (serological testing of all equines at an interval of three years) and for dourine (serological testing of all breeding stallions at an interval of three years) have been implemented.

5.5. Controls on assembly centres, dealer's premises, staging points and animal transporters

5.5.1. Approval of the sites

A well organized and documented system is in place for approval of sites (ACs, dealers, dealers' premises and transporters). The approval procedure is initiated by a written application from the operator. DVOs are responsible for the visits and follow-ups and they propose the sites for approval to the CAHFC. An approval number is given to each of them and lists are kept at county level for dealers, dealers's premises and transporters. All dealers must be approved, including those involved in internal trade. The list of approved AC is kept at central level and has been transmitted to the Commission³. All sites are under the supervision of the OV.

Observations

- A sheep AC was approved despite the fact that there was no water available on the site (the water was “borrowed from a neighbour when needed”) and no appropriate premises for isolation and feed storage were available.
- An AC received two separate approvals for sheep and pigs and cattle, despite the fact that the site for cattle was without an adequate floor and without a system for waste water collection. The local CA acknowledged the situation and gave guarantees that the approval for the cattle site will be revised.

5.5.2. Official control of the sites

Official control of sites was generally adequate and well documented. According to the national legislation, ACs, dealers' premises and dealers must be inspected regularly by DVOs, with a frequency set by CAHFCSs, as part of the annual control plan. In most counties visited, the frequency was twice per year with regards to requirements for approval and once a year with regard to AW issues. In one county visited, the frequency of inspections in the ACs was quarterly.

Observation

- In one DVO, no checks were carried out in 2005 and 2006 on the dealer visited by the inspection team.

³ <http://forum.europa.eu.int/irc/sanco/vets/info/data/assembly/assembly.htm>

Staging point

In Hungary there is only one approved staging point for cattle, sheep and horses and it is listed on the Commission website⁴. With the exception of minor shortcomings, it was in compliance with Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1997 in terms of structural requirements and official control.

Observations

- On the official register, the time for the arrival and departure of consignments are registered instead of the time of the completion of unloading and commencement of loading (Annex I, C (7) a) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1997).
- No official procedures or proper recording system are in place to guarantee that animals with different health status cannot be in contact (Article 4, point 3 a) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1977).
- No official procedures or proper recording system are in place to guarantee that the site was completely clear of animals for a period of at least 24 hours after a maximum of 6 days' use and prior to the arrival of any new consignment (Annex I, A (4) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1977).
- The loading ramp normally used for unloading and loading operations was not properly cleaned and disinfected (Annex I, A, 1a) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1977).

5.6. Controls on Intra-Community trade in live animals

5.6.1. Checks on arrival at destination

5.6.1.1. Checks on animals for fattening-breeding

According to Hungarian legislation, all animals brought into a holding must be checked by an OV and placed under quarantine for 30 days, including those for internal movement. Tests can be also carried out, according to specific situations.

For ICT, the pre notification is received by the CAHFCSs, who inform the DVO in order that an OV is sent to the receiving holding to check the incoming animals and to inspect the quarantine facilities. According to Ministerial Decree 41/1997, animals must be unloaded in the presence of an OV.

A checklist approved at national level is used in most cases. However, the percentage of consignment checked and the criteria for checks are set by the CAHFCSs.

Observations

⁴ <http://forum.europa.eu.int/irc/sanco/vets/info/data/semen/stagpt.htm>

- Part III of the TRACES certificate was sometimes completed and filed. Only in a few cases was it entered into the TRACES system.
- According to Hungarian legislation, all breeding animals moving within the country should be tested for IBR within the quarantine period. However, in one county visited, the CA stated that tests for internal movements are not carried out, whilst they are carried out on animals coming from other Member States (MS).

5.6.1.2. Checks of animals for slaughter

Documentary and identity checks on each consignment are carried out by OVs on arrival at SHs. If documents are missing, the animals are not allowed to enter the premises until correct documents are provided by the transporters. Ante-mortem inspection is carried out by the OV at unloading.

In the SH visited, adequate cleaning and disinfection facilities were available and the operation was carried out under the supervision of the OV who also issued an official certificate.

