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Final report
for the EFTA Surveillance Authority mission to Iceland
from 3 to 7 November 2014
regarding application of EEA legislation related to
identification, registration and
trade of live bovine animals and
labelling of beef and beef products

There were no comments or additional information from the Icelandic competent authorities to the report. Please note that the corrective actions already taken and planned by the Icelandic competent authorities are included in Annex 3.

Executive Summary

This report describes the outcome of a mission carried out by the EFTA Surveillance Authority in Iceland from 3 to 7 November 2014. The objective of the mission was to verify that official controls related to identification, registration and trade of live bovine animals and labelling of beef and beef products were carried out in compliance with the European Economic Area legislation. This was the first mission from the Authority to Iceland focusing on bovine identification and beef labelling within the framework of Regulations (EC) No 1760/2000, No 911/2004 and No 1082/2003, after the regulations were incorporated into the EEA Agreement and became fully applicable in Iceland on 1 November 2011. In the year 2013 891 bovine farms were operating in Iceland with around 71.500 individual animals registered. There is no trade to or from Iceland of live bovines, neither intra-EEA or to third countries.

The mission team found that the responsible competent authority is clearly designated and has the legal powers to enforce the legislation. The EEA requirements are transposed correctly into Icelandic legislation with the exception of too long deadlines for farmers' obligations to report events of bovines to the central computerised database.

There is a computerised database for bovines managed by the Farmers' Association of Iceland, which includes the necessary information. A systematic supervision of the reliability of data in the database, under the responsibility of the competent authority, had started in the beginning of 2014 from central level. However, it was noted that the computerised database was not in all cases up to date as events were registered too late into the database and some data were not in all cases seen reliable or followed-up by the competent authority. The computerised database has not been deemed fully operational by the Authority as set out in Article 6(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000. Nevertheless, Iceland has determined not to issue bovine passports, which is not in line with Article 6(2) of the same regulation requiring bovine passports for animals being moved when the database is not recognised by the Authority. A system for ear tagging of bovines has been put in place and all animals observed were correctly tagged.

Although the number of holdings inspected on a yearly basis exceeded the requirements of the EEA legislation, the official controls carried out on the farms did not always consider all the obligations put on animal keepers. In particular, there was a lack of checks carried out from the district level to on-farm registers to ensure farmers' compliance with the requirements. According to the information received from the competent authorities, the risk-based approach of checking bovine farms as set out in Regulation (EC) No 1082/2003, has not yet been established.

The establishments visited had traceability systems in place which were in general satisfactory. A system for compulsory labelling of beef is in place. According to the information received from the competent authority, there are no systems approved for voluntary beef labelling in Iceland.

The report includes a number of recommendations addressed to the Icelandic competent authority aimed at rectifying the identified shortcomings and enhancing the control system in place.

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1 Introduction

The mission took place in Iceland from 3 to 7 November 2014. The mission team comprised two inspectors from the EFTA Surveillance Authority (the Authority).

The opening meeting was held with representatives of the competent authority *Matvælastofnun* (MAST), one of the local municipal environmental health and protection offices (LCAs) and the Ministry of Industries and Innovation on 3 November 2014, at the MAST head office in Selfoss. At the meeting, the mission team confirmed the objectives and the itinerary of the mission. The Icelandic representatives provided additional information to that set out in the reply to the Authority's pre-mission questionnaire.

Throughout the mission, a representative of the head office of MAST accompanied the mission team. In addition, representatives of the relevant district offices of MAST or representatives from the relevant LCAs participated during meetings at the visits to the different farms and establishments.

A final meeting was held at the MAST office in Reykjavik on 7 November 2014, at which, the mission team presented its main findings and some preliminary conclusions from the mission.

The abbreviations used in the report are listed in Annex 1.

2 Objectives of the mission

The main objective of the mission was to assess the application by the Icelandic competent authorities of the following EEA Acts:

- a) *Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 on identification and registration of bovine animals and on labelling of beef and beef products, as amended;*
- b) *Commission Regulation (EC) No 911/2004 of 29 April 2004 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards ear tags, passports and holding registers, as amended and*
- c) *Commission Regulation (EC) No 1082/2003 of 23 June 2003 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the minimum level of controls to be carried out in the framework of the system for the identification and registration of bovine animals.*

The objective of the mission was to assess the Icelandic competent authorities' application of the relevant EEA legislation referred to in the above and related EEA legislation referred to in Annex 2 to this document. A particular focus was put on the systems for the computerised database, the ear tagging of bovine animals, bovine passports, on-farm registers, compulsory and voluntary labelling of beef and beef products, and on the competent authorities' official controls and follow-up of non-conformities. Other relevant legislation subject to this evaluation includes Regulations (EC) No 178/2002, No 882/2004, No 852/2004, No 853/2004 and No 854/2004.

