

Ministry of Agriculture



**Risk Assessment Center
on Food Chain**

Multisectoral coordination against health problems, arising in the interaction between humans, animals and the environment – animal health perspective

23.03.2022, Sofia, Bulgaria

ONE HEALTH COMPETENT AUTHORITIES IN BULGARIA



**HUMAN
HEALTH**



Ministry of
Health –
human/public
health

**ANIMAL
HEALTH**



Ministry of
Agriculture –
animal and plant
health

ONE HEALTH

Ministry of
Environment
and Water –
environmental
protection,
biodiversity,
wildlife

ENVIRONMENT



**ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH**



**ONE
HEALTH**



**HUMAN
HEALTH**



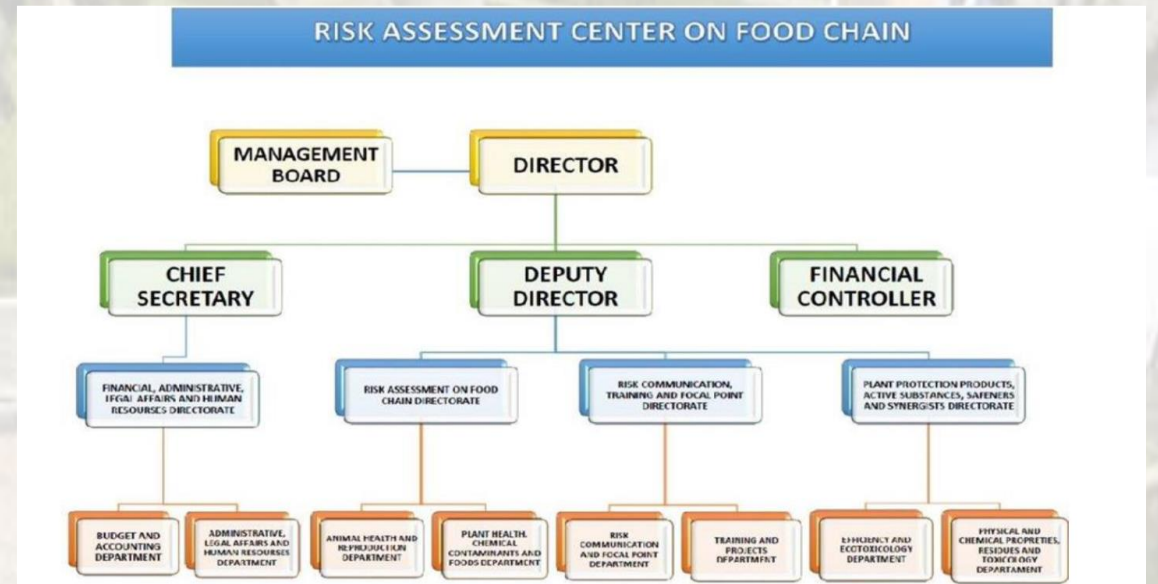
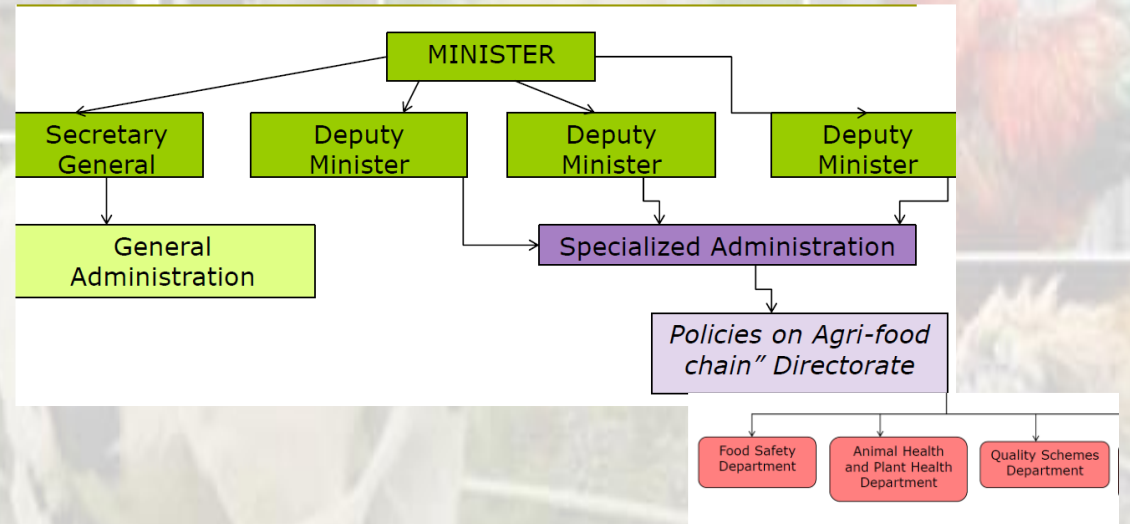
**ANIMAL
HEALTH**

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH:

- ❖ **Ministry of Agriculture (Policies on Agri-food Chain Directorate - PAFCD)** – policy making on agri-food chain (developing, coordinating and implementing the state policy in the fields of quality and safety of food and feed, animal health, plant health and plant reproductive material, genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and border control on agri-food chain). Coordinating single body on Multi-annual national control plans (MANCP) and national central point for the Information management system for official controls (IMSOC) of the EU.
- ❖ **Risk Assessment Center on Food Chain (RACFC)** – risk assessment and risk communication on agri-food chain (independent scientific assessment of risks related to food safety, animal health and independent scientific assessment on the risks related to food safety, animal health and welfare, food of animal origin and feed these opinions are used by the risk managers for a basis to work out the polices, programs or plans for prevention, monitoring, control and eradication of the zoonotic diseases. The center develops opinions on the necessity of the vaccination against some zoonotic agents. The RACFC experts participate in epidemic studies on the spot as regards zoonotic outbreaks. They also take part in the work of the veterinary medicine advisory council and the Food Safety Advisory Council to the minister of agriculture.