Observations

- With regard to ante-mortem records, Section II, chapter I (1) of Annex I to Council Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 was not correctly applied at one SH visited.
- The information about relevant inspection results was generally not sent back from the SH to the holding of origin as required by Section II (2), chapter I(1) of Annex I to Commission Regulation (EC) No 2074/2005. It was sometime done for commercial reasons.
- No action was taken by the OV even though most of the consignments from MS arrived at the SH without route plans.

5.6.2. Checks at origin

5.6.2.1. Health information flow

The CCA stated that movement restrictions are immediately imposed by the CAHFC in the case of a positive test result for tuberculosis, brucellosis, leucosis, or in case of suspicion of any other notifiable disease, and no movement permit would be issued. The information is sent from the CAHFCs to the DVO and then to the responsible OV.

Observation

- At one DVO visited, the responsible OV kept a holding register which included the relevant animal health information such as testing dates and possible movement restrictions.

5.6.2.2. Certification

The OV must be present when animals are received at ACs. Evidence has been given to the team that animals are checked by an OV within 24 hours prior to dispatch (horses 48 hours). The OV is also responsible for checking that animals

are fit for travel, that the truck is in compliance with the AW regulations and that it has been previously cleaned and disinfected.

For cattle, each animal arriving at an AC is accompanied by a “bovine letter” (internal Hungarian passport), containing the relevant health information, in relation to pre-movement testing for TB, brucellosis and EBL and an international passport, if the keeper of the holding of origin has applied for one. The same pre-movement testing requirements are applied for internal movements. The health certificate is prepared by the OV at the place of dispatch, on the basis of the health information provided in the “bovine letter”

For sheep and pigs dispatched from an AC or dealers’ premises, the certificate is completed there, on the base of the internal certificate (movement document) prepared by the OV at the farm of origin.

The ICT health certificates used are in compliance with Commission Regulation (EC) No 599/2004. The OV manually completes the original that accompanies the animals and sends a copy to the CAHFCSs which is responsible for entering it into the TRACES system. Besides the original certificate issued in Hungarian, another certificate is completed in the language of the receiving country. When animals for ICT originate from a holding, the ICT certificate is prepared by the keeper (part 1) and the OV (part 2).

Complete files and supporting documentation were available for all certificates requested by the mission team, but minor shortcomings were noted.

Observations

- Part II of the TRACES certificates for sheep did not contain the updates provided for in Commission Decision 2005/932/EC.
- In some certificates, Part I was incorrectly filled in with regard to places of origin or destination of the animals.
- In some certificates, in Part II, the possible options with regards to animal health were incorrectly crossed or deleted.
- In one certificate the number of animals was missing.
- In one case, the certificate reported 37 bovine animals, but only 36 eartag numbers were listed.
- In one case, the original certificate referred to sheep for slaughter whilst the TRACES certificate indicated that they were for breeding.

5.6.2.3. Animal welfare

AW is included in the official checks on animals participating in ICT trade, at dispatch, during transport and arrival.

Observations

- In several cases the OVs have approved route plans without any indication of planned staging or transfer points.
- No checks are carried out on the proposed route plan either at central or local level, in order to verify if the proposed journey and the planned stops are realistic.
- In the great majority of the cases, the route plans were not sent back and, when sent back, they were kept in the holding of origin and not by the endorsing CA.

- No central procedures are in place to enforce the obligation of sending back the route plan by the transporters.

6. CONCLUSIONS

6.1. Legislation

The incorrect transposition of Annex A of Council Directive 64/432/EEC represents the main obstacle for the implementation of a testing regime for bovine brucellosis in compliance with EU legislation.

6.2. Competent Authority

A clear chain of command is in place and responsibilities regarding official control in ICT are clearly allocated. Despite control procedures being in place within the veterinary service at county and local level, the CCA does not always verify the effectiveness of official controls at lower level.

6.3. Animal identification, holding registration, holding registers and movement control

The system for holding registration animal identification and movement control is generally satisfactory; nevertheless the shortcomings identified during the mission might jeopardize the tracing of the animals and the requirements in relation to minimum residence period.

