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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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**IMPLEMENTING MEASURES OF THE EU ANIMAL HEALTH LAW
(REGULATION (EU) 2016/429 ON TRANSMISSIBLE ANIMAL DISEASES)**

COMMUNICATION FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION

The following communication, received on 5 March 2019, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of the European Union.

1 THE REGULATION AND ADOPTED COMPLEMENTARY IMPLEMENTING MEASURES

1.1. Regulation (EU) No 2016/429 on transmissible animal diseases ("Animal Health Law") was adopted on 9 March 2016.¹ It constitutes a new European Union (EU) legal framework for animal health providing for comprehensive, simple and clear rules for the prevention and control of transmissible animal diseases. This Regulation will apply from 21 April 2021. It was notified as G/SPS/N/EU/45/Add.2 on 2 May 2016 (G/SPS/GEN/1492).

1.2. The principles and rules of the Regulation apply to kept and wild terrestrial, aquatic and other animals, germinal products and products of animal origin. The Regulation lays down rules for the prevention, control and eradication of transmissible animal diseases, including emergency measures, for registration and approval of establishments keeping animals and germinal products, identification and registration and traceability of animals and germinal products, intra-EU movements and entry into the European Union of animals, germinal products and products of animal origin.

1.3. In order to set up a list of animal diseases, the so-called "listed diseases", that are considered relevant for the EU intervention under the new legal framework, a number of animal diseases were reviewed in line with the provided criteria of the Regulation.² In addition, appropriate control measures were assigned to each of the listed diseases, as well as the list of animal species to which the measures for specific listed diseases will apply according to the new Regulation.³

1.4. While conducting this systematic review, the European Commission sought scientific advice from the European Food Safety Authority, and took account of the international standards set out by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE). These implementing measures were notified as G/SPS/N/EU/305 and G/SPS/N/EU/306 on 14 February 2019.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on transmissible animal diseases and amending and repealing certain acts in the area of animal health ('Animal Health Law') (Text with EEA relevance) (OJ L 84, 31 March 2016, p. 1).

² Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2018/1629 of 25 July 2018 amending the list of diseases set out in Annex II to Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council on transmissible animal diseases and amending and repealing certain acts in the area of animal health ('Animal Health Law') (Text with EEA relevance) (OJ L 272, 31 October 2018, p. 11).

³ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/1882 of 3 December 2018 on the application of certain disease prevention and control rules to categories of listed diseases and establishing a list of species and groups of species posing a considerable risk for the spread of those listed diseases (Text with EEA relevance) (OJ L 308, 4 December 2018, p. 21).

2 FURTHER STEPS

2.1. The basic Regulation is now being complemented by a series of nine regulatory acts providing more detailed rules with regard to:

- surveillance, eradication programmes and disease freedom for certain listed diseases;
- prevention and control rules of certain of listed diseases;
- establishments keeping terrestrial animals and hatcheries, and the traceability of certain kept terrestrial animals and hatching eggs;
- animal health requirements for movements in the European Union of terrestrial animals and hatching eggs;
- germinal products establishments, traceability of germinal products and the animal health requirements for movements in the European Union of germinal products;
- animal health requirements for movements in the European Union of products of animal origin;
- establishments keeping aquaculture animals and traceability;
- animal health requirements for movements in the European Union of aquatic animals;
- animal health requirements for entry into the European Union of animals, germinal products and products of animal origin.

2.2. The new regulatory acts and the rules set out therein will become applicable together with the basic Regulation on 21 April 2021.

2.3. During the drafting of these regulatory acts, the European Commission, in accordance with good regulatory principles, is duly consulting experts, EU member States and other stakeholders. Any measure affecting international trade will be notified to the WTO SPS Committee. It is expected that most notifications will take place during the course of 2019.

2.1 Information session

2.4. On the margins of the next WTO SPS Committee meeting an information session will be held in Geneva on 21 March 2019 at 1.30 pm.

2.5. More information about the Animal Health Law and the development of the complementing detailed regulatory measures is available at the European Commission website:

- http://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/health/regulation/index_en.htm
 - https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/health/expert_group_en
 - https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/health/advisory_committees_en
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