



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 19 January 2011

5460/11

AGRI 25

NOTE

from : Latvian delegation
to : Council
Subject : Request for additional actions against highly contagious infectious diseases originating in neighboring third countries of EU

Delegations will find attached a note submitted by the Latvian delegation to be dealt with under "Any other business" at the Council (Agriculture and Fisheries) on 24 January 2011.

ANNEX

Latvia appreciates actions performed so far by the European Commission concerning African swine fever outbreak in Russian Federation. In January an outbreak of African swine fever was reported close to the European Union border, in the region of Saint Petersburg. The presence of diseases close to the European Union border poses a serious risk to the population of farm animals in the European Union and especially in the member States, which have border with the Russian Federation.

In order to prevent the introduction of African swine fever in the European Union, the Food and Veterinary service of Latvia in accordance with the opinion of Standing Committee of food chain and animal health, has established the following protective measures,

- 1) on the point of entry into the EU to check the livestock vehicles entering the territory of the EU from Russia and the corresponding documents, in order to determine whether they have been satisfactory cleaned and disinfected, after the last unloading of pigs;
- 2) to organize cleaning and disinfection of the livestock vehicles in case the cleaning and disinfection is not satisfactory.

Latvia invites the European Commission to consider the financing of the costs of those additional measures as they are performed for the safeguarding of the whole EU.

For long term solutions to prevent the introduction of the animal diseases into the EU, Latvia proposes to install on the EU borders with third countries the buildings and equipment for disinfection of transport vehicles carrying animals.

Therefore Latvia requests and invites the European Commission to perform actions with the Community financial support for the installation of relevant facilities for disinfection of animal transport vehicles on the external EU borders, where necessary.
