



Organisation and implementation of training activities to strengthen EU law enforcement in Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) fields under the "Better Training for Safer Food" initiative

Notification to BTSF National Contact Points

Ref: Workshop on Carcase Classification to be held in Tilburg (the Netherlands), from 13th to 15th March 2018.

Dear Madame / Dear Sir,

We are writing to inform you about a forthcoming training workshop on beef carcase classification organized within the Better Training for Safer Food initiative of the European Commission.

The workshop is part of a wider programme of activities that will involve EU Member States and neighbouring non-EU countries through eighteen separate workshops and a series of sustained training and technical assistance missions (STMs). The aim of these training activities is to strengthen the understanding, implementation and enforcement of EU law in the fields of food and feed law, animal health and welfare rules and plant health.

The present workshop on carcase classification will be held in Tilburg, the Netherlands, and is scheduled with a three-day duration, from 13th to 15th March 2018. The venue of the event will be Mercure Hotel Tilburg Centrum (Tilburg, the Netherlands), chosen for its convenient location close to the site of field visits.

The project will cover the entire cost of the workshop for participants, which includes:

- full board accommodation, including breakfast, lunch, dinner and coffee breaks;
- travel expenses including flight to/from Amsterdam/Rotterdam (closest airport to Tilburg) in economy class and transfer to/from the airport at the place of training.

The workshop will be held in English.

Objectives of the training course

The EU has introduced a harmonized carcase classification system that includes the classification of beef carcasses by a Union scale, with the aim of assigning the commercial value of the beef in a uniform way among the Member States.

As the process of carcasses classification is a visual method, it is necessary to ensure that the Union Scale is applied in a consistent way in all Member States. The aim of this training is to provide the control

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bodies of the Member States with an opportunity to verify the compliance of the standards applied in their own countries with the standard Union Scale, and to calibrate them in case of over or underscoring.

To reach this aim, the training course will be focused on practical exercises, where participants will be called to classify some carcasses, working both in group and individually. The exercises will be carried out at the slaughterhouse and beef processing plant "Vion Food Group" in Tilburg (the Netherlands), www.vionfoodgroup.com.

Selection process

We kindly request you to nominate a number of participants as indicated in the table with allocation of seats for the **Session 4 of March 2018**, that you can find further below.

Please note that, in addition to the number of participants assigned to your country in the distribution of seats, you can nominate one additional reserve participant for this session, who will be confirmed in a second phase should there be extra places available within the workshop.

Participants should have the following requirements:

- ✓ At least 1 year of experience in supervision of the classification and control of slaughterhouses;
- ✓ Fluent in English.

Participants will be requested to commit themselves to disseminate the knowledge received via different dissemination methods, i.e. informing colleagues about the information received at the training, distributing (photocopying or sending via electronic way) the training materials among their colleagues, preparing informative articles in the professional national journals, preparing presentations based on the training materials for the staff of national Competent Authorities or other disseminating methods which could be appropriate to share the information received via the BTSF training. During the course participants will be provided with a training package to be used as supporting dissemination material.

Selected participants should be informed that the program will include an anonymous assessment test to be carried out at the beginning and at the end of each workshop, with the aim of measuring the impact of the training on the understanding of the taught subjects by participants.

Furthermore, between two to three months after the respective training session, participants will receive a standard questionnaire designed specifically to address the use of the knowledge acquired during a training in the participants' daily work practice and the type and level of further dissemination done following the training sessions.

Participants are expected to agree to carry out the above tests and to reply to the questionnaire.

Please bear in mind that all applications forms should be submitted to 20159604eusps@btsftraining.com by **9th February 2018**. We cannot guarantee that applications received after this deadline will be accepted.

We kindly ask you to send their registration forms as soon as possible, in order to ensure proper registration to the training and smooth travel arrangements.

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Kindly ensure that full details of selected participants are supplied in accordance with the Registration Form enclosed herewith. These details are needed to send the relevant e-ticket to participants and ensure that they are informed by air carriers in case of delays/changes in the flight schedule.

Allocation of seats

The courses have been offered to participants from Member States according to table below. We would kindly request you to nominate the number of participants indicated for your country in the grid below to attend the workshop.

	Member State	Total	1st session October 2016	2nd session March 2017	3rd session September 2017	4th Session March 2018
1	Austria	4	1	1	1	1
2	Belgium	4	1	1	1	1
3	Bulgaria	1	1	0	0	0
4	Croatia	3	1	1	1	0
5	Cyprus	1	1	0	0	0
6	Czech Republic	4	1	1	1	1
7	Denmark	3	0	1	1	1
8	Estonia	3	0	1	1	1
9	Finland	3	0	1	1	1
10	France	9	2	3	2	2
11	Germany	8	2	2	2	2
12	Greece	4	1	1	1	1
13	Hungary	4	1	0	1	2
14	Ireland	5	1	1	1	2
15	Italy	10	3	2	3	2
16	Latvia	3	0	1	1	1
17	Lithuania	3	0	1	1	1
18	Luxembourg	1	1	0	0	0
19	Malta	1	1	0	0	0
20	The Netherlands	4	1	1	0	2
21	Poland	7	2	2	2	1
22	Portugal	4	1	1	1	1
23	Romania	5	2	1	1	1
24	Slovakia	3	1	0	1	1
25	Slovenia	4	1	1	1	1
26	Spain	9	2	3	2	2
27	Sweden	3	0	1	1	1
28	United Kingdom	7	2	2	2	1
	Total	120	30	30	30	30

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Project Management

The workshop will be implemented by the company OPERA, that has been awarded a service contract by the EU agency CHAFEA - Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency that provides professional services in performing the tasks and activities entrusted to it by the European Commission, and works closely with the Health and Food Safety Directorate General.

For further details, you can revert to 20159604eusps@btsftraining.com or phone to + 39 06 96042652. Project Manager is Claudio BOMPARD. Training coordinator is Alberto MANCUSO.

Registration forms can be sent by e-mail to 20159604eusps@btsftraining.com. Booking of flights and other logistical arrangements will be handled directly by OPERA staff.

Please feel free to contact us if you require clarification on any of the above information. I am looking forward to hearing from you or your colleagues.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and cooperation.

Best regards.

CLAUDIO BOMPARD

Project Manager

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