1. **State of play of the discussion with Russia on certifications for export.**

   The Commission informed Member States of the state of play of negotiations on veterinary certificates and of an enquiry on the Russian requirements for meat products.

   As regards six recently agreed veterinary certificates, the Commission has asked, at the request of some Member States, for a transitional period of two months during which both the old and the new versions of the certificates will be accepted. Although the Russian Federation has not yet answered officially, no difficulty at the border has been signalled so far. The likely date of the next round of negotiations on veterinary certificates was communicated.

   As regards Russian requirements on meat products, an enquiry has been made with the Russian veterinary control authority following Member States' request. The Russian authority has communicated four texts in Russian and the Commission has proposed to share the translation efforts between Member States.


   The previous version of this draft Decision was discussed during the meeting of this Committee held on 2-3 March 2010 (see point 5 of the agenda of that meeting). Revision 2 was prepared to take into account the comments of the Member States. The Commission's representative presented the changes introduced into the document in comparison to the previous version.
Vote: qualified majority by 342 votes in favour, 3 votes absent.


The title of the draft Decision presented at the meeting has changed from the one included on the agenda, to read as follows:

Draft Commission Decision on emergency measures applicable to consignments of farmed fishery products imported from India and intended for human consumption. (Right of scrutiny of the European Parliament) (Doc. SANCO/10391/2010 – Rev.4)

The previous version of this draft Decision was discussed during the meeting of this Committee held on 2-3 March 2010 (see point 6 of the agenda of that meeting). Revision 4 was prepared to take into account the comments of the Commission's legal service. The Commission's representative presented the changes introduced into the document in comparison to the previous version and replied to questions raised by several Member States.

Vote: qualified majority by 342 votes in favour, 3 votes absent.

4. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Decision amending Decision 2009/821/EC as regards list of approved border inspection posts and laying down the veterinary units in TRACES. (Doc. SANCO/10184/2010 – Rev.3)

The title of the draft Decision presented at the meeting has changed from the one included on the agenda, to read as follows:

Draft Commission Decision amending Decision 2009/821/EC as regards the lists of border inspection posts and veterinary units in TRACES.

The previous version of this draft Decision was discussed during the meeting of this Committee held on 2-3 March 2010 (see point 7 of the agenda of that meeting). Revision 2 was prepared to take into account the comments of the Member States sent to the Commission since then, and revision 3 to take further last minute changes. The Commission's representative presented the changes introduced into the document in comparison to the previous version and highlighted that in the future the Commission will not be as generous as this time on last minute changes as these lead to several administrative burden.

Vote: qualified majority by 342 votes in favour, 3 votes absent.

The title of the draft Regulation presented at the meeting has changed from the one included on the agenda, to read as follows:


The Commission's representative presented the draft Regulation, explaining the changes introduced into revision 2 in comparison the revision 1. Member States were informed that a working group meeting is scheduled for the 19th of April, organised by Unit D2 of the European Commission's Directorate General for Health and Consumers (DG SANCO), to look at the issue from a public health point of view. Member States were asked to send their comments to the Commission before the 19th of April, in order to be taken into consideration for the preparation of an updated document which would then be discussed at the working group meeting.


The title of the draft Decision presented at the meeting has changed from the one included on the agenda, to read as follows:


Decision 2008/630/EC on emergency measures applicable to crustaceans imported from Bangladesh and intended for human consumption was adopted following the detection of the presence of residues of veterinary medicinal products and unauthorised substances in crustaceans imported from that third country and intended for human consumption. That Decision requires that all consignments of crustaceans imported from Bangladesh and intended for human consumption are to be tested for the presence of chloramphenicol, metabolites of nitrofurans, tetracycline, malachite green and crystal violet.

The results of a Commission inspection to Bangladesh in January 2010 have revealed lack of appropriate laboratory capacity for detecting certain pharmacologically active substances in such products, as required by Directive 96/23/EC and by Decision 2002/657/EC.

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Since the measures taken to date by Bangladesh are not sufficient, it is appropriate to review the emergency measures laid down in Decision 2008/630/EC to ensure the effective and uniform protection of human health in all Member States. In particular, it is necessary to allow the importation of crustaceans imported from Bangladesh and intended for human consumption into the Union, provided that appropriate tests are carried out at the place of origin or should undergo analytical testing by the Member States on arrival at the Union border. Member States should notify the Commission of the results of the analytical tests carried out, where those results reveal the presence of pharmacologically active substances not authorised for use in food producing animals, or exceeding the maximum residue limits laid down in Union law. Member States should also regularly submit reports to the Commission on all the tests carried out by them.

The Commission informed that this draft Decision will be presented for an opinion at the next meeting of this Committee.