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Better Training for Safer Food
Initiative

Import Controls on Live Animals

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Safeguard Measures

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SAFEGUARD MEASURES

- **Animal health and Public health situations in third countries** or parts thereof risk jeopardising animal and public health in the Union.
- Hence, in addition to general rules governing imports of animals, there are a number of **special import conditions, i.e. restrictions, for certain animals from certain locations** (and also the entry of certain livestock and feedstuff vehicles) which have been put in place at EU level in order to prevent these risks entering the Union.

➤ **1. Special Import Conditions** that are applied in imports of certain animals from certain locations:

- **Dogs and cats** (Commission Decision 2006/146/EC).
- **Prairie dogs and rodents** (Commission Decision 2003/459).

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➤ **2. Conditions set out by the Commission applied on the entry of certain livestock and feedstuff vehicles to protect animal health in the Union:**

- Measures to prevent the entry of **African Swine Fever** in the Union from certain third countries.

➤ **3. Other initiatives set out by Member States applied on the entry of certain livestock and feedstuff vehicles to protect animal health in the Union:**

- Measures to prevent the entry of **Foot and Mouth Disease** in the Union from certain third countries.

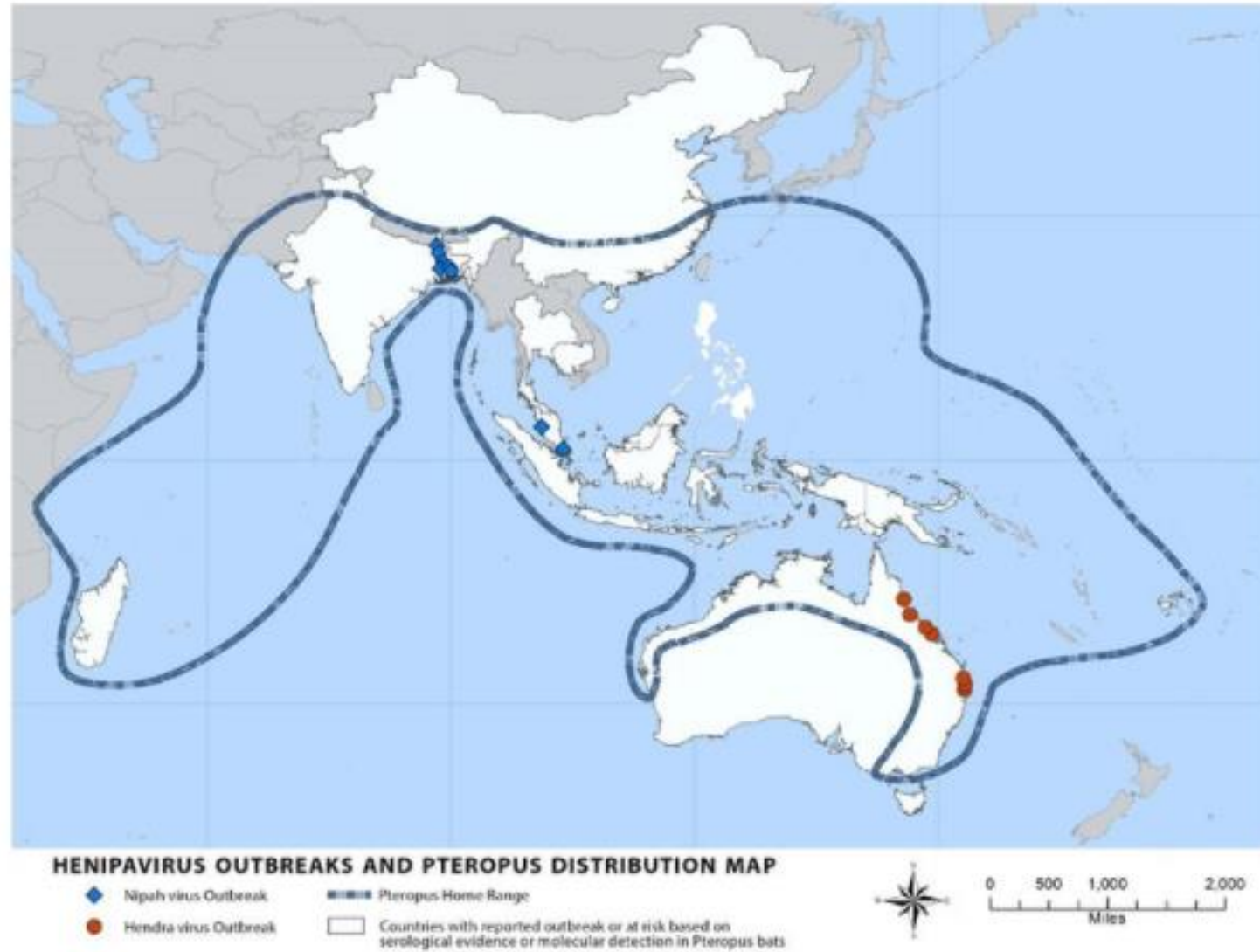
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Commission Decision 2006/146/EC on certain protection measures with regards to certain fruit bats, dogs, and cats coming from Malaysia (Peninsula) and Australia.

- Fatal cases of **Hendra disease and Nipah disease in humans** have been declared in Malaysia and Australia.
- Fruit bats of the genus *Pteropus* are a natural host of Hendra disease virus and also reservoirs for Nipah disease. However, they do not show any symptoms.
- Hendra disease may be transmitted by cats, and both dogs and cats may contract Nipah disease.

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Outbreak Distribution Map



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Commission Decision 2006/146/EC

Special Import Conditions to prevent the introduction of certain animal diseases

The presence of these zoonotic diseases in those countries is liable to constitute **a danger for persons and susceptible animals in the Union.**

It is therefore necessary to adopt protection measures at Union level with regard to the import of fruit bats, dogs and cats from Malaysia and Australia.

Special Import Conditions to prevent the introduction of certain animal diseases

Measures to be taken following these Decisions:

Article 1: the import of fruit bats of the genus *Pteropus* from Malaysia and Australia is prohibited.

However, they **may be imported** under the following conditions:

- They originate from captive colonies.
- They have been isolated for at least 60 days.
- They have been tested with negative result against Hendra and Nipah disease viruses.

and they meet the conditions for import condition established in the AHL.

Special Import Conditions to prevent the introduction of certain animal diseases

Measures to be taken following these Decisions:

Article 2: the import of dogs and cats from Malaysia (Peninsula) is prohibited.