Particular attention was paid to the following areas:

- farm registration and animal identification;
- animal movements;

- slaughter, cutting, storage and distribution chain;
- retail distribution, storage and sale chain; and
- labelling of beef and beef products.

The evaluation included the gathering of relevant information, and appropriate verifications, by means of interviews/discussions, review of documents and records, and on-the-spot inspections, to demonstrate the normal control procedures adopted and measures in place to ensure that necessary corrective actions were taken when necessary.

The meetings with the competent authorities and the visits during the mission are listed in Table 1.

Table 1: Competent authorities and establishments/sites visited during the mission

	Number	Comments
Competent authorities	6	An initial meeting and a final meeting between the mission team and the Icelandic competent authorities. Two meetings with district veterinarians and two meetings with LCAs.
Central Database	1	
Slaughterhouse	1	
Cutting plant	1	Combined with the slaughterhouse visited
Meat production plant	1	
Supermarkets	2	
Cattle holdings	2	One dairy farm and one beef farm

3 Legal basis for the mission

The legal basis for the mission was:

- a) Point 4 of the Introductory Part of Chapter I of Annex I to the EEA Agreement;
- b) Article 1(e) of Protocol 1 to the Agreement between the EFTA States on the Establishment of a Surveillance Authority and a Court of Justice (Surveillance and Court Agreement);
- c) Article 22(2) of *Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 on identification and registration of bovine animals and on labelling of beef and beef products, as amended*;
- d) *Commission Decision 98/139/EC of 4 February 1998 laying down certain detailed rules concerning on-the-spot checks carried out in the veterinary field by Commission experts in the Member States*; and
- e) Article 45 of *Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules*.

Other legislation relevant for the mission is listed in Annex 2.

4 Background

This was the first mission from the Authority to Iceland focusing on bovine identification and beef labelling within the framework of Regulations (EC) No 1760/2000, No 911/2004 and No 1082/2003, after the regulations were incorporated into the EEA Agreement and became fully applicable in Iceland on 1 November 2011. However, the Authority carried out a preparatory mission on identification of live bovine animals and labelling of beef to Iceland in 2008.

According to information provided by MAST 891 bovine farms were operating in Iceland with around 71.500 individual animals registered in the year 2013. There is no trade or export/import from/to Iceland of live bovines neither intra-EEA or to third countries.

5 Findings and conclusions

5.1 Transposition and application of relevant legislation

Legal Requirements

Article 7(a) of the EEA Agreement states that, an act corresponding to an EEC regulation shall as such be made part of the internal legal order of the Contracting Parties.

Article 4(2)(e) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 requires the competent authority to ensure that they have legal powers to carry out official controls and to take measures provided for.

According to Article 7(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000, each keeper of animals shall once the computerised database is fully operational, report to the competent authority all movements to and from the holding and all births and deaths on the holding, along with the dates of these events, within a period fixed by the Member State of between three and seven days of the event occurring.

Findings

According to information received from MAST the regulations concerning bovine identification and registration and labelling of beef i.e. Regulations (EC) No 1760/2000, No 911/2004 and No 1082/2003 have been incorporated into the Icelandic legal order and have been in force since 1 November 2011.

According to the Act on the Breeding of Domestic Animals No 38/2913 an owner of domestic animals can be fined if he by intention neglects the identification and registration of his animals. In addition, the Icelandic Foodstuffs Act No 93/1995 and the Regulation on the labelling of food products No 503/2005 provides the legal basis for fines and even prison in case of infringements, including wrong or unsatisfactory labelling of food.

The mission team noted that:

- The national legislation implementing Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 set out the following deadlines for farmers' obligations to report events to the computerised central database: Days after birth: 20 days, days after movement to/from farm: 7 days, days after slaughter: 10 days and days after death: 30 days (see also section 5.3).

Conclusions

The relevant legislation has been made part of the Icelandic legal order and legal powers are in place to enforce the legislation. However, the deadlines for farmers' obligations to report events to the database in Icelandic legislation set out in Article 7(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 have not been correctly incorporated into Icelandic law as required by Article 7(a) of the EEA Agreement.