As regards the risk communication on agri-food chain the Center publishes on its website scientific information, reviews and opinions, organizes round tables, conferences and seminar related to zoonotic diseases. They also give opinions on the training programs for official veterinarians and food operators as regard the combating the zoonotic diseases as well as the experts participated with opinions during the development of 2022-2026 Antimicrobial Resistant Action Plan. The Center is national contact point for providing annual data on zoonoses and antimicrobial resistance to EFSA.

<https://corhv.government.bg/?lang=en>



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH:

- ❖ **Bulgarian Food Safety Agency (BFSA)**– official competent control authority on **agri-food chain** (official control on plant protection products and fertilizers; veterinary activities; animal health and welfare; animal by-products not intended for human consumption; feedingstuffs; raw materials and foodstuffs (with the exception of bottled natural mineral, spring and table water); materials and articles intended for contact with food; and the quality compliance of fresh fruits and vegetables with the European Commission (EC) standards for placing on the market)
- ❖ **National Diagnostic and Research Veterinary (Medical) Institute (NDRVI)** – *within the BFSA* – national reference laboratories for food and feed safety and animal health incl. zoonosis – rabies, avian influenza, Salmonella, tuberculosis, brucellosis, TSEs, AMR, anthrax, Q-fever, leptospirosis etc.
- ❖ Detailed description of the overall organization of the Bulgarian authorities and the respective responsibilities of the Ministries and Government agencies in relation to the different components of the control system for food and feed safety, animal health, animal welfare and plant health and the organization in Bulgaria is available in the country profile, which is drawn up by the Health and food audits and analysis (HFAA), a Directorate of the Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety of the European Commission and is publicly available: https://ec.europa.eu/food/audits-analysis/country_profiles/details.cfm?co_id=BG

LEGISLATION ON ZONOSIS (INCL. AMR ASPECT):

MAIN REGULATORY FRAMEWORK AT EU LEVEL:

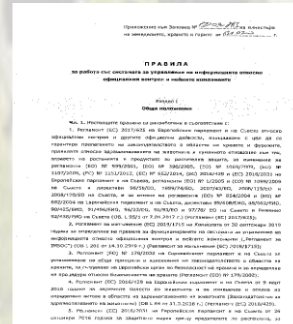
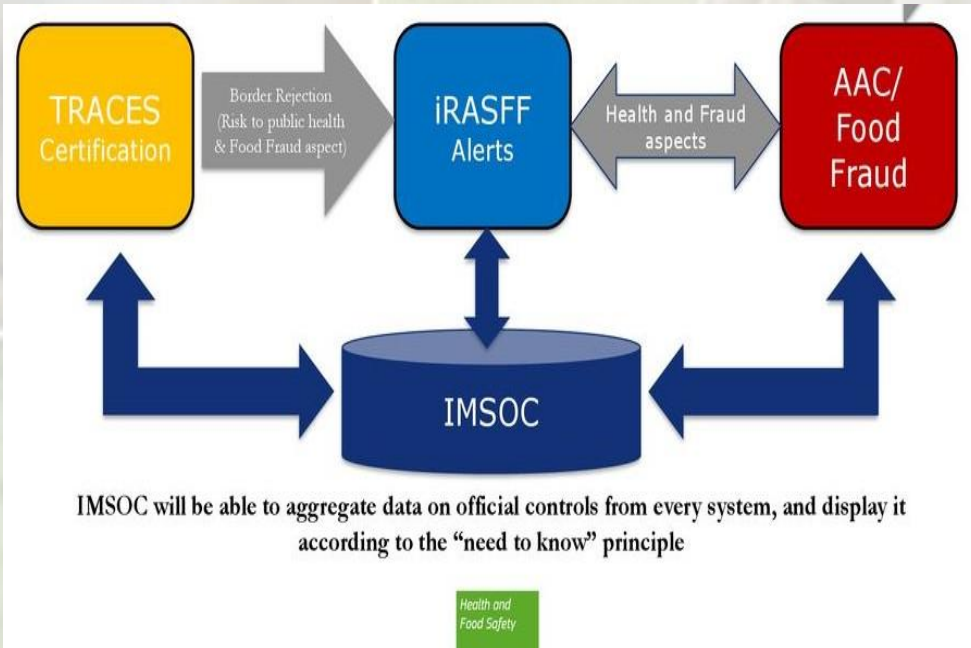
- ❖ **Animal Health Law** (Regulation (EU) 2016/429);
- ❖ **Official Control Regulation** (Regulation (EU) 2017/625);
- ❖ **VMP and medicated feed Regulations** (Regulation (EU) 2019/6 and Regulation (EU) 2019/4 applicable since 28.01.2022 with regard to prudent use of antimicrobials);
- ❖ The relevant **delegated and implementing acts** to the abovementioned main regulations.
- ❖ **Regulation (EC) No 999/2001** on prevention, control and eradication of certain transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs).
- ❖ **Directive 2003/99/EC** on the monitoring of zoonoses and zoonotic agents.

MAIN REGULATORY FRAMEWORK AT NATIONAL LEVEL:

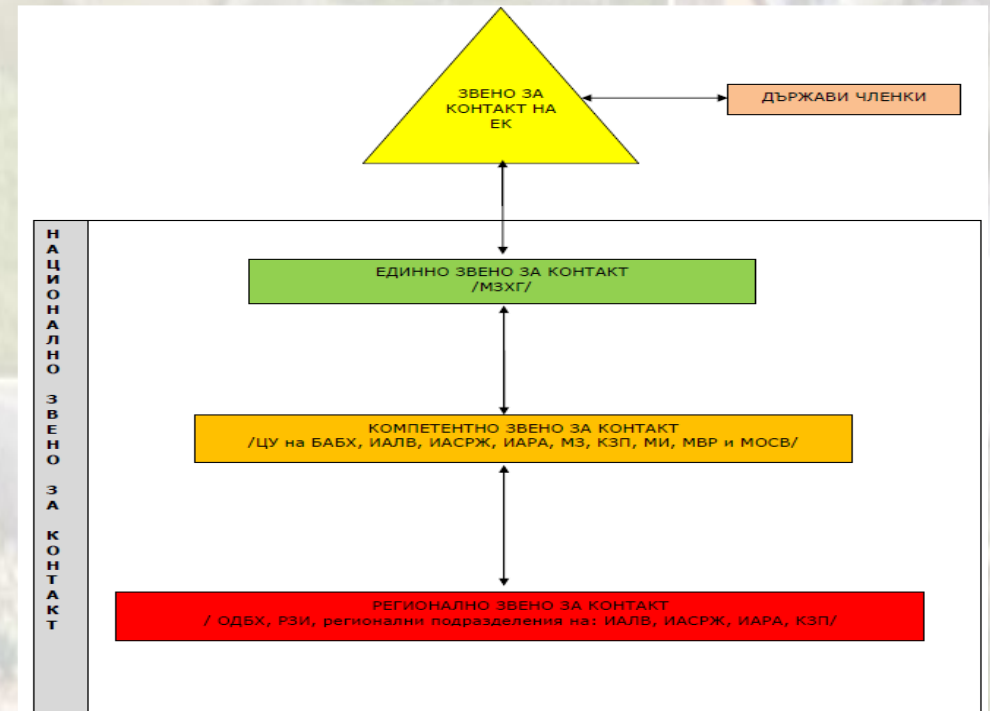
- ❖ **AGRICULTURAL FOOD CHAIN MANAGEMENT ACT (AFCMA - general provisions and framework), FOOD LAW and LAW ON VETERINARY ACTIVITIES and the relevant secondary legislation.**

AGRICULTURAL FOOD CHAIN MANAGEMENT ACT:

- ❖ **Chapter five: Implementation of administrative assistance and cooperation in the area of the agricultural chain between the competent authorities of the Republic of Bulgaria, of the other MSs, the EC and other institutions of the EU – Ministry of Agriculture (PAFCD) is the single body at national level, responsible for coordinating the cooperation and contacts with the European Commission, other Member States and other institutions of the European Union, in connection with official control and other official activities within the meaning of Art. 4, Para. 2, letter "b" of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 and is the liaison body within the meaning of Art. 103 of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 . The Council of Ministers, on the proposal of the Minister of Agriculture establishes and determines the composition of the Single Contact Point for the systems and approves a list of the contact points on the territory of the country, through which the coordination of the communications between the competent authorities of the Republic of Bulgaria and the other Member States is carried out, including the transmission and receipt of requests for administrative assistance.**
- ❖ **Chapter six: Crisis and emergency management measures in the agri-food chain: - for the implementation of the general crisis management plan under Art. 55 of Regulation (EC) 178/2002, the Ministers shall approve operational contingency plans for food and feed according to Art. 115, Para. 2 of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 by the relevant administrations, which shall be agreed with the RACFC or the national centers on public health issues under Art. 22 of the Health Act. When there is an immediate and great danger for people, animals or plants, the respective Minister, within his competence, shall, with an order apply one or several of the measures under Art. 138, Para. 2, letters "d", "f", "g", "h", "i", "j" and "k" of Regulation (EU) 2017/625.**



- IMSOC:**
1. iRASFF;
 2. ADIS;
 3. EUROPHYT;
 4. TRACES.



MAIN REGULATORY FRAMEWORK AT NATIONAL LEVEL:

- **Ordinance No 4 of 23 September 2020 on the surveillance and monitoring of zoonoses in the prevention, containment and eradication of zoonoses is issued by the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Health.** The aim of the Ordinance is to protect human health from diseases and infections communicable from animals to humans, transposition into national legislation of the requirements of Directive 2003/99/EC and establishment of coordination mechanism between human health and animal health sector.
- **Ordinance No 6 of 5 October 2020 on the measures for the prevention, control and eradication of anthrax disease in animals and on the conditions and procedures for their implementation.** This Ordinance also includes some joint actions between public and animal health authorities.

НАРЕДБА № 4 от 23.09.2020 г. за надзор и мониторинг на зоонозите при профилактиката, ограничаването и ликвидирането им

Издадена от министъра на земеделието, храните и горите и министъра на здравеопазването, обн., ДВ, бр. 86 от 6.10.2020 г., в сила от 6.10.2020 г.

Раздел I

Общи положения

Чл. 1 (1) С тази наредба се определят:

1. общите изисквания за извършване на надзор и мониторинг на зоонозите и техните причинители;
2. изискванията за мониторинг на антимикробна резистентност на причинителите на зоонози;
3. редът и начинът на извършване на епидемиологични и епизоотологични проучвания за установяване източника на зараза при взривове от хранително заболяване;
4. начинът за обмен на информация, свързана със зоонозите и техните причинители;
5. лабораторният контрол на зоонозите и техните причинители.

(2) Тази наредба има за цел опазване на човешкото здраве от болести и инфекции, които се предават от животните на човека.

(3) Разпоредбите на наредбата не се прилагат, когато в други нормативни актове, в които са посочени мерки за профилактика, ограничаване и ликвидиране на зоонозите, са предвидени специфични изисквания за:

1. здравеопазване и хранене на животните;
2. епидемиологичен надзор, профилактика, ранно предупреждение и борба със заразни болести по хората;
3. безопасност на храните;
4. изтеглие на храни и фуражи от пазара;
5. безопасност на работното място;
6. генини технологии;
7. трансмисивни спонгиформни енцефалопатии.

Чл. 2 (1) Министърът на земеделието, храните и горите чрез Българската агенция по безопасност на храните (БАБХ) и министърът на здравеопазването чрез органите на държавния здравен контрол и Национални център по заразни и паразитни болести (НЦЗПБ) са компетентните органи в Република България, които осъществяват съответно мониторинг и надзор на зоонозите, техните причинители и тяхната антимикробна резистентност.

(2) Българската агенция по безопасност на храните е национално звено за контакт на Република България с Европейската комисия по мониторинга на зоонозите, техните причинители и тяхната антимикробна резистентност.