However, they **may be imported** under the following conditions:

- They have not had contact with pigs for at least 60 days prior to the export.
- They come from holdings where there were no cases of Nipah disease in the last 60 days.
- They have been tested for Nipah disease within the 10 days prior to the export with negative results.

(and they meet other import requirements)

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Commission Decision 2006/146/EC



Special Import Conditions to prevent the introduction of certain animal diseases

Measures to be taken following these Decisions:

Article 3: the import of cats from Australia is prohibited.

However, they **may be imported** under the following conditions:

- They come from holdings where there have been no cases of Hendra in the last 60 days.
- The prohibition does not apply to cats in transit provided they remain within the perimeter of the airport.

(and they meet other import requirements)

Special Import Conditions to prevent the introduction of certain animal diseases

Thus, in the case of dogs and cats pets accompanying their owners, proceeding from the territories mentioned in **Decision 2006/146/EC** and with the intention of entering the Union, they must comply with the requirements of:

➤ **Regulation (EU) 576/2013**

AND

➤ **Commission Decision 2006/146/EC**



Special Import Conditions to prevent the introduction of certain animal diseases

Safeguard measures with regard to monkeypox virus

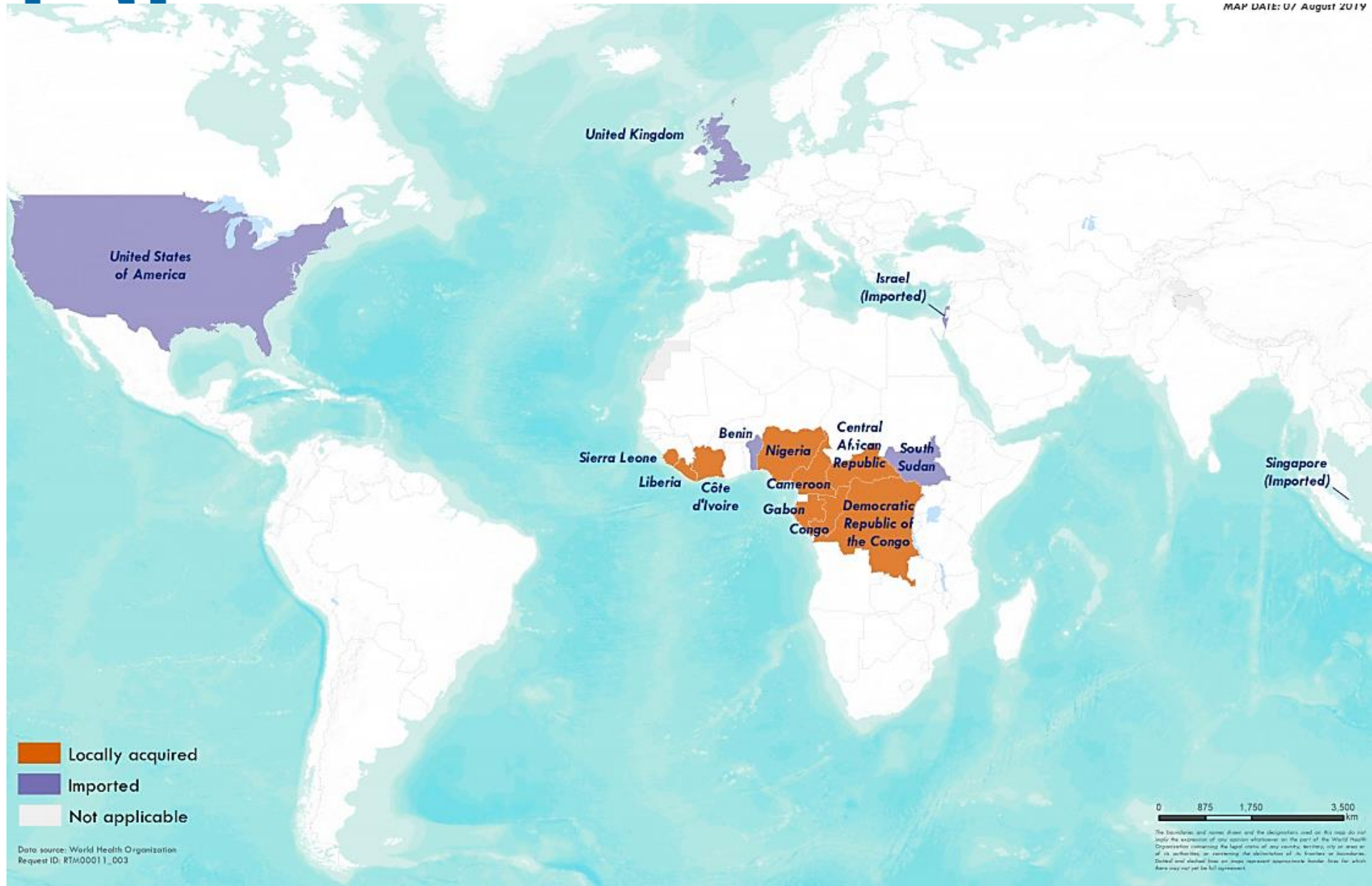
- Monkeypox is a viral zoonosis not present in Europe, with symptoms similar to those seen in the past in smallpox patients.
- Human monkeypox was first identified in 1970 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Since 1970, human cases of monkeypox have been reported from 11 African countries – Benin, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Nigeria, the Republic of the Congo, Sierra Leone, and South Sudan.
- In 2017 Nigeria experienced the largest documented outbreak, 40 years after the last confirmed case, continuing to have cases up to present.

Special Import Conditions to prevent the introduction of certain animal diseases

Safeguard measures with regard to monkeypox virus

- The virus has been found outside Africa a few times. In the **spring of 2003**, monkeypox cases were confirmed in the **United States of America**. Most patients were reported to have had close contact with pet **prairie dogs** that were infected by **African rodents** that had been imported into the country from Ghana.
- Monkeypox was carried to **Israel in September 2018**, to the **United Kingdom in September 2018 and December 2019** and to **Singapore** in May 2019 by travellers from Nigeria.
- In **Democratic Republic of Congo**, monkeypox is considered to be **endemic** with more than 1000 cases per year.

Source: WTO



Symptoms:

- **The illness begins with:** Fever, Headache, Muscle aches, Backache, Swollen lymph nodes, Chills and Exhaustion.
- **Within 1 to 3 days** after the appearance of fever, **the patient develops a rash**, often beginning on the face then spreading to other parts of the body.
- **Lesions progress through the following stages** before falling off: Macules, Papules, Vesicles, Pustules, Scabs.
- The illness typically lasts for 2–4 weeks. In Africa, monkeypox has been shown to cause **death in 1 in 10 persons** who contract the disease.