5.2 Competent authorities

Legal requirements

Article 4(2)(b) and (c) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 requires the competent authority to ensure that they have access to a sufficient number of suitably qualified and experienced staff and that staff carrying out official controls are free from any conflict of interest.

Articles 8 and 20 of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 requires member states to designate their competent authorities responsible for ensuring compliance with the regulation and the implementation of it. They shall inform each other and the Authority of the identity of this authority.

Findings

The Ministry of Industries and Innovation is in charge of drawing up legislation and general administrative regulations on bovine identification and beef labelling.

MAST, under the Ministry of Industries and Innovation, is responsible for the official controls of the bovine identification and registration including the computerised database, bovine passports, ear tags, on-farm registers etc. In addition, the District Veterinary Officers (DVOs) of MAST are responsible for the official controls of compulsory labelling of beef in all approved establishments, e.g. in slaughterhouses, cutting plants, meat production plants.

In the retail sector, the LCAs are responsible for the official controls of compulsory and voluntary labelling of beef and of labelling in general.

For a further description of the function of MAST and LCAs a general description of the competent authorities can be found in the country profile for Iceland which is accessible at: www.eftasurv.int

Conclusions

Competent authorities have been designated to implement the requirements of EEA legislation concerning the traceability of bovines and beef products from the farm of origin to the retail outlet and on the labelling of beef and beef products.

5.3 Holding registration

Legal Requirements

According to Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000, the competent authority of the Member State shall set up a computerised database in accordance with Articles 14 and 18

of Council Directive 64/432/EEC. Article 14.3.C. of Council Directive 64/432/EEC requires that each holding has to be registered in the computerised database with at least an identification number consisting of not more than 12 figures and the name and address of the holder.

According to Article 22(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 Member States are required to ensure compliance with this Regulation.

Findings

According to the answer to the pre-mission questionnaire the central database of bovine holdings (Huppa) is owned by the Ministry of Industries and Innovation. The Farmers' Association of Iceland is responsible for developing and administering this database for registration of information related to bovine animals.

According to information received from MAST, the bovine keeper is responsible for registration of all data in the database. MAST is responsible for surveillance of the data in the database. All farmers have access to the database.

There are in Iceland four animal databases creating the overall system called MARK, that contains four databases Huppa (cattle), Fjarvis (ovine and caprine), World Fengur (horses) and Afurd (information from slaughterhouses). According to the information received, MAST has full access to these databases via MARK.

A general description of the links between these various computer systems can be found in the country profile for Iceland which is accessible at: www.eftasurv.int

The mission team noted that:

- The computerised database on bovines covers the registration of all bovine holdings in Iceland as required by Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 and included information as set out in Article 14.3.C. of Council Directive 64/432/EEC.
- MAST, who is in charge of supervising the reliability of data in the central database, informed about a systematic supervision carried out in the first half of 2014 of the reliability of data in order to evaluate the operation and the validity of data. The check was mainly conducted by MAST at central level as a desk investigation. MAST chose to use the search criteria and to identify farms that had more than ten bulls over 45 months old, as these were considered to be the most likely not to register events in time. The search resulted in identifying 78 farms, who were then contacted by letter from MAST in order to request them to update the relevant data if relevant. In some cases the farms were also inspected by the DVOs in order to ensure and follow up that the farmers updated the relevant data in the database. Eventually 12 of these farms had a ban on movements of cattle issued by MAST, since they did not comply. According to information received from MAST all 12 farms had complied at the time of the mission.
- MAST informed about articles in the newspapers about the process and results of the plausibility check in order to raise awareness for farmers about their obligations and the consequences if they did not comply with the requirements.
- The computerised database was not in all cases up-to-date as events were registered too late into the database and some data were not in all cases reliable or followed-up by the competent authority (e.g. data from slaughterhouses stating that non-identified bovines were slaughtered, individual bovines appearing twice etc.).

- The database contained a report from slaughterhouses on detected non-identified animals slaughtered in slaughterhouses including 20 non-identified bovine animals slaughtered between 2013 (14 bovines) and 2014 (six bovines). These bovine animals came from six farms and were slaughtered in two bovine slaughterhouses. However, at the final meeting MAST provided evidence of follow-up taken: MAST had contacted The Farmers' Association of Iceland to ensure, that for each un-identified bovine, a file should be added to the database including information about any follow-up action taken and what the results were of these actions. MAST had also contacted the responsible districts, where the two bovine slaughterhouses were situated. It was confirmed that all 20 bovines had been identified before they were slaughtered (even though lack of ear tags or insufficient documentation), since it was possible for the slaughterhouse veterinarian to perform cross-checks to the database for the bovines. However, these data had not been communicated to the central database at the time of slaughter.
- In the slaughterhouse visited the relevant information was entered into the central database on the same day of slaughter of the bovines.
- Although the computerised database has the capacity to provide an effective registration system some deficiencies were identified regarding the operation and supervision of the database. There were no systemic measures in place to ensure measures to verify the validity of the data and that procedures for the notification of births, deaths and all kinds of movements within the set deadlines were met by farmers. In addition, there were no procedures in place to ensure correction of errors on the farm revealed during inspections performed by the DVOs (see also section 5.4).

