

EUROPEAN COMMISSION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Directorate G – Veterinary and International Affairs Director

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Subject:	Highly pathogenic avian influenza (subtype in poultry in Dordogne, France	•	H5N1 and H5N2
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Message:

At the meeting of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed which closed today on 1/12/2015 the French authorities have updated the Commission and Member States on the situation for highly pathogenic avian influenza in poultry in the department of Dordogne.

Following the confirmation of an outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza of H5N1 subtype in a chicken backyard holding in the commune of Biras in Dordogne on 24 November 2015 (see my faxes 043 and 044 of 25/11 and 26/11/2015 respectively), two further outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza of the H5 subtype were detected. One of these outbreaks was confirmed on 29 November 2015 in a commercial duck holding and the determination of the Neuraminidase subtype is pending. The third outbreak concerns a goose holding were a highly pathogenic avian influenza virus of subtype H5N2 was confirmed on 30/11/2015. The French authorities have implemented the measures for the control of avian influenza including the culling of the poultry in the new outbreaks.

Regarding the areas placed under restrictions by the French authorities as protection and surveillance zones around the three confirmed outbreaks, a draft Commission Implementing Decision Document SANTE/7025/2015 Rev.1 (see Annex) was presented at today's meeting of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed for a vote and obtained a favourable opinion of the Committee. France has also established as a precaution additional zones as a buffer zone around the first two outbreaks owing to the fact that they are caused by H5N1 and H5 (N subtype pending) where additional control measures are applied. Find also attached a map showing the location of the outbreaks in the department of Dordogne and the established zones

The situation will be kept under close review and the measures will be revised in the light of the development of the epidemiological situation.

Yours faithfully Bernard Van Goethem

C.c.: M. Valletta, E. Demicoli (Cabinet Commissioner Andriukaitis), E. Brivio (DG COMM),
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FAO, EFSA, ECDC, Council Secretariat, Del Turkey, Del Russia, Del Switzerland.