
The Commission presented to the Member States an evaluation of the trend reports provided for the year 2003 by the Member States and Norway on trends and sources of zoonotic agents in animals, feedingstuffs, food and man, in accordance with Article 5 of Directive 92/117/EEC, which has been repealed in 2004. Four new Member States also provided a zoonoses report on a voluntary basis.

In 2003, this data collection covered 11 zoonoses and antimicrobial resistance in two zoonotic agents and one indicator bacterium.

2. **Russian import conditions for animals and products of animal origin (RH) (See Point 2 of the 19 October 2004 and 18 January 2005 SCFCAHs and Point 3 of the 17 December 2004 SCFCAH)**

The Member States reported to the Commission a number of problems following the final implementation of the single veterinary certificates for imports of animals and animal products from the Community into the Russian Federation. More specifically, some Member States reported difficulties with the need to provide pre-export certificates. The Commission announced that a more detailed discussion would take place in the Council Working Group of 18 February 2005. The Commission distributed Mr Nepoklonov's letters of 2 February and 8 February 2005 concerning import restrictions due to swine vesicular disease in Italy and a mistake in English translation of the common EU certificate for meat products, and asked the Member States to act accordingly.

3. **Veterinary Agreement with New Zealand: Preparation of next Joint Management Committee on 1-2 March 2005 (WMM) (See Point 3 of the 18 January 2005 SCFCAH)**
The Commission distributed to the Member States the Final Draft Agenda Rev. 8 of the 1-3 March 2005 EU/NZ Veterinary Agreement Joint Management Committee, together will all the relevant documentation.

4. **Discussion on the anticipated use of the identification mark foreseen in Regulations (EC) 852/2004 and 853/2004 (ACR)**

The Commission reported on a question made by the French authorities on the possibility to use in anticipation the identification mark foreseen by Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 and Regulation (EC) No 853/2004. The Commission confirmed to the Member States that it was impossible to do so from a strictly juridical point of view.

5. **Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Decision amending Decision 97/467/EC as regards the inclusion of one establishment in Croatia in provisional lists of third country establishments from which Member States are authorised to import ratite meat (Document SANCO/10026/2005) (Legal Basis: Council Decision 95/408/EC) (RM)**

The Commission presented to the Member States a draft decision as regards the inclusion of the Klaonica nojeva Ltd. (Virje, Koprivničko križevačka županija) establishment in Croatia in provisional lists of third country establishments from which Member States are authorised to import ratite meat.

**Vote : 297 votes in favour, 24 votes absent (qualified majority)**

6. **Miscellaneous**

   - **Cadmium levels in horse liver and kidneys**

     The Commission gave information on the current discussions in the Expert working group on contaminants and the section on Toxicological safety of the Standing Committee. The objective was to identify the possible options to deal with the high levels of cadmium found in horse liver and kidneys. Some Member States were taking the option of declaring these products unfit for human consumption, whereas others called for the setting of maximum levels. The Commission invited the members of this section of the Standing Committee to ensure liaison on this issue with their colleagues in the above mentioned working group and section of the Standing Committee.

   - The Commission informed the Member States of a recent inspection made by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) in Austria, during which irregular milk products originating from an establishment in
Ceuta (Spain) were found. Ceuta as well as Melilla are both not part of the Community territory for veterinary checks purposes, as these locations are classified as third countries. Furthermore there are no establishments in these locations approved to send milk products to the EU. The Commission asked Spain for an explanation of a trade situation that is directly contrary to established EU veterinary legislation.

N.B. The proposals on which the Committee expressed an opinion are subject to a defined procedure in relation to the formal adoption by the Commission.

Mission reports are available on the Internet at the following address: http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/fs/inspections/vi/reports/index_en.html

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