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Commission Decision 2003/459



Special Import Conditions to prevent the introduction of certain animal diseases

Safeguard measures with regard to monkeypox virus

It is therefore appropriate, in order to avoid the situation encountered in the United States of America, to adopt the necessary protection measures at Union level.

COMMISSION DECISION 2003/459 on certain protection measures with regard to monkeypox virus.

Special Import Conditions to prevent the introduction of certain animal diseases

COMMISSION DECISION 2003/459 on certain protection measures with regard to monkeypox virus.

Article 1

Member States shall **prohibit** the importation of **prairie dogs** (*Cynomys* spp.) originating in or coming from the United States.

Special Import Conditions to prevent the introduction of certain animal diseases

COMMISSION DECISION 2003/459 on certain protection measures with regard to monkeypox virus.

Article 2

Member States shall **prohibit** the importation of **rodents of non-domestic species and squirrels** originating in or coming from third countries of the **African sub-Saharan region**.

Which are the sub-Saharan countries?



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Source: United Nations

Special Import Conditions to prevent the introduction of certain animal diseases

Article 3: Derogations to the prohibition provided for in Articles 1 and 2 may be authorised by the competent authorities of a Member State in the framework of imports between establishments as defined **in article 2 of Directive 92/65** (*repealed by Regulation (EU) 2016/426 i.e. AHL*)

Note: Establishments is defined in **article 4 of the AHL** as any premises, structure, or, in the case of open-air farming, any environment or place, where animals or germinal products are kept, on a temporary basis, except for:

- (a) Households where animals are kept;
- (b) Veterinary practices or clinics;

BTSF Other measures to prevent the introduction of certain animal diseases

Commission Implementing **Decision 2013/426/EU** *(as amended) on measures to prevent the introduction of the African Swine Fever virus from certain third countries...in which the presence of that disease is confirmed and repealing Decision 2011/78/EU.*

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Other measures to prevent the introduction of certain animal diseases

Why is it necessary to take safeguard measures in these cases?

- African swine fever (ASF) is a **highly contagious and fatal virus infection** of domestic pigs and wild boar with the potential for rapid spread through products obtained from infected animals and contaminated objects.
- **In 2013, Belarus reported cases of ASF** close to the border with Poland and Lithuania.
- **In January 2014 Lithuania made** the first notification of ASF cases in wild boar, and **Poland** followed in February 2014. In June and September 2014, **Latvia and Estonia** respectively also reported ASF.

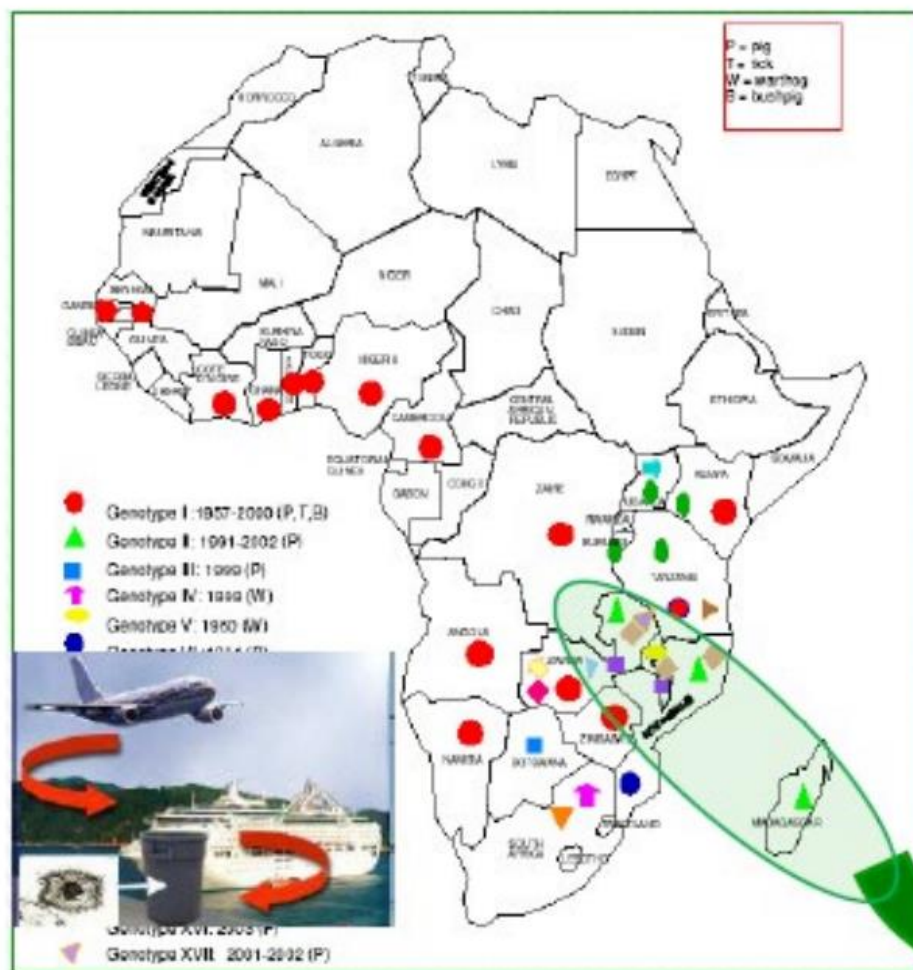
Other measures to prevent the introduction of certain animal diseases

Why is it necessary to take safeguard measures in these cases?

- All epidemiological data indicate that EU has undergone **repeated introduction of ASF virus** from the Eastern neighbouring countries.
- Despite this, **the EU has managed to contain ASF in close vicinity** to the eastern border with few isolated incidents within a range of tens of km.
- **The incidence of ASF in Russia, Ukraine and Moldova** is also a concern for other member states. Currently there are ASF control measures in several Member States including Belgium, Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Italy (Sardinia), Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia.

