



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

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**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANT HEALTH
24-25 APRIL 2012**

Chair: Harry Arijs

All Member States present, except Greece (absent on 24/4), Luxemburg, Portugal (absent on 25/4), Slovenia (absent on 25/4) and Slovakia. Switzerland was present as observer. Croatia was absent as observer.

1. Miscellaneous

The Commission clarified with Member States that point 33 of Annex IV.A.I of Council Directive 2000/29/EC (regarding plants with roots) shall apply to plants with true roots in botanical sense. It is not applicable for rhizomes, tubers, etc., where true roots are absent.

The United Kingdom reported the first outbreak of *Anoplophora glabripennis* in its territory, in southeast England.

The Commission informed the Committee that the adoption of the Decision enabling the abolition of plant health controls between the EU and Switzerland (Doc. SANCO/11085/2011 voted on 25 November 2011, foreseen entry into force on 1st May 2012) was delayed.

2. Exchange of views on a non-paper for a draft Commission Implementing Decision as regards emergency measures to prevent the introduction into and spread within the Union of *Pseudomonas syringae* pv *actinidiae*.

The Committee discussed a draft non-paper of the emergency measures decision regarding kiwi canker (*Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae*). Continuation of the discussion on this issue is scheduled in a forthcoming meeting of the Committee.

3. **Exchange of views on a non-paper for a draft Commission Implementing Decision as regards emergency measures to prevent the introduction into and spread within the Union of *Pomacea insularum*.**

An exchange of views was organised on the text for a draft Commission Decision as regards emergency measures to prevent the introduction into and the spread within the Union of *Pomacea* sp. The discussion will be continued.

4. **Presentation by the Commission of the 2011 overview report of Member States' monitoring results for *Gibberella circinata*, *Dryocosmus kuriphilus* and Potato spindle tuber viroid.**

The Commission presented an overview of the results of the official surveys carried out in 2011 by the Member States for the presence of *Gibberella circinata*, *Dryocosmus kuriphilus* and Potato spindle tuber viroid in their territory. The surveys for the presence of *Gibberella circinata* and *Dryocosmus kuriphilus* will continue in 2012.

5. **Presentation by the Commission of the findings of an audit carried out in Portugal from 19 to 28 March 2012 in order to evaluate the situation and control of *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus*, followed by an exchange of views.**

The Committee progressed on a draft version for revised emergency measures against pine wood nematode.

6. **Presentation by the Commission of the findings of an audit in Israel from 06 November 2011 to 14 November 2011 in order to evaluate the system of official controls of plants and plant products for export to the EU, followed by an exchange of views.**

The Commission presented the report on the mission to Israel. The Committee was concerned about some of the mission findings. It was agreed that action needs to be taken towards Israel to improve the compliance of Israeli plants with EU import requirements.

7. **Presentation by the Commission of an overview of the EUROPHYT notifications of interceptions of harmful organisms for 2011, followed by an exchange of views.**

The Commission presented the analytical report on the EUROPHYT notifications of interceptions of harmful organisms for 2011. The Committee welcomed the report and Member States were invited to provide the Commission with proposals for future analyses.

8. Presentation by the Commission on the use by Member States of temporary derogations from certain provisions of Council Directive 2000/29/EC in respect of:

- a) plants of strawberry (*Fragaria* L.) intended for planting, other than seeds, originating respectively in Argentina (Decision 2003/248/EC) or in Chile (Decision 2003/249/EC)**

The Commission presented the results of the use of the derogation regarding plants of strawberry originating in Chile and Argentina for 2011. Commission and Member States will continue the monitoring of the use of these derogations.

- b) oak logs (*Quercus* L.) with bark attached, originating in the United States of America (Decision 2005/359/EC)**

The Commission presented the results of the use of the derogation regarding oak logs with bark attached, originating in US for the import season 2010/2011. Commission and Member States will continue the monitoring of the use of this derogation.

- c) naturally or artificially dwarfed plants of cypress (*Chamaecyparis* Spach), juniper (*Juniperus* L.) and pine (*Pinus* L.), originating respectively in Japan (Decision 2002/887/EC) or in Korea (Decision 2003/249/EC)**

The Commission presented the results of the use of the derogation regarding dwarfed plants of *Chamaecyparis* Spach, *Juniperus* L. and *Pinus* L. originating in Korea and Japan for the import season 2010/2011. Commission and Member States will continue the monitoring of the use of these derogations.

9. Phytosanitary documentary checks for additional declarations in line with Council Directive 2000/29/EC Art. 13a (4)(b).

The Netherlands presented their new guidance document on additional declarations as recently made available on *Nederlandse Voedsel- en Warenautoriteit* (VWA) website. In a brief exchange of experiences on how documentary 'Additional Declaration' non-compliances are treated, the Committee urged all Member States to apply the harmonised and consistent approach. It was agreed that the relevant Commission's Expert Working Group should consider if the VWA's guidance document could be used as a temporary substitute for a future database of EU plant health import requirements.

10. Discussion on the request from Thailand to recognize the Thai certification scheme for small quantities of orchid cut flowers intended for non-industrial and non-commercial purposes for passengers travelling to EU.

An exchange of views on the request from Thailand took place. Commission and Member States will further reflect on the possibility of a derogation. The discussion will be continued.