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**NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council

To: Delegations

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Subject: High level meeting on African swine fever (ASF) at the International Green Week (Berlin, 19 January 2018)  
*- Information from the German delegation*

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Delegations will find in Annex an information note from the German delegation on the above mentioned subject to be raised under "Any other business" at the session of the Council ("Agriculture and Fisheries") on 29 January 2018.

German Info Note

On the Agenda Item "Other – Information on the high level meeting on African-Swine-Fever (ASF) on 19 January 2018 at the International Green Week" for the Agriculture Council on 29 January 2018

1. At the International Green Week, Ministers of Agriculture and Veterinary Affairs of the countries of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia and representatives from the European Commission, the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) met at a conference in Berlin on 19 January 2018 at the invitation of Federal Minister Christian Schmidt. A declaration was subsequently adopted.
2. They discussed cooperation on control and prevention of African Swine Fever (ASF) and agreed on enhanced information and cooperation as well as on the support of joint working groups.
3. Federal Minister Schmidt intends to inform the Agriculture Council about the key outcomes of the conference at its meeting on 29 January 2018.
4. The Ministers of Agriculture and Veterinary Services present stressed in particular the responsibility of the agricultural sector and hunters with respect to combating the further spread of the disease in Europe.

The human factor in the spread of the disease was highlighted as one of the most serious risks. It was highlighted that further research is required, particularly in the field of epidemiology. The Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs) for Europe, supported by the European Union, the FAO and the OIE, continues to be the leading institution for a pan-European strategy on the prevention and control of ASF.