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Decision 2013/426/EU

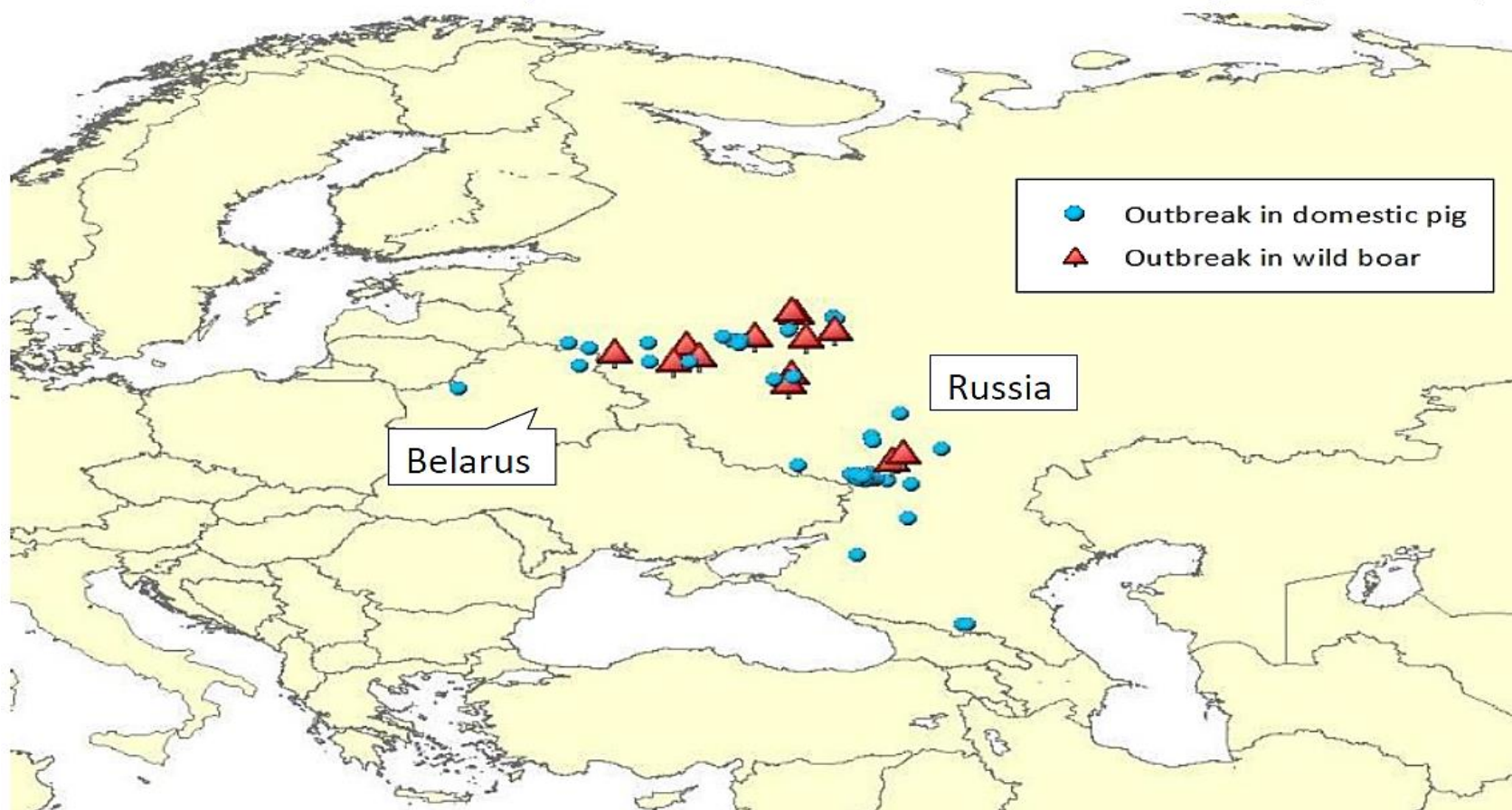


Georgia June 2007

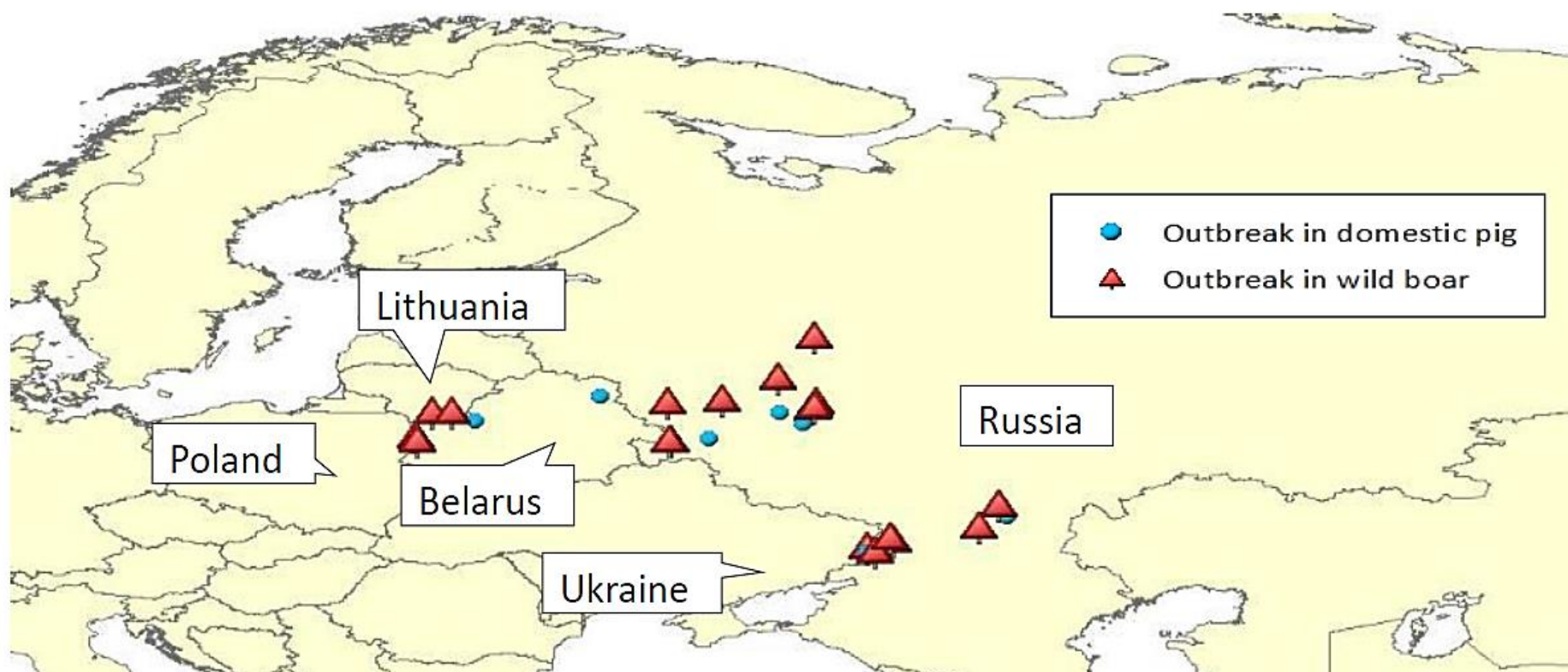


Source: DG SANTE.