(3) Българската агенция по безопасност на храните извършва мониторинг на зоонозите съгласно изискванията на глави четвърта и шеста от Закона за ветеринарномедицинската дейност и тази наредба.

(4) Главният държавен здравен инспектор и регионалните здравни инспекции извършват надзор на зоонозите съгласно изискванията на глава първа, раздел III и глава втора, раздел V от Закона за здравето и тази наредба.

(5) Компетентните органи по ал. 1 събират, анализират и своевременно публикуват на интернет страницата на

Ordinance No 4 of 23 September 2020 on zoonoses:

The Ordinance lays down:

- ❖ 1. the general requirements for carrying out surveillance and monitoring of zoonoses and their causative agents;
- ❖ 2. the requirements for monitoring antimicrobial resistance in zoonotic agents;
- ❖ 3. the order and manner of carrying out epidemiological and epizootological investigations to establish the source of infection in case of foodborne outbreaks;
- ❖ 4. the way of exchange of information related to zoonoses and their causative agents;
- ❖ 5. the laboratory control of zoonoses and their causative agents.

The Minister of Agriculture through the BFSA and the Minister of Health through the State Health Control Authorities and the National Centre for Infectious and Parasitic Diseases (NCIPB) are the competent authorities in the Republic of Bulgaria, which respectively monitor and supervise zoonoses, their causative agents and their antimicrobial resistance.

In carrying out the relevant activities these competent authorities shall, where necessary, cooperate with the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of the Environment and Water, the local authorities and the competent authorities of the Member States for the application of European Union legislation relating to animal health, feed and food safety, infectious diseases (zoonoses) in humans and antimicrobial resistance.


The RACFC summarises the data and analyses received from the competent authorities within the framework and format of the reporting referred to in Article 33 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002, and provides the report annually to the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

Agreement for interaction, between the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Health:

According to the requirements of Article 2, paragraph 6 of Ordinance No 4, the competent authorities cooperate in the implementation of the measures for the containment and eradication of zoonosis on the basis of an Agreement for interaction, concluded between the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Health.

The Agreement was prepared by a working group in 2021 and covers all implementation activities in the application of the measures for the containment and eradication of zoonosis and their distribution to individual institutions and their respective scientific units and territorial divisions.

The Agreement with No RD 50-92/15.10.2021 and SP-8/16.11.2021 was signed by the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Health.


РЕПУБЛИКА БЪЛГАРИЯ
Заместник-министър на здравеопазването
17.1.2021 г.

04-05-50/17.11.2021 г.

Signed by: Dr. Stoyan Malchev

ДО
ДОЦ. Д-Р КРУМ НЕДЕЛКОВ
ЗАМЕСТИНИК-МИНИСТЪР НА
ЗЕМЕДЕЛИЕТО, ХРАНИТЕ И ГОРЯТЕ

На Ваш № 0411-85/15.10.2021 г.
На Наш № 04-05-50/18.10.2021 г.

МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА ЗЕМЕДЕЛИЕТО, ХРАНИТЕ И ГОРЯТЕ
София 1040 Бр. "Хр. Бербез" № 53
тел.: 02 985 11 383
регист. индекс: 5011-85
дата: 17.11.2021

Относно: Проект на Споразумение за взаимодействие между министъра на земеделието, храните и горите и министъра на здравеопазването при прилагане на мерките за ограничаване и ликвидиране на зoonозите.


УВАЖАЕМИ ДОЦ. Д-Р НЕДЕЛКОВ,
Представям на Вашето внимание подписано от д-р Стойчо Канчаров, министър на здравеопазването Споразумение за взаимодействие между министъра на земеделието, храните и горите и министъра на здравеопазването при прилагане на мерките за ограничаване и ликвидиране на зoonозите.

Приложение:
1 екз. със съгласователни отбележки;
1 екз. със съгласователна поуредка;

С уважение,

Д-р Александър Златанов

Signed as Minister: Dr. Alexander Zlatanov
Д-Р АЛЕКСАНДЪР ЗЛАТАНОВ
Заместник-министър на здравеопазването

 ВЯРНО С ЕЛЕКТРОННО
ПОДПИСАНИЯ ОРИГИНАЛ

гр. София, пл. "Св. Неделин" № 5
e-mail: zdravoopazvanie@mzh.government.bg
www.mh.government.bg

LAW ON VETERINARY ACTIVITIES (LVA):

Commission on zoonosis – art. 125 of LVA

- ❖ **Art. 125. (1) A Commission on zoonosis shall be established**, as permanently acting consultative body at the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Health, for coordination of the application of the measures upon the execution of the epizootic and epidemiological control.
- ❖ (2) The Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Health shall approve **the statutes of work of the commission and shall appoint its members by a joint order.**
- ❖ (3) The Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Health shall issue **joint ordinances** for prophylactics, control and eradication of the zoonoses. **(Ordinance No 4 of 23 September 2020)**

LAW ON VETERINARY ACTIVITIES (LVA):

Central Epizootic Council – art. 127 of LVA

- ❖ **Art. 127. (1)** For the purposes of organization, coordination and financial securing of the measures for prevention, control and eradication of specifically contagious diseases, including the diseases which spread could cause significant economic losses, a **Central Epizootic Council shall be established at the Council of Ministers.**
- ❖ **(2)** The Council shall be **chaired by Deputy Prime Minister, deputy chairman shall be the Minister of Agriculture, and the secretary shall be the Executive director of BFSA.**
- ❖ **(3)** Members of the Council shall include representatives of the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Transport, Information Technology and Communications, Ministry of Environment and Water, Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Agriculture.
- ❖ **(4)** The Prime-minister shall approve the rules for the work of the Council.

The Rules of Procedure of the CEC are currently in force from July 2018 and its composition has been last amended by Decision No 601 of the Council of Ministers of 27 August 2020.

