



**WHAT IS EXPECTED FROM
A COMPETENT AUTHORITY**
**re: Animal health/food of animal origin
safety official controls and certification**

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WHAT IS EXPECTED FROM A COMPETENT AUTHORITY re: Animal health/food of animal origin safety official controls and certification

- *To be accurately and timely informed of the location of herds/flocks, movements of animals, and of imported animals (traceability of animals via registration of herds/flocks, identification of live animals via databases)*
- *To be accurately and timely informed about the health status of herds/flocks and animals re. major contagious disease, including vaccinations (early disease detection, contingency plans, surveillance of farms, feed back information from slaughter houses,...)*
- *In more general terms it should be **EFFECTIVE and RELIABLE***

ORGANISATION AND STRUCTURES IN EFFECTIVE CONTROL SYSTEMS

- **Competent Authority (CA) management structure**
- **CA Independence**
- **Laboratory network (AH and PH)**
- **Import Controls**

Continued

ORGANISATION AND STRUCTURES IN EFFECTIVE CONTROL SYSTEMS

- **CA management structure**

Centralised, decentralised, federal,

National, regional, local CA levels,

In any case, CA management structure (s) should discharge TC liability and commitments,

Tasks/tools to be insured :

- **Chain of command:** as direct as possible from the first CA level empowered for control implementation to the official controllers,
- **Instructions** issued from the first CA level empowered for control implementation to the official controllers for harmonisation,
- **Training** for instruction implementation,

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ORGANISATION AND STRUCTURES IN EFFECTIVE CONTROL SYSTEMS

- **CA management structure**
 - Instructions **implementation**,
 - **Verification of and reporting on** instruction implementation,
 - **Feedback** on the results of the controls, follow-up actions,
 - **Corrective actions in case of system failure** and verification of and reporting on implementation of these corrective actions,
 - **Co-ordination/co-operation between CAs** in order to cover the food chain , to avoid gaps and overlap (national control programmes) ***e.g. poultry meat production feed, VMP, farms, SH and further processing plants including cold stores, AM and PM inspection and feed back to farms .***

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ORGANISATION AND STRUCTURES IN EFFECTIVE CONTROL SYSTEMS

- **CA/Staff Independence**

CA

- **Financial independence principle:** avoiding a direct funding from “whom” is controlled (State/Region budget or/and inspection fees)

CA/staff

- **Legal administrative status:** official or under official control (rights and obligations), as such as avoiding possible conflict of interests
- **Salary:** avoiding compromising/corruption,
- **Powers:** administrative/police power, judicial power,
- **Competencies:** background, training, on-going training,
- **Internal control:** staff practices, control activity performance and results.



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ORGANISATION AND STRUCTURES IN EFFECTIVE CONTROL SYSTEMS

- **Laboratory network**

National reference laboratories (for animal diseases and FOA): expertise and proficiency tests for “routine” official labs

Official laboratories

- The whole country is to be adequately covered,
- Structures, equipment, budget are to be appropriate,
- In addition to accreditation, supervision of these labs by CA,
 - Direct if administratively dependent,
 - By means of contracts if not (approval procedure).



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ORGANISATION AND STRUCTURES IN EFFECTIVE CONTROL SYSTEMS

- **Import controls**

CAs have to ensure that only EU authorised raw materials (Countries and vessels/establishment) enters in the EU export FAO chain:

KEY ELEMENTS: *harmonised operation and controller reactivity*

- **Implementation of instructions** issued by the relevant CA level,
- **Updated information ensured** (Commission decisions/Third Country-establishments lists),
- **Report activity results to the relevant CA level,**
- **Forward immediately positive results, significant infringements to the higher CA level** (for feeding the RASFF in the future),
- **Supervised by the relevant CA level,**
- **Financial independence of the controllers at border posts** (e.g. levy fees on imported FP).

Legislation for CA



Conclusion

Harmonised implementation, control, enforcement of a SPS legislation is not an obstacle to trade, it is essential to trade

SPS legislation and official control system must follow WTO/SPS international guides and the 3 sisters (OIE, CA, IPPC) codes and recommendations

Requires efforts on the side of the third countries (CA and farmers/FBO)

CA must be effective and reliable through a documented official control system and programmes

Make possible the access to new markets, in particular in the higher value end of the market

Contributes to better food safety and security situations in third countries