Outbreaks reported in Eastern Europe (2013)

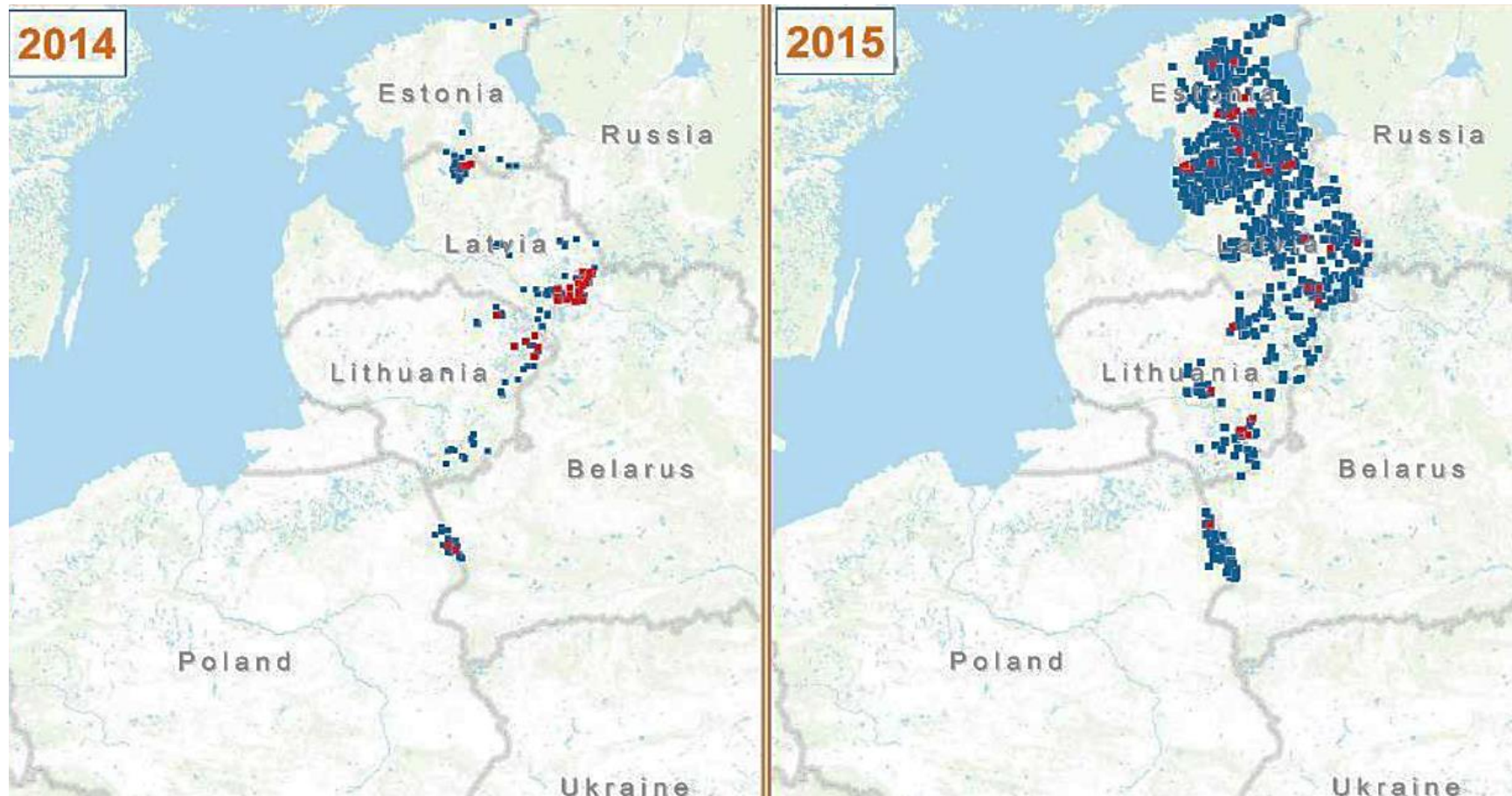


Outbreaks reported in Eastern Europe (Jan-May 2014)



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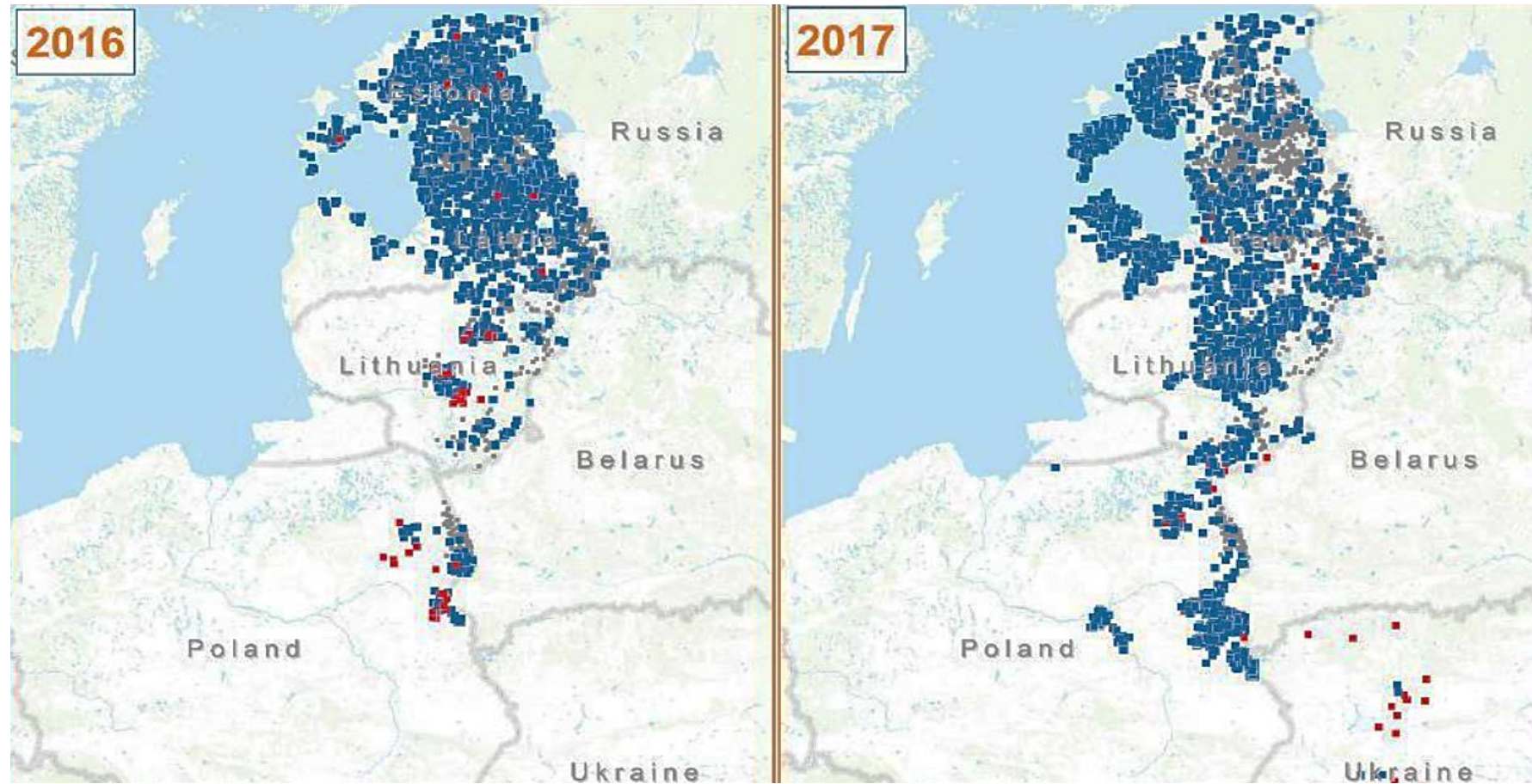
Decision 2013/426/EU