6.4. Animal health requirements

In the current epidemiological context the system in place for monitoring diseases provides in general sufficient supporting evidence for the certification related to the disease situation.

However, the insufficient testing for bovine brucellosis does not fulfil the EU requirements for retaining officially brucellosis-free herd status. As a consequence, the guarantee given in the animal health certificate that the cattle originate from an officially brucellosis-free herd is unreliable.

The conditions for the recognition of Hungary as officially brucellosis-free (*B. melitensis*) are no longer fulfilled as in 2005 Hungary failed to meet the EU requirements of testing in the year after free status had been granted.

6.5. Controls on assembly centres, dealer's premises, staging points and animal transporters

Although the requirements for approval and official control on sites are detailed in the procedure in place and were in most cases complied with, two approved ACs visited were not in compliance with the relevant EU Directives.

With the exception of certain shortcoming identified with regard to dealers and staging points, the level of supervision of sites was in general in compliance with the relevant EU legislation.

6.6. Controls on intra-Community trade in live animals

Evidence of discriminatory checks under the meaning of Article 5 of Council Directive 90/425/EEC with regard to IBR has been found.

In the SHs visited, recording and evaluation of inspection activities and communication of inspection results were not in accordance with the relevant Regulations.

A well established procedure is in place in order to ensure that all certifiable requirements for live animals participating in ICT are complied with.

Despite individual shortcomings identified, the procedures applied for control of animals at origin gives a good degree of confidence in the quality and reliability of certification. Evidence has been given that the information flow regarding a holding under restriction is adequate.

7. OVERALL CONCLUSION

The control systems put in place concerning ICT trade in live animals provide in general the guarantees required by EU legislation. However, the shortcomings identified in the testing regime for *B. melitensis* and *B. bovis* undermine the health guarantees provided by the OV's on the ICT certificate.

8. CLOSING MEETING

A closing meeting was held on 31 March 2006 with the representatives of the CCA and the CA visited, during which the inspection team presented the main findings and conclusions of the mission. At this meeting, the CCA did not express major disagreements with the findings.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMPETENT AUTHORITIES OF HUNGARY

- 9.1 To correctly transpose Annex A (2) of Council Directive 64/432/EEC.
- 9.2 To guarantee appropriate follow up on the annual reports received by the CCA from the CAHFCSs.
- 9.3 To improve the traceability of animals participating in ICT trade by:
 - ensuring that all cattle are properly tagged in accordance with Council Regulation (EC) No. 1760/2000 and that horses are identified in accordance with Commission Decision 93/623/EEC;
 - ensuring that all sheep moving are accompanied by a movement document;
 - amending the internal certificate (movement document), making a specific reference to health and residency guarantees as mentioned in Council Directives 64/432/EEC and 91/68/EEC;
 - guaranteeing proper application of Article 5 of Council Regulation No. 21/2004, with regard to registers for sheep holding;
 - ensuring that registers are available at all ACs.

- 9.4 To guarantee that only animals that meet the requirements of Article 3 (1.c) of Council Directive 90/425/EEC are accepted for slaughter.
- 9.5 To implement a testing regime for cattle to retain officially brucellosis-free herd status in compliance with Council Directive 64/432/EEC, and to urgently restart the testing for brucellosis (*B. melitensis*) in sheep and goats.
- 9.6 To review the approval of the two ACs not in compliance with EU legislation and to guarantee that provisions for staging points are in compliance with Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1997.
- 9.7 To guarantee that checks at arrival are carried out in a non discriminatory way, as required by Article 5 of Council Directive 90/425/EEC and that part III of the TRACES certificate is properly used.
- 9.8 To guarantee that in the SHs, recording and evaluation of the results of inspection activities are carried out in accordance with Section II, chapter I (1) of Annex I to Council Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 and that relevant inspection results are sent back to the holding of origin, in accordance with Section II (2), chapter I(1) of Annex I of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2074/2005.
- 9.9 To update the ovine ICT certificate in accordance with Commission Decision 2005/932/EC and to guarantee that the animal health certificates for ICT are correctly completed.
- 9.10 To guarantee that provisions of Article 5 of Council Directive 91/628/EEC with regard to route plans are complied with.