РЕПУБЛИКА БЪЛГАРИЯ
МИНИСТЕРСКИ СЪВЕТ

РЕШЕНИЕ № 520

от 23 януари 2018 година

За създаване на Централен епизоотичен съвет при Министерския съвет

На основание чл. 127, ал. 1 от Закона за ветеринарномедицинската дейност

МИНИСТЕРСКИЯТ СЪВЕТ
РЕШИ:

1. Създава Централен епизоотичен съвет при Министерския съвет за организиране, координиране и финансово осигуряване на мерките за профилактика, отстраняване и ликвидиране на особено опасни заразни болести, включително болести по чл. 47, ал. 1 от Закона за ветеринарномедицинската дейност, чието разпространение може да причини значителни икономически загуби, в състав:

Председател:

Томислав Дончев – заместник министър-председател

Заместник-председател:

Румен Порожанов – министър на земеделието, храните и горите

Секретар:

Даниел Йлиев – изпълнителен директор на Българската агенция по безопасност на храните

Членове:

Валентин Радев – министър на вътрешните работи

Красимир Каракачанов – заместник министър-председател по обществен ред и сигурността и министър на отбраната

Владислав Горанов – министър на финансите

Кирил Давидов – министър на здравеопазването

Ивайло Московски – министър на транспорта, информационните технологии и съобщенията

Борис Димитров – министър на околната среда и водите

Биле Караманолов – министър на икономиката

Чл. 127, ал. 1 от Закона за ветеринарномедицинската дейност

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LAW ON VETERINARY ACTIVITIES (LVA):

Regional and municipality epizootic commissions - art. 128 of LVA

- ❖ **Art. 128. (1) To the regional governors and the mayors of municipalities shall be established constantly acting epizootic commissions for application of the measures on animal health protection.**
- ❖ **(2) The regional governor, respectively the mayor of the municipality shall determine by an order the list of the names of the members of the commission and the rules for its work.**

Currently due to the continuing complex epizootic situation with regard to African swine fever and Avian Influenza, the regional governors of the territory of the country were informed, by letters No 91-29/10.01.2020 and 91-29/23.02.2021, of the need to hold regular meetings of the regional epizootic commissions and to send the information from the meetings held to the Ministry of Agriculture, where the information is summarized and analyzed on a monthly basis.



LAW ON VETERINARY ACTIVITIES (LVA):

Repopulation of poultry farms- art. 132 of LVA

❖ According to the Art. 132, paragraph 6 of LVA, the RACFCH prepares scientific opinions on risk assessment in connection with the determination of the main risk factors for the penetration of Highly Pathogenic Influenza A (HPAI) at the time of the repopulation of the poultry farms.



DRAFT of the NEW LAW ON VETERINARY ACTIVITIES (LVA):

The management and coordination mechanism described so far will be improved which is envisaged in the draft of the New Law on Veterinary Activity:

- ❖ **Article 124. (1) A Central Epizootic Council shall be established at the Council of Ministers for organizing, coordinating and financially providing programs for the surveillance and eradication of particularly dangerous contagious animal diseases and zoonosis, including listed diseases in Article 9(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/429, the spread of which may cause significant economic losses;**
- ❖ **(2) The Council referred to in paragraph 1 shall be managed by a Deputy Prime Minister, the Deputy Chairman of the Council shall be the Minister of Agriculture and the Secretary shall be the Executive Director of the BFSA;**
- ❖ **(3) The activities of the Council under para. 1 shall be assisted by a specialized directorate within the structure of the Ministry of Agriculture.**
- ❖ **(4) Representatives of:** The Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Finance, **the Ministry of Health**, the Ministry of Transport, Information Technology and Communications, **the Ministry of Environment and Water**, the Ministry of Economy, **the Ministry of Agriculture**, **representatives and directors of the National Diagnostic Research Veterinary Institute, the Risk Assessment Centre on the Food Chain, the National Institute for Infectious and Parasitic Diseases, veterinary faculties and professional organizations in the field of veterinary medicine.**
- ❖ **(5) The Prime Minister shall approve rules for the work of the Council under para. 1.**
- ❖ **(6) The Zoonosis Commission shall be established at the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Health as a permanent consultative body to coordinate the implementation of the measures of the epizootic and epidemiological control.**
- ❖ **(7) The Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Health shall approve the rules for the work of the Commission under para. 5 and determine its composition by a joint order.**
- ❖ **(8) The Minister of Agriculture together with the Minister of Health issues ordinances for the prevention, restriction and eradication of zoonoses.**
- ❖ **Article 125. (1) To the regional governors and the mayors of municipalities permanent epizootic commissions shall be established for the implementation of animal health measures.**
- ❖ **(2) The regional governor, respectively the mayor of the municipality, shall determine by order the nominative composition of the Commission and the rules for its work.**

Contingency planning – art 5(1) and 115 of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 and art. 48 of the LVA

- ❖ Pursuant to Articles 5(1) and 115 of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 and art. 48 of the LVA operational plans for the eradication of communicable diseases (contingency plans), which include a strategic and resource plan, practical guides for individual communicable diseases, instructions for action in the event of an outbreak of a disease and a list of contact persons, were drawn up by the Headquarters of the BFSA.
- ❖ The last update was approved by the Executive Director of the BFSA by Order RD 11-166 of 23 January 2018 establishing an operational plan for the eradication of certain infectious animal diseases in the Republic of Bulgaria. The current plan which is in force is published on the BFSA's website on 25 January 2018 https://www.bfsa.bg/bg/Page/contingency_plans/index/contingency_plans/%D0%9A%D0%BE%D0%BD%D1%82%D0%B8%D0%BD%D0%B3%D0%B5%D0%BD%D1%81. After the last update of the general plan for certain diseases Part 2 (Practical Guide to Combating) has been additionally updated.
- ❖ Practical Guide to Combating is developed for the following zoonotic diseases – anthrax, avian influenza, TSEs, brucellosis, tuberculosis

National Program for the Prevention, Surveillance, Control and Eradication of Animal Diseases and Zoonosis – art. 118 of the LVA