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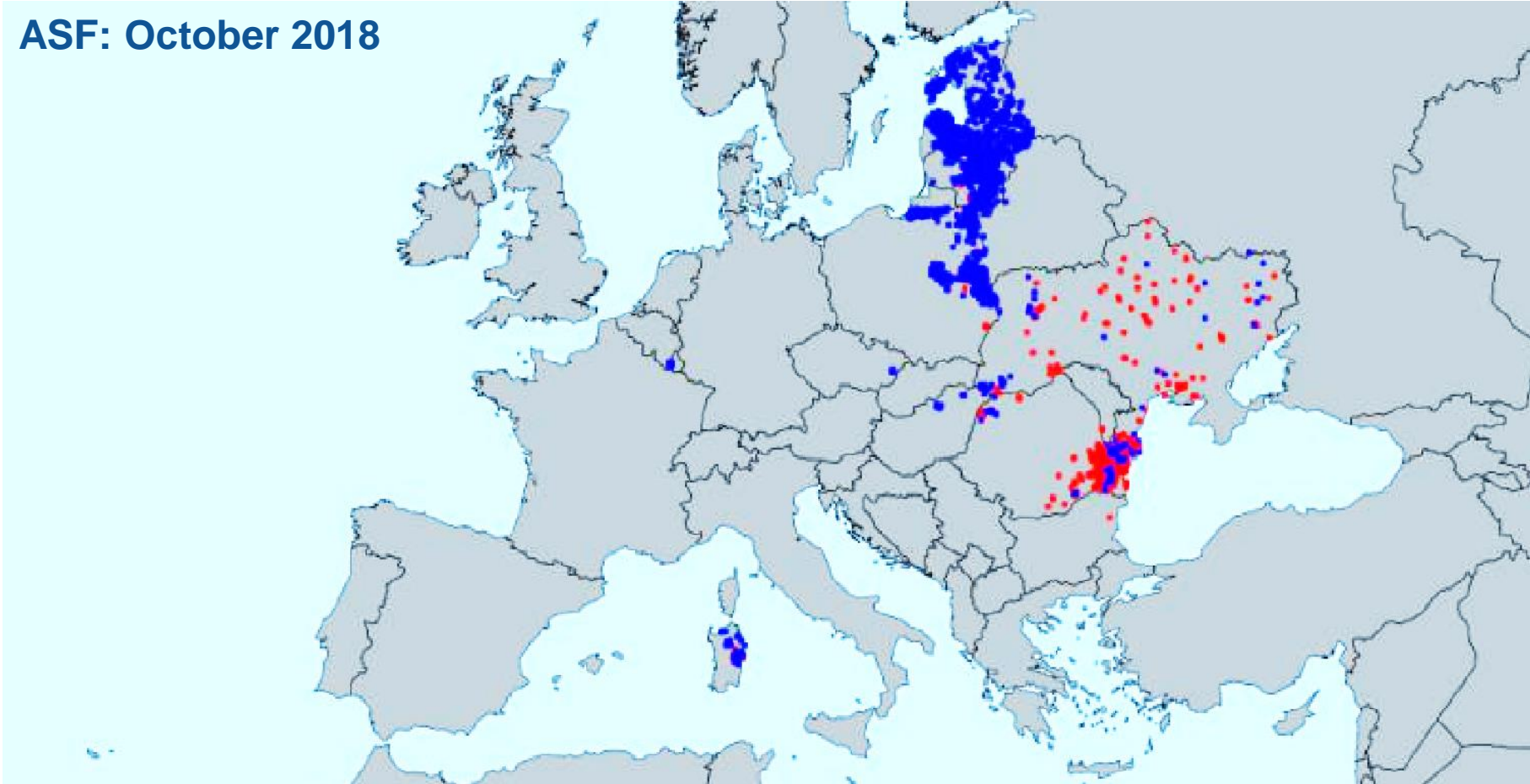
Decision 2013/426/EU