ANNEX

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

The following is a list of EU legislation⁵ relevant to this series of missions:

LEGISLATION RELATED TO OFFICIAL CONTROLS IN THE VETERINARY FIELD		
Council Directive 90/425/EEC	Council Directive 90/425/EEC of 26 June 1990 concerning veterinary and zootechnical checks applicable in intra-Community trade in certain live animals and products with a view to the completion of the internal market	OJ L 224, 18/08/90, p. 29
Regulation (EC) No. 854/2004	Regulation (EC) No. 854/2004 of the European parliament and the Council of 29 April 2004 laying down specific rules for the organization of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption	OJ L 139, 30/04/2004, p.83
Council Regulation (EC) No 882/2004	Regulation 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	OJ L 165, 30/04/2004, p. 1
Commission Regulation (EC) No 2074/2005	Commission Regulation of 5 December 2005 laying down implementing measures for certain products under Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council and for the organisation of official controls under Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council, derogating from Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council and amending Regulations (EC) No 853/2004 and (EC) No 854/2004	OJ No. L 338, 22/12/2005, p. 27
Commission Decision 98/139/EC	Commission Decision 98/139/EC of 4 February 1998 laying down certain detailed rules concerning on-the-spot checks carried out in the veterinary field by Commission experts in the Member States	OJ L 38, 12/02/1998 p. 10
LEGISLATION RELATING TO INTRA-COMMUNITY TRADE OF LIVE ANIMALS		
Council Directive 64/432/EEC	Council Directive 64/432/EEC of 26 June 1964 on animal health problems affecting intra-Community trade in bovine animals and swine	OJ L P 121, 29/07/1964, p. 1977
Council Directive 90/426/EEC	Council Directive 90/426/EEC of 26 June 1990 on animal health conditions governing the movement and import from third countries of equidae	OJ L 224, 18/08/90, p. 42
Council Directive 91/68/EEC	Council Directive 91/68/EEC of 28 January 1991 on animal health conditions governing intra-Community trade in ovine and caprine animals	OJ L 46, 19/02/91, p. 19
Commission Decision 2004/315/EC	Commission Decision 2004/315/EC of 26 March 2004 recognising the system of surveillance for bovine holdings implementing in Member States or regions of Member States under Directive 64/432/EEC	OJ L 100, 06/04/2004, p. 43

⁵ EU legislation quoted in the Annex refers to the last amended version.

Council Directive 2004/68/EC	Council Directive 2004/68/EC of 26 April 2004 laying down animal health rules for the importation into and transit through the Community of certain ungulate animals, amending Directive 90/426/EEC and 92/65/EEC and repealing Directive 72/462/EEC	OJ L 139, 30/04/2004, p. 320
Commission Regulation (EC) No 599/2004	Commission Regulation (EC) No 599/2004 of 30 March 2004 concerning the adoption of a harmonised model certificate and inspection report linked to intra-Community trade in animals and products of animal origin	OJ No. L 94, 31.03.2004, p. 44
Commission Decision 2005/932/EC	Commission decision of 21 December 2005 amending annex E to Council Directive 91/68/EEC as regards the updating of the model health certificates relating to ovine and caprine animals	OJ No. L 34, 23/12/2005, p. 68
LEGISLATION RELATED TO THE NOTIFICATION OF ANIMAL DISEASES		
Council Directive 82/894/EEC	Council Directive 82/894/EEC of 21 December 1982 on the notification of animal diseases within the Community	OJ L 378, 31/12/82, p. 58
LEGISLATION RELATED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FREE STATUS IN RESPECT OF CERTAIN DISEASES IN MEMBER STATES OR CERTAIN AREAS OF THEM		
Commission Decision 81/400/EEC	Commission Decision 81/400/EEC of 15 May 1981 establishing the status of Member States as regards classical swine fever with a view to its eradication	OJ L 152, 11/06/1981, p.37
Commission Decision 93/42/EEC	Commission Decision 93/42/EEC of 21 December 1992 concerning additional guarantees relating to infectious bovine rhinotracheitis for bovines destined for Member States or regions of Member states free from the disease	OJ L 16, 25/01/1993, p. 50
Commission Decision 93/52/EEC	Commission Decision 93/52/EEC of 21 December 1992 recording the compliance by certain Member States of regions with the requirements relating to brucellosis (<i>B. melitensis</i>) and according them the status of a Member State or region officially free of the disease	OJ L 13, 21/01/1993, p. 14
Commission Decision 2001/618/EC	Commission Decision 2001/618/EC of 23 July 2001 on additional guarantees in intra-Community trade of pigs relating to Aujeszky's disease, criteria to provide information on this disease and repealing Decision 93/24/EEC and 93/244/EEC	OJ L 215, 09/08/2001, p. 48
Commission Decision 2003/467/EC	Commission Decision 2003/467/EC of 23 June 2003 establishing the official tuberculosis, brucellosis, and enzootic-leukosis-free status of certain Member States as regards bovine herds	OJ L 156, 25/06/2003, p. 74
Commission Decision 2003/526/EC	Commission Decision 2003/526/EC of 18 July 2003 concerning protection measures relating to classical swine fever in certain Member States	OJ L 183, 22/07/2003, p. 46
LEGISLATION RELATED TO FARM REGISTRATION, ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION AND MOVEMENT CONTROL		
Council Directive 92/102/EEC	Council Directive 92/102/EEC of 27 November 1992 on the identification and registration of animals	OJ L 355, 05/12/1992, p. 32
Commission Regulation (EC) No 2628/97	Commission Regulation (EC) No 2628/97 of 29 December 1997 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 820/97 as regards transitional provisions for the start-up period of the system for the identification and registration of bovine animals	OJ L 354, 30/12/97, p. 17

