



## New Animal Health Legislation

Annual meeting NRLs Fish Diseases, Copenhagen,  
27 -28 May 2015

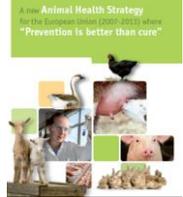
Knut Roenningen  
Unit G2 – Animal health  
Directorate-General for Health and Consumers  
European Commission, Brussels

This presentation does not necessarily represent the views of the European Commission



## EU Animal Health Law

- The main instrument to implement the objectives of the Animal Health Strategy (2007-2013)
- *More risk based, proactive, preventive behaviour*
- *Horizontal principles and rules for transmissible diseases*
- *Simplify existing rules:*
  - Numerically
  - In substance
- *Align with Lisbon Treaty*
- *Fit for decades to come*
- *No revolution, but evolution*



## The Animal Health Law (AHL)

- *From* a fragmented legislation of ca. 40 Directives and Regulations
- *To* a single and robust legal framework for animal health
- Clearly laying down *responsibilities* of keepers, operators, veterinarians, competent authorities, etc.
- *Risk based approach:* Categorization/prioritisation of diseases for EU intervention
- *Improved response to emerging diseases*



## AHL – New elements

- *More prevention:*
  - Biosecurity at farms, in transport, assembly, at borders
  - Enhanced surveillance, disease notification and reporting
  - Clearer policy for the use of vaccines and in relation to disease control & diagnosis also some other veterinary medicines
- *Easier and safer trade:*
  - Enhanced convergence with international standards animal health (OIE)
  - Compartmentalisation
  - Requirements for export
  - Added flexibility



Animal Health Law:

## IMPACT ON AQUATIC ANIMALS



## AHL and Aquatic animals: the approach

- *Keep principles of Directive 2006/88/EC*
- *Align to the Lisbon Treaty*
- *Harmonise with terrestrial animals where appropriate*
- *Simplify and clarify where appropriate*
  - fewer definitions
  - simplified rules – details in delegated/implementing acts
  - added flexibility (in particular as regards movements and disease control)
  - Reduce administrative burden (registration, approval)





**Regulation replaces Directive:  
Rules will be directly binding – no national customization**

- **Operators**
  - Responsibility for animal health and **biosecurity**
  - Basic knowledge of animal health
- **Veterinarians/aquatic animal health professionals**
- **Member States**
  - Responsibility for animal health
  - Adequate resources, laboratory capacity, animal health services, training



**Scope**

Significantly broader than Directive 2006/88 with regard to wild aquatic animals

- movement of the live animals in general
- transport, storage, water exchange
- movement of live animals for human consumption

Improved possibilities for setting out rules for the use of aquatic animals for specific purposes (zoos, pet shops, garden ponds, spa fish etc.)

Pet animals (ornamental aquatic animals) are included



**Disease listing and categorisation**

- **New criteria for listing of diseases**
- **Five different lists (a – e)**
  - a. Exotic diseases – “stamping out” strategy
  - b. Less serious diseases - mandatory eradication
  - c. Less serious diseases – voluntary eradication
  - d. Diseases subject to movement rules/restrictions
  - e. Disease subject to rules for surveillance
- **Response to emerging diseases and ab - resistance**



**Further work**

**The new legislation will enter into force 2020**

**Implementing and delegated acts to be prepared and adopted within 2018.**

- review the listing of diseases
- align surveillance and diagnostic rules to the new framework
- align import rules to the new framework
- set out detailed rules for areas not regulated to day where appropriate.

**An impact assessment probably necessary for parts of the scope for aquatic animals**



Thank you for your attention