- ❖ In accordance with Article 118 of the Law on Veterinary Medicine, the BFSA draws up a National Program for the Prevention, Surveillance, Control and Eradication of Animal Diseases and Zoonosis, covering a period of three years (2016-2018; 2019 – 2021 - available at: <https://bfsa.bg/bg/Page/NPBJZ19-21/index/NPBJZ19-21/%D0%9D%D0%B0%D1%86%D0%B8%D0%BE%D0%BD%D0%B0%D0%BB%D0%BD%D0%B0>; and currently 2022 – 2024 is approved last week by the Council of Ministers with Decision No 156 of 18 March 2022).
- ❖ The Program lists the diseases against which the BFSA carries out measures for the prevention, surveillance, control and eradication of animal diseases and zoonosis (disease of EU importance, including diseases of national importance), the species and number of animals subject to the measures provided for therein, as well as the types of measures (including diagnostic tests, laboratory and clinical surveillance and vaccination as a prevention measure where applicable), their implementation schemes and the deadlines for their implementation, including the necessary budget for the implementing of the program. The program is approved by the Council of Ministers on a proposal from the Minister of Agriculture.
- ❖ For the following zoonotic diseases separate programs for prevention, control and eradication (within the framework of the abovementioned national program) are included: anthrax (vaccination of susceptible animals in certain regions), brucellosis in bovine animals (*B. abortus*), brucellosis in ovine and caprine animals (*B. melitensis*); rabies (oral vaccination in foxes); avian influenza; Q-fever; leptospirosis; Salmonella in poultry (4 programs in different poultry species – broilers, laying hens, turkeys, and parent flocks); TSEs; tuberculosis in bovine animals; West Nile Fever (only surveillance in susceptible animals without additional measures).
- ❖ Some of the programs (rabies, salmonella, avian influenza, TSEs) receive co-financing from EU as reimbursement on yearly basis.

ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (AMR)

One Health National Action Plan against AMR:

- ❖ The current draft of the „One Health Plan - 2022 – 2026” was first drafted in 2019 by a working group, established with an order of the Minister of Health RD-02-46/03.04.2019, as a leading Ministry on the One Health approach, with the task to develop a NATIONAL ACTION PLAN TO COMBAT AMR IN THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA 2020-2024.
- ❖ The working group consisted of policy makers and experts from the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry, the Ministry of Environment and Water, the Ministry of Education and Science, the National Centre of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases, the Bulgarian Food Safety Agency, the Bulgarian Drug Agency, the National Health Insurance Fund, the Risk Assessment Centre on Food Chain, representatives of professional unions of physicians and pharmacists, general practitioners, microbiologists and other specialists.
- ❖ The merit for the development of the plan belongs to WHO.



One Health National Action Plan against AMR (draft):

The Plan encompasses 5 strategic goals, and for each of them concrete measures and activities are defined on the basis of recommendations of the WHO, European Commission and the experience gained from other Member States. The goals are as follows:

- ❖ 1. Raising public awareness and knowledge of the risks of developing antimicrobial resistance through effective communication, education and training.*
- ❖ 2. Enhancing and strengthening the database, knowledge and evidence about AMR in the country, obtained through observation, monitoring and research.*
- ❖ 3. Enhancing the measures on the control and prevention of infections. Reducing infection cases through preventive actions, good hygiene practices and effective anti-epidemic measures.*
- ❖ 4. Optimizing the trade and use of antimicrobials in humans and animals.*
- ❖ 5. Providing effective management and coordination, monitoring and assessment of the National action plan against antimicrobial resistance.*

Until now the plan is regularly updated, but it is not endorsed by the Council of Ministers. The last update of the plan as deadlines, references to the new legislation and the needed financial resources was at the end of 2021.

Management and coordination mechanism of the NAP on AMR:

For the purpose of management and coordination, establishment of an Inter-ministerial Coordination Council (ICC) is envisaged.

- ❖ The Council will include experts from the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Environment and Water and the Ministry of Education and Science in order to coordinate measures and actions and data analysis. Establishment of permanent expert councils or contact points on the AMR Plan at the implementing institutions is also envisaged, in order to operatively coordinate the implementation of the AMR Plan in the respective areas and assess the impact and effectiveness of the measures and actions taken under this plan.*
- ❖ After the adoption of the AMR Plan, terms of reference of the Inter-ministerial Coordination Council will be approved.*
- ❖ The leading ministries involved in the implementation of the National Plan, united under the motto "One Health", are equal.*
- ❖ Annual reports on the activities under the national plan will be in place.*

Examples on national level for cooperation, joint actions, guidance documents and raising awareness in the animal health sector:

❖ The Ministry of Agriculture is very proud and grateful to the WHO due to the fact that in 2020 the Ministry of Agriculture concluded an agreement with the World Health Organization for the translation and publication for non-commercial purposes of the Bulgarian version of the following publication: International instruments for the use of antimicrobials in humans, animals and plants, prepared by the World Health Organization (WHO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE).

❖ The document is available on the website of the Ministry at the following link: https://www.mzh.government.bg/media/filer_public/2021/06/07/9789240013964-engbg_fin.pdf and the information was distributed to the rest government and non-government stakeholders – Ministry of Health, Ministry of Environment and Water, Bulgarian Food Safety Agency, Risk Assessment Center on Food Chain, National Center of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases, Bulgarian Drug Agency, Bulgarian Veterinary Union (professional association of veterinary practitioners) and Association of Producers and Traders of Veterinary Medicinal Products.