Commission Decision 93/623/EEC	Commission decision 93/623/EEC of 20 October 1993 establishing the identification document (passport) accompanying registered equidae	OJ No L 298, 3/12/93, p. 45
Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000	Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 July 2000 establishing a system for the identification and registration of bovine animals and regarding the labelling of beef and beef products and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 820/97	OJ L 204, 11/08/2000, p. 1
Commission Decision 2000/678/EC	Commission Decision 2000/678/EC of 23 October 2000 laying down detailed rules for registration of holdings in national databases for porcine animals as foreseen by Council Directive 64/432/EEC	OJ L 281, 07/11/2000, p. 16
Commission Regulation (EC) No 1082/2003	Commission Regulation (EC) No 1082/2003 of 23 June 2003 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the minimum level of controls to be carried out in the framework of the system for the identification and registration of bovine animals.	OJ L 156, 25/06/2003, p. 9
Commission Regulation (EC) No 911/2004	Commission Regulation (EC) No 911/2004 of 29 April 2004 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 of the European Parliament and the Council as regards eartags, passports and holding registers	OJ L 163, 30/04/2004, p. 65
Commission Decision 2004/292/EC	Commission Decision 2004/292/EC of 30 March 2004 on the introduction of the Traces system and amending Decision 92/486/EEC	OJ L 94, 31/03/2004, p. 63
Council Regulation (EC) No 21/2004	Council Regulation (EC) No 21/2004 establishing a system for identification and registration of ovine and caprine animals and amending Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 and Directives 92/102/EEC and 64/432/EEC	OJ L 5, 09/01/2004, p. 8
LEGISLATION RELATED TO ANIMAL WELFARE		
Council Directive 91/628/EEC	Council Directive 91/628/EEC of 19 November 1991 on the protection of animals during transport and amending Directives 90/425/EEC and 91/496/EEC	OJ L 340, 11/12/91, p. 17
Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/97	Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/97 of 25 June 1997 concerning Community criteria for staging points and amending the route plan referred to in the Annex to directive 91/628/EEC	OJ L 174, 02/07/97, p. 1
Council Regulation (EC) No 411/98	Council Regulation (EC) No 411/98 of 16 February 1998 on additional animal protection standards applicable to road vehicles used for the carriage of livestock on journeys exceeding eight hours	OJ L 52, 21/02/98, p. 8
LEGISLATION RELATING TO CERTIFICATION		
Council Directive 96/93/EC	Council Directive 96/93/EC of 17 December 1996 on the certification of animals and animal products	OJ L 13, 16/01/1997, p. 28