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General Secretariat

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MEETING DOCUMENT

From: Presidency
To: Working Party on Animals and Veterinary Questions (Chief Veterinary Officers)

Subject: CVO 19/05/2025 - Working Party on Animals and Veterinary Questions (Chief Veterinary Officers) - Presidency Flash

In view of the meeting of the Working Party on Animals and Veterinary Questions (Chief Veterinary Officers) on 19 May 2025, delegations will find in annex the Presidency Flash.

Polish Presidency Flash

Meeting of the Working Party on Animals and Veterinary Questions – Chief Veterinary Officers

19 May 2025 (10:00 CET)

Europa Building, Brussels

Format 2+2 for each delegation

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to invite you to the meeting of the Working Party on Animals and Veterinary Questions (Chief Veterinary Officers) on 19 May 2025 in Brussels. Delegations that intend to raise any further issues under AOB are kindly invited to inform the Council Secretariat (LIFE.3@consilium.europa.eu) with a copy to cvo.plpres25@wetgiw.gov.pl by **16 May** to facilitate our preparation of the meeting. The agenda of the meeting is set out in document **CM 2025/25**. The background information below aims to assist delegations in their preparations and to facilitate exchange of views on the various issues that will be addressed at the meeting.

1. World Organisation for Animal Health

a) The 92nd General Session, 25-29 May 2025– preparation of the EU written positions, speaking notes and comments

– *Information from the Presidency and the Commission; exchange of views*

In preparation for the 92nd General Session of the WOAHA, on 13 May the Working Party on animals and veterinary questions (animal health) examined and generally endorsed the draft EU written positions and speaking notes in documents:

- WK 5952/2025 and WK 5953/2025 (terrestrial code and work programme),
- WK 5950/2025 (aquatic code and manual),
- WK 5955/2025 (biological standards commission).

The animal health WP also agreed a distribution of speakers for most of the speaking notes.

Following those tentative agreements, the CVOs will be invited to:

- confirm the endorsement on the positions and speaking notes,
- complete the list of speakers for the speaking notes.

In addition, the CVOs will be invited to endorse:

- the draft EU comments on parts B of the reports of the terrestrial and aquatic animal health Commissions presented in documents WK 5951/2025 and 5954/2025,
- the Union position on the draft resolution No 5 on the work programme of the WOAHA Governance Review Committee and initial adjustments to support revisions to the WOAHA basic texts (doc to come).

(N.B.: the Union position on the draft resolution No 5 to Coreper and Council should be subsequently submitted for adoption as ('I/A') item.

Furthermore, an informative point on technical reports will be presented and include the following: *Veterinary Vaccines and Vaccination: From Science to Action – Reflection for Change*, *Wildlife Working Group Report*, and *Antimicrobial Resistance Working Group Report*.

b) General overview on the nominations for the Regional Core Group for Europe

- *Information from a member of the bureau of the WOAHA Regional Commission for Europe; exchange of views*

As explained at the last CVO meeting on 9 April, the revised Terms of Reference of the Regional Core Group for Europe allocates 3 seats for nominated delegates from the EU Member States. In the email of 25 April, the Presidency invited the Member States to nominate candidates to be members of the RCG during its next 3-year term by 12 May. The Presidency will introduce the candidates and invite the Working Party to endorse them.

c) Exchange of views with the African Union in preparation for the upcoming General Session, 25-29 May 2025

- *Information from the Presidency, the Commission and the African Union; exchange of views*

Representatives of the African Union have been invited to attend the CVO meeting to share views on the main points of this year's General Session. The aim is to identify common interest for the African Union and the EU and to inform each other of their respective intended positions in relation to the standard setting work of WOAHA. The representatives of the African Union will join the Working Party via a video link. No interpretation will be provided during their intervention.

d) WOAHA Governance Review Committee – state of play

- *Information from the Presidency and members of the WOAHA Governance Review Committee; exchange of views*

Further to the discussion at the previous CVO meeting on 9 April 2025, the Working Party will receive an update on the state of play, followed by an exchange of views.

2. Role of private practice veterinarians in Animal Health Law context (Articles: 24 and 25) – outcome of the Presidency questionnaire

- *Presentations by the Presidency and FVE; exchange of views*

The Presidency will present the results of the questionnaire prepared for the Member States to share their experience in their implementation of the provisions of Articles 24 and 25 of the Animal Health Law. Next, the invited representatives of the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) will give their presentation on their experience in this field. The Presidency will invite the Danish delegation to share their views on the possibility of continuing this topic under the Danish Presidency in the next semester. This will be followed by an exchange of views.

3. Summary from the 46th General Session of the European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (EuFMD), 6-7 May 2025

- *Information from the Presidency, the Commission Services and the Chairperson of the EuFMD Executive Committee; exchange of views*

The Presidency and the Chairperson of the EuFMD Executive Committee will make a brief summary on the discussions held at the EuFMD General Session, highlighting the main issues. The results of the elections for the new Executive Committee will also be presented.

4. Any Other Business

a) FMD outbreaks in Hungary and Slovakia – update on epidemiological situation

- *Information from the Hungarian and Slovak delegations*

The Hungarian and Slovak delegations will provide the latest information concerning FMD outbreaks and ongoing activities in their countries.

We are looking forward to meeting you all in Brussels on 19 May 2025.

Kind regards,

The Polish Presidency CVO Team

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