Conclusions

A computerised database covering the registration of bovine holdings in accordance with Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 is in place and a systematic supervision has been carried out in the first half of 2014. Nevertheless, some deficiencies were noted in the supervision of the database which is not in line with Article 5 and 22(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000.

5.4 Identification and registration of bovine animals

Legal Requirements

Article 1 of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 requires that each Member State shall establish a system for the identification and registration of bovine animals. The four elements of the system for identification and registration of bovine animals are described in Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000.

The requirements for the identification of individual bovine animals with double ear tags from birth, for the identification of imported animals, for the removal and replacement of ear tags as well as for derogations from certain requirements are specified in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000. No animals may be moved without being identified. The provisions concerning ear tags are laid down in Articles 1 to 4 of Regulation (EC) No 911/2004.

The requirements for issuing cattle passports and their return to the competent authority in case of death, intra-EEA trade or export are laid down in Article 6 of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000. Article 6(2) of that Regulation requires that, whenever an animal is moved, it shall be accompanied by its passport. Derogations from certain requirements are foreseen.

In particular, Member States whose computerised database has been deemed fully operational by the Authority may determine that passports are only to be used for animals intended for intra-EEA trade. The provisions concerning the passport are laid down in Articles 6 and 7 of Regulation (EC) No 911/2004.

Each animal keeper with the exception of transporters must keep up-to-date registers following the requirements of Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000. The provisions concerning the register are laid down in Articles 8 and 9 of Regulation (EC) No 911/2004.

According to Article 22(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 Member States are required to ensure compliance with this Regulation. The minimum requirements for controls provided for in the system for the identification and registration of bovine animals, including requirements regarding frequency and risk analysis, are laid down in Articles 2 to 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1082/2003.

Pursuant to Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 1082/2003, Member States shall submit to the Authority an annual report on the controls carried out by 31 August each year.

Articles 5 and 10 of Regulation (EC) No 911/2004 require that the models for the ear tags and holding registers used are to be communicated to the Authority and other Member States.

Findings

The Icelandic computerised database has not been deemed to be fully operational by the Authority. Nevertheless, according to the answer to the pre-mission questionnaire the use of bovine passports has not been implemented in Iceland.

In October 2013 the Authority send a request for an annual report from Iceland on identification and registration of bovine animals for 2012 as set out in Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 1082/2003. The report was received from MAST in November 2013 stating that out of the 894 bovine farms in Iceland, 180 farms had been inspected and the result of the inspections was that no non-compliances were found. An annual report on the controls of bovine holdings carried out in 2013 has not been sent to the Authority. However, according to the answer to the pre-mission questionnaire, MAST is in the process of implementing a risk analysis as laid down in Articles 2 to 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1082/2003, which will determine how often each bovine holding will be inspected based on the holding's production and information from former visits.

Although the number of holdings inspected on a yearly basis exceeded the requirements of the EEA legislation (more than 3 % farms checked in 2013) the official controls carried out on the farms did not always consider all the obligations put on animal keepers. In particular, there was a lack of checks carried out from the district level to on-farm registers to ensure farmers' compliance with the requirements. According to the information received from the competent authorities, the risk-based approach of checking bovine farms as set out in Regulation (EC) No 1082/2003, has not yet been established.

The mission team noted that:

- The bovine animal registration system in Iceland comprises ear tags to identify animals individually, on-farm registers and the central computerised database.
- The Farmers' Association keep the centralised system for bovine ear tags through the MARK system (under supervision by MAST). The farmers must order ear tags

through this website and pay to the Farmers' Association. The computerised database keeps track of each farm and the running numbers of bovines on each farm.

- Each farm can receive maximum 10 % replacement ear tags at any given time, which is the maximum distribution number built into the programme of the database.
- Only one type of ear tag has been approved by MAST for bovines. It was confirmed on-the-spot, that the ear tag used fulfils the requirