



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 28 January 2013**

**5725/13**

**AGRILEG 14  
VETER 9**

**OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS**

---

from: Working Party of Chief Veterinary Officers  
on: 23 January 2013  
Subject : EU written comments to the OIE  
– Coordination of the EU position

---

1. On the basis of the draft comments provided by the Commission, the Working Party of Chief Veterinary Officers met on 19 December 2012 <sup>1</sup> and 23 January 2013 <sup>2</sup> to agree on EU positions with regard to the following OIE documents:
  - a) Report of the September 2012 meeting of the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission;
  - b) Report of the September 2012 meeting of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission;
  - c) Draft chapters of the OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals.

---

<sup>1</sup> Point (a) below.

<sup>2</sup> Points (b) and (c).

2. The discussion led to the following conclusions:

- (a) The Presidency stated that there was an agreement<sup>3</sup> on the texts under examination and that the final versions could be forwarded to the OIE<sup>4</sup>.
- (b) The Working Party adhered to the position traditionally adopted in favour of forwarding a letter<sup>5</sup> signed jointly by the Presidency and the Commission to communicate to the OIE the comments to be made on behalf of the Member States<sup>6</sup>.

---

---

<sup>3</sup> After an exchange of views, certain changes were introduced to the draft comments on the Report of the of the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission.

<sup>4</sup> The documents including the final EU comments are available on the website of DG SANCO:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/food/international/organisations/docs/eu\\_comments\\_tahsc\\_report\\_sept2012\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/food/international/organisations/docs/eu_comments_tahsc_report_sept2012_en.pdf)  
[http://ec.europa.eu/food/international/organisations/docs/eu\\_comments\\_tahsc\\_report\\_march2013\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/food/international/organisations/docs/eu_comments_tahsc_report_march2013_en.pdf)  
[http://ec.europa.eu/food/international/organisations/docs/eu\\_comments\\_tahsc\\_report\\_feb2013\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/food/international/organisations/docs/eu_comments_tahsc_report_feb2013_en.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> Copies of the letters are in the Annex to this document.

<sup>6</sup> The Commission representative asked that the following statement be entered in the outcome of proceedings:

"The Commission considers that the procedure followed for forwarding the EU comments to the World Organisation for Animal Health (both by the Presidency, on behalf of the Member States, and by the Commission) does not correspond to the procedures usually followed in similar cases (notably in the case of the Codex Alimentarius). The fact that the EU only has observer status with an international organisation does not prevent the Commission on its own from forwarding the EU comments.

The Commission accordingly considers that the procedure followed in the case in question cannot constitute a precedent likely to be invoked for forthcoming OIE sessions or in other similar circumstances".



EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels  
SANCO G2/MMK/kh (2012)1708715



**Subject: EU comments on the report of the September 2012 Code Commission meeting**

Dear Director General,

Please find here attached the comments of the European Union (EU) on the report of the September 2012 meeting of the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission for consideration in its next meeting of February 2013.

We trust you will find this useful and we thank you for your continued cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

<p>Dr. Georgios Kyriakides Chief Veterinary Officer Cyprus</p>	<p>Bernard Van Goethem Director Veterinary and International affairs DG Health and Consumers European Commission</p>
	

Annex: 1

Copy: All Directors / Chief Veterinary Officers of the EU 27 and Croatia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey.

Dr. B. Vallat  
Directeur général OIE  
12 rue de Prony  
F-75017 Paris



EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels  
SANCO G2/MMK/kh (2013)15594

Dear Director General,



**Subject: EU comments on the Aquatic Code and on the Terrestrial Manual**

Please find here attached:

- the comments of the EU on the report of the September 2012 meeting of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission, for consideration at its next meeting of March 2013; and
- the comments of the EU on the draft chapters of the OIE *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals*, submitted for Member comments in November 2012.

We trust you will find this useful and we thank you for your continued cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

<p>Dr. Martin Blake Chief Veterinary Officer and OIE Delegate Ireland</p>	<p>Bernard Van Goethem Director Veterinary and International affairs DG Health and Consumers European Commission</p>
	

Annexes: 2

Copy: All Directors / Chief Veterinary Officers of the EU 27 and Croatia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey.

Dr. Bernard Vallat  
Director General  
OIE – World Organisation for Animal Health  
12, rue de Prony  
75017 Paris  
France

Commission européenne/Europese Commissie, 1049 Bruxelles/Brussel, BELGIQUE/BELGIË - Tel. +32 22991111  
Office: B232 03/085 - Tel. direct line (32 2) 295.31.43 Fax: (32-2) 295.31.44