20, AVENUE APPIA - CH-1211 GENEVA 27 - SWITZERLAND -
TEL. CENTRAL: +41 22 791 2111 - FAX CENTRAL: +41 22 791 3111 - www.who.int

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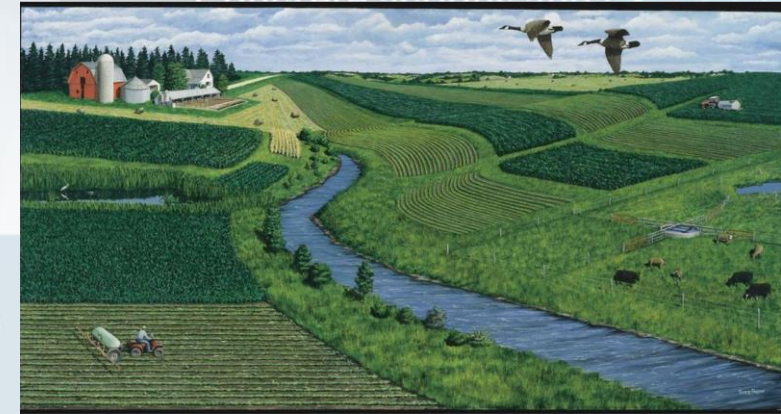
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TR/21/006

19 March 2021

Examples on national level for cooperation, joint actions, guidance documents and raising awareness in the animal health sector:

❖ The Ministry of Agriculture has developed in 2020 Guidance document on the Good Agricultural Practices for Climate and Environment with specific attention to good farming practices, including preventing animal diseases, and other measures important to decrease the use of antimicrobial VMPs (page 54), available at: https://www.mzh.government.bg/media/filer_public/2020/07/15/narchnik_na_dobrite_zemedelski_praktiki_-_predlozheniia_i_stanovishcha_do_10_avgust_2020_dTZGF46.pdf



❖ In the pig sector in 2020 round table was organized by the Ministry of Agriculture on the following subject: “Antimicrobial Resistance and combating measures in the Pig Sector”. In the round table participated representatives of the competent authorities under One Health Approach (human health, animal health and the environment) and branch organization in the pig sector, compound feed production, manufacture and trade of VMPs as well as the Bulgarian Veterinary Union. Important conclusions and recommendations were made, which are the bases of the future actions.

<https://www.mzh.government.bg/bg/politiki-i-programi/politiki-i-strategii/politiki-po-agrohranitelnata-veriga/antimikrobna-rezistentnost/>



ЗАКЛЮЧЕНИЯ от Кръгла маса на тема

„Антимикробна резистентност и мерки за борба в сектора на свиневъдството“
Място: Министерство на земеделието, горите и горите, гр. София
Дата: 11-ти февруари 2020 г.

1. Антимикробната резистентност (АМР) — или резистентността, която микроорганизмите развиват към антимикробните лекарства, които преди са действали ефективно върху тях — представлява все по-нарастваща заплаха за здравето на световен мащаб.
2. Въз основа на своите заключения Европейската сметна палата отправя препоръка, насочена към:
 - утвърждаване на действията на Европейската комисия във връзка с АМР чрез по-добро подпомагане на държавата членки;
 - насърчване на по-ограничена употреба на антимикробните средства и по-добър мониторинг на АМР, и
 - утвърждаване на стратегията в областта на научните изследвания.
3. В крайна сметка, в борбата срещу АМР в световен мащаб съществуват две основни предизвикателства:
 - по-разумно използване на съществуващите антимикробни средства (включително чрез повишаване на осведомеността, по-добри хигиенни практики, обучение, надзорство и мониторинг и по-добра диагностика) при хората, растенията и животните;
 - създаване и пускане на пазара на нови антимикробни средства (посредством научноизследователска и развойна дейност).
4. На национално ниво е необходимо приоритетно да се одобрят и да започне изпълнението на Националния план за действие срещу антимикробната резистентност, основан на подхода „Едно здраве“. Това е важно, за да има правно основание за предприемане на действия, както и за получаване на целево финансиране от ЕС за изпълнение на отделните мерки, включително мониторинга на водите.

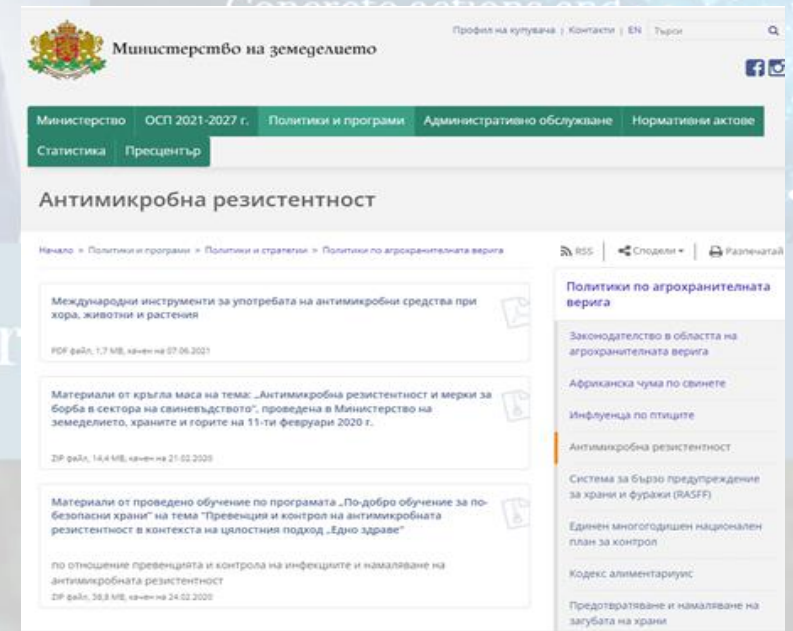
Examples on national level for cooperation, joint actions, guidance documents and raising awareness in the animal health sector:

❖ In addition, the Ministry of Agriculture also established dedicated webpage on AMR where information on initiatives, training materials and other documents are published:

<https://www.mzh.government.bg/bg/politiki-i-programi/politiki-i-strategii/politiki-po-agrohranitelnata-veriga/antimikrobna-rezistentnost/>

❖ And a dedicated page on avian influenza with information leaflets for raising awareness, FAQs, list of wild birds to enhance monitoring and translation into Bulgarian language of the EURL's guidance for genomic monitoring of Avian Influenza Virus:

<https://www.mzh.government.bg/bg/politiki-i-programi/politiki-i-strategii/politiki-po-agrohranitelnata-veriga/influenca-po-pticite/>



Examples on national level for cooperation, joint actions, guidance documents and raising awareness in the animal health sector:

- ❖ The Bulgarian Food Safety Agency has developed in 2020 Guidance document for prudent use of antimicrobials in the veterinary practice, available at:

<http://www.babh.government.bg/userfiles/files/VMP/%20%D0%97%D0%90%20%D0%A0%D0%90%D0%97%D0%A3%D0%9C%D0%9D%D0%90%20%D0%98%20%D0%9E%D0%A2%D0%93%D0%9E%D0%92%D0%9E%D0%A0%D0%9D%D0%90%20%D0%A3%D0%9F%D0%9E%D0%A2%D0%A0%D0%95%D0%91%D0%90%20%D0%9D%D0%90%20%D0%9D%D0%A2%D0%98%D0%9C%D0%98%D0%9A%D0%A0%D0%9E%D0%91%D0%9D%D0%98%20%D0%A1%D0%A0%D0%95%D0%94%D0%A1%D0%A2%D0%92%D0%90%20Final.pdf>

- ❖ In the poultry sector the competent authority (The Bulgarian Food Safety Agency) under the joint initiative with representatives of the sector prepared and implemented Practical guidance on biosecurity for production and trade with poultry. The document is publicly available at the following link: http://bfsa.bg/userfiles/files/ZJ/fermers/ameta%20rukovodstvo%20s_mall_rew.pdf



Examples on national level for cooperation, joint actions, guidance documents and raising awareness in the animal health sector:

❖ Information on AMR and zoonosis is regularly provided also on the web-page of the Risk Assessment Centre on Food Chain: Scientific opinion on zoonotic diseases (<https://corhv.government.bg/animal-health-and-welfare-c-71>):

• Scientific opinion on the Spread of Echinococcosis caused by Echinococcus species (*E. multilocularis* and *E. granulosus*) in the Republic of Bulgaria and measures for prevention and control, DOI 10.5281/zenodo.6367770

• Scientific opinion about the need to continue the oral vaccination of foxes against rabies in the R. Bulgaria

• Scientific opinion on the risks and health protection of exotic and valuable animals from the collection of OP "Zoo - Sofia" from infection with the virus of acute respiratory syndrome-coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2), the pathogenic agent that causes COVID-19 infection in humans and providing access to the closed exposition parts of the zoo collection DOI 10.5281/zenodo.5159047

• Risk assessment of occurrence and spread of Congo-Crimean hemorrhagic fever, definition of the risk factors and regions of the disease in the Republic of Bulgaria, DOI 10.5281/zenodo.5024688

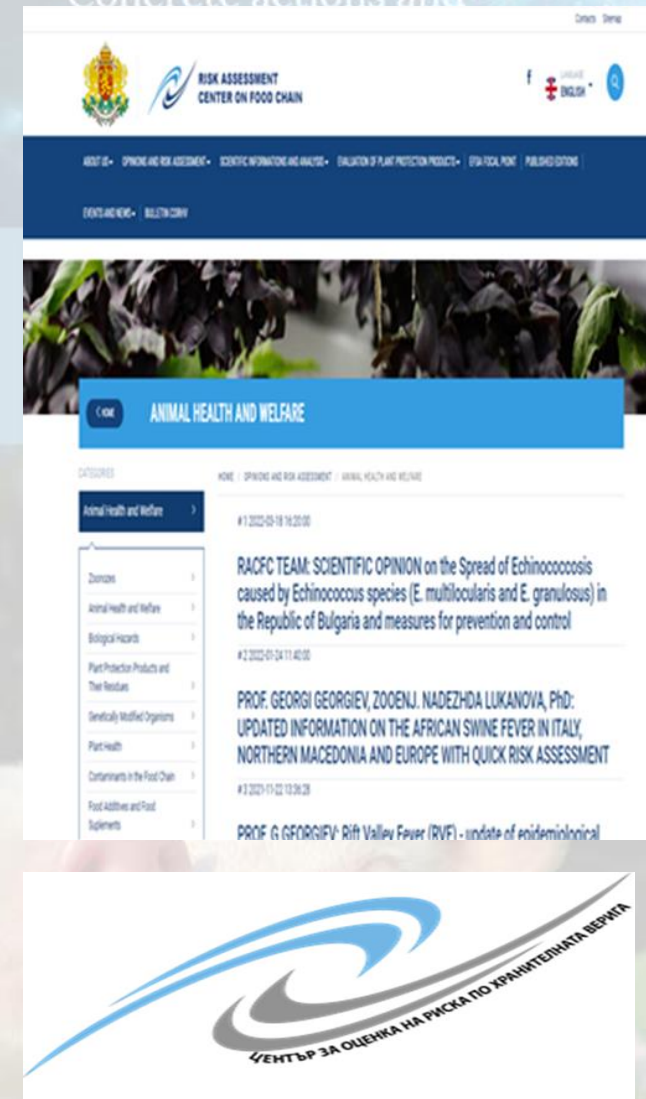
• Scientific risk assessment of occurrence and spread of highly pathogenic influenza A (HPAI) in the settlements of poultry farms after their repopulation, DOI 10.5281/zenodo.4817473

• Risk assessment of highly pathogenic influenza a in birds- Update of the scientific opinion of the RACFCH dated April 10, 2020

• Scientific evaluation of the effectiveness of vaccination of target animals (cattle, sheep and goats) as a measure to control and eradicate Q-fever disease

• Updating the Risk Assessment for human and animal health, biodiversity and the environment relating to the farming of the American mink for fur on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria

• Persisting spread of highly pathogenic avian influenza A in Bulgaria during 2019





THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



**Ministry of Agriculture
Policies on Agri-food Chain**

Directorate

**address: 55 "Hristo Botev" blvd.
1040 Sofia**

**web: <https://www.mzh.government.bg/bg/politiki-i-programi/politiki-i-strategii/politiki-po-agrohranitelnata-veriga/>
phone: +359 2 985 11 301**

**Risk Assessment Center on
Food Chain**

**address: 136 Tsar Boris III blvd,
11 fl., Sofia**

**web: corhv.government.bg
email: [corhv@mzh.government](mailto:corhv@mzh.government.bg)**

.bg

phone: +359 2 427 3056