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Decision 2013/426/EU

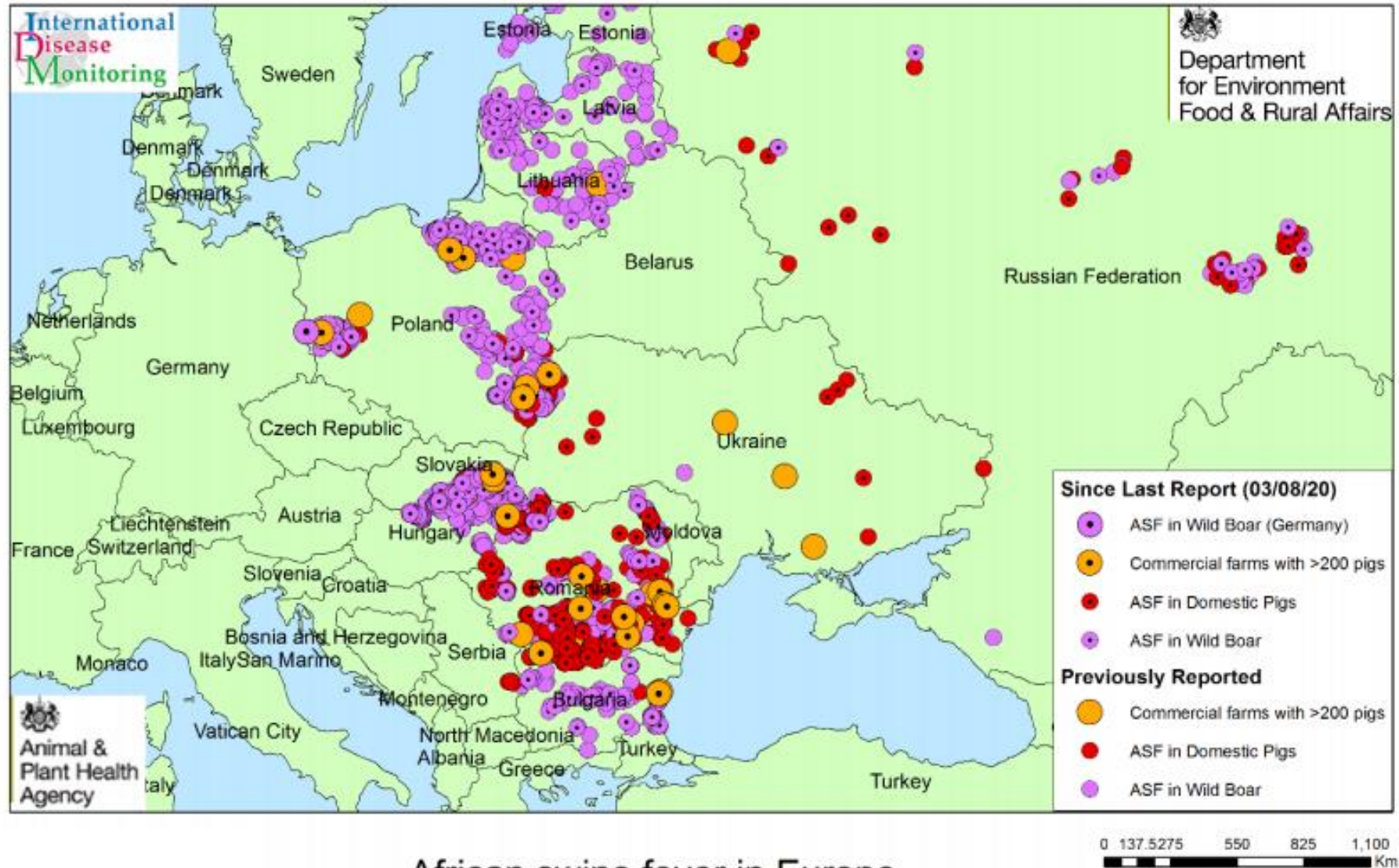
ASF: October 2018



Source: DG SANTE.

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ASF: April – September 2020



African swine fever in Europe
April - September 2020

Source: DEFRA

Other measures to prevent the introduction of certain animal diseases

- **Measures to be taken following Decision 2013/426:**
- **Cleansing and disinfection of the vehicles** (and protective clothing used during unloading) after the last unloading of animals or feed in the countries in Annex I (Belarus, Moldova, Russia, Serbia, Ukraine).
 - **Declaration of the driver** that the vehicle has been cleansed and disinfected, indicating the product used and its concentration and when and where the new loading will take place (model: ANNEX II).
 - **Inspections on vehicles** that have transported livestock or feed at the point of entry to verify of cleansing and disinfection have been properly carried out.

Other measures to prevent the introduction of certain animal diseases

- Where the results of the checks are satisfactory, **an additional on-the-spot disinfection** of the vehicle may be carried out.
- In addition, the competent authority shall issue a certificate in accordance with the model set out in **ANNEX III**.
- Where the checks reveal that **cleansing and disinfection is NOT satisfactory** one of the following measures shall be taken:
 - a) **Cleansing and disinfection in a designated facility** in the **vicinity** of the point of entry.
 - b) Where there are no suitable facilities in the vicinity of the point of entry: **Refuse entry into the Union.**

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MODEL DECLARATION TO BE PROVIDED BY THE OPERATOR/DRIVER OF THE LIVESTOCK VEHICLE ENTERING THE UNION FROM THIRD COUNTRIES OR PARTS OF THE TERRITORY OF THIRD COUNTRIES WHERE THE PRESENCE OF AFRICAN SWINE FEVER IS CONFIRMED

I, the operator/driver of the livestock vehicle declare that:
(insert number of registration plate)

— the most recent unloading of animals and feed took place at:

Country, region, place	Date (dd.mm.yy)	Time (hh:mm)

— following unloading, the livestock vehicle was subject to cleansing and disinfection. The cleansing and disinfection included the livestock or loading compartment, [the truck body] (delete if not applicable), the loading ramp, the equipment having been in contact with animals, the wheels and the driver's cabin and protective clothes/boots used during unloading.

The cleansing and disinfection took place:

Country, region, place	Date (dd.mm.yy)	Time (hh:mm)

— the disinfectant has been used at the concentrations recommended by the manufacturer (to indicate the substance and its concentration):

— the next loading of animals will take place at:

Country, region, place	Date (dd.mm.yy)	Time (hh:mm)

Date	Place	Signature of the operator/driver

Name of operator/driver of the livestock vehicle and its business address (in block letters)

**CLEANSING AND DISINFECTION CERTIFICATE FOR LIVESTOCK VEHICLES ENTERING THE UNION FROM
THIRD COUNTRIES OR PARTS OF THE TERRITORY OF THIRD COUNTRIES WHERE THE PRESENCE OF
AFRICAN SWINE FEVER IS CONFIRMED**

I, the undersigned official certify that I have checked:

1. the livestock vehicle(s) with the registration plate(s) today
(insert number(s) of registration plate(s))

and by visual control found the livestock or loading compartment, [the truck body] ⁽¹⁾, the loading ramp, the equipment having been in contact with animals, the wheels and the driver's cabin and protective clothes/boots used during unloading satisfactorily cleansed.

2. the information presented in the form of a declaration as set out in Annex II to Commission Implementing Decision 2013/426/EU or in another equivalent form covering the items set out in Annex II to Commission Implementing Decision 2013/426/EU.

Date	Time	Place	Competent authority	Signature of the official (*)
Stamp:	Name in block letters:			

(*) The colour of the stamp and the signature must be different from that of the printing.

