

BRUSSELS UPDATE 28/08/2015

- [Common project SANTE-MARE on traceability and labelling for fishery and aquaculture products](#)

As announced in the expert group on markets on 17th June and as well in a DG SANTE committee with Member States the planning of the fact finding mission series is on its way and the EC will carry out a pilot mission to the UK in November. Afterwards the EC will evaluate this first mission internally to use the gained experience for the next five fact finding missions to Member States in 2016. At the end of this series there will be an overview report, which will be published and discussed.

The objective of this mission is to evaluate the systems of control in Member States for traceability and labelling of fishery products. Another important objective of this joint project is to harmonize views and procedures amongst the two Commission services that will work together in different but complementary legislations. This project does not intend to focus on fraud; however, any incompliance with the legislation will be duly addressed.

It could be possible to have a sort of communication/interim-report in the middle of the process; however it is too early to have this confirmed by the EC. Nevertheless the EC will work in close cooperation with Member States and they will be informed about any possible action.

- [EP question on Food Information to consumers](#)

On 21st July the member of the European Parliament, Renate Sommer (EP Conservative Party) addressed the following question for written answer to the EC on national rules introduced in the context of Regulation 1169/2011 (Food information to consumers)

“Many of the articles of Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 on the provision of food information to consumers give the Member States the option of deciding themselves how certain particulars are to be provided (e.g. information concerning allergens in non-prepacked products — Article 44) or of recommending that additional information be provided (e.g. additional mandatory particulars — Article 39). The resulting array of additional national labelling rules is creating serious problems for undertakings which operate throughout the EU. In particular, SMUs which market their products in more than one country are finding it difficult to retain an overview of the national rules which apply in addition to those in force under the Food Information Regulation.

Against this background, can the Commission answer the following questions:

Are the Member States required to notify the Commission of any additional national labelling rules they introduce?

Does the Commission monitor the measures taken at national level in the context of the Food Information Regulation?

If so, does it plan to publish information about additional national labelling rules and implementation recommendations in the form of a report or a database?”

- [New information on the Rules of Origin at tariff line level in the Market Access Database](#)

The MADB was recently enhanced with new information concerning the ‘Rules of Origin’ applicable to a product in order to benefit from preferential treatment in case there is a trade agreement between the EU and a partner country. The information is displayed in the

“Tariffs” section of the MADB after introducing a 4-digit or 6-digit HS product code or a description of goods.

Agendas:

- [European Parliament - PECH Committee. 3 September 2015.](#)
- [European Parliament – INTA Committee 31st August 2015.](#)
- [EU Council Working Party Internal and External Fisheries Policy – 3 September 2015](#)

Useful links:

- [Annex to the proposal for a Council Regulation opening and providing for the management of autonomous Union Tariff Quotas for certain fishery products for the period 2016-2018](#)
- [Annex to the Proposal for a Council decision on the conclusion of the Protocol initiated on 20 March 2015 setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community on the one hand, and the Government of Denmark and Greenland.](#)
- [Call for tender – Food chain analysis of selected aquaculture species products: identification and monitoring of vulnerabilities and drivers of change for the identification of emerging risks](#)

Events:

- ["Blue Invest EU Support to Maritime Regions", Brussels, 22 September](#)
- [9th EFFL Conference Food Law 2020 – Satisfying Consumers’ Expectations 22-23 October](#)

DG MARE:

http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/newsroom/cf/mare/news.cfm?subweb=342&sub=1&lang=en

EFSA: <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/>

Other events:

<http://europa.eu/newsroom/calendar/?siteLanguage=en>

Cristina Fernández
Cristina.fernandez@seafish.co.uk