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Examples of initiatives set out by Member States to prevent the introduction of certain animal diseases

- Measures to prevent the entry of **Foot and Mouth Disease** in the Union from certain third countries.

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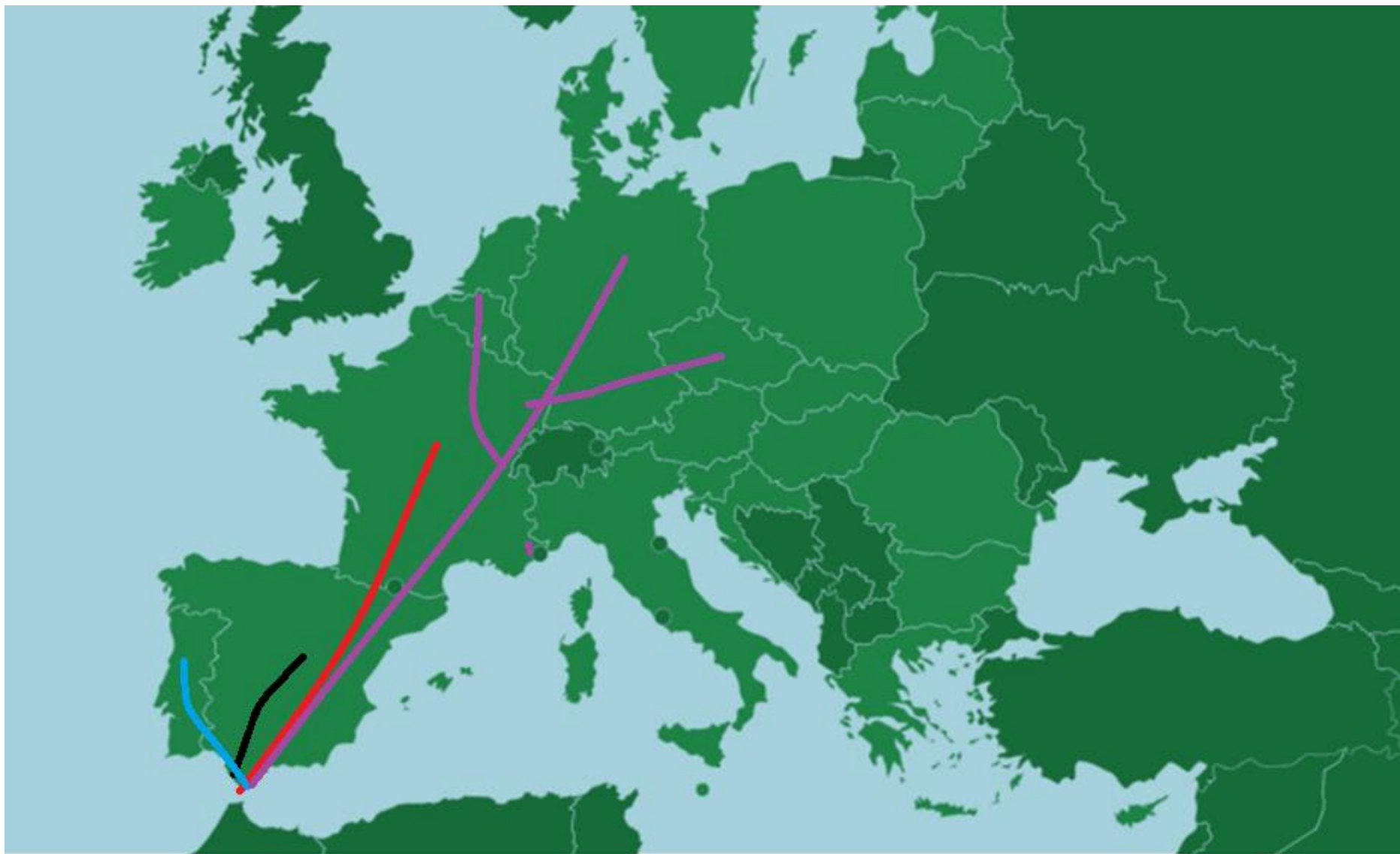
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Other measures to prevent the introduction of certain animal diseases

- In 2019 and 2020 there have been notified by IOE outbreaks of foot-and-mouth (F&M) disease in **Algeria** in June 2019 and **Libya**.
- There has been absence of cases in **Tunisia and Morocco**. However, the circulation of the F&M disease virus in their territory can not be excluded, as scheduled sero-surveillance has not been completed.
- Member States export a significant number of **consignments of live animals** to those third countries. **Livestock vehicles** are used for the transport of these animals may be contaminated with the foot-and-mouth disease virus and therefore constitute a risk for the introduction of that disease upon their return to the Union.
- A great number of these **vehicles leave the Union towards these third countries through Spain** and they come back into the Union using the same route.

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Movement of livestock vehicles from the Union to Northern Africa



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Specific safeguard measures to prevent the introduction of certain animal diseases

- **The virus can also persist in a contaminated environment** outside the host animal for several weeks depending on the temperature.
- **Appropriate cleansing and disinfection of livestock vehicles** and vessels is the most appropriate way to reduce the risk of rapid virus transmission over large distances.
- It is therefore appropriate **to ensure that all livestock vehicles** which have transported live animals to destinations in Morocco, Algeria, Libia and Tunisia **are appropriately cleansed and disinfected.**

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Specific safeguard measures to prevent the introduction of certain animal diseases

Measures that are being applied:

Checks on livestock vehicles and vehicles transporting feed to be carried out at the point of entry into the Union in southern Spain:

- **Cleansing and Disinfection of the vehicles** (and also boots and clothing) after the last unloading of animals or feed in these countries coming directly from these countries or transiting through any third country.
- **Declaration of the driver** that the vehicle has been cleansed and disinfected, indicating the product used and its concentration and when and where the new loading will take place (**model ANNEX I**)
- **Inspections on vehicles** that have transported livestock at the point of entry to verify cleansing and disinfection have been properly completed.

Specific safeguard measures to prevent the introduction of certain animal diseases

- Where the result of checks are satisfactory, **an additional on-the-spot disinfection** of the vehicle may be carried out.
- In addition, the competent authority shall issue a certificate the vehicle is clean and disinfected.
- Where the checks reveal that **cleansing and disinfection is NOT satisfactory** one of the following measures shall be taken:
 - a) **Cleansing and disinfection in a designated facility** in the vicinity of the point of entry.
 - b) Where there are no suitable facilities in the vicinity of the point of entry:
 - **Refuse entry into the Union.**
 - **Perform a preliminary on the spot disinfection** of the vehicle pending the application of the measures in point (a).

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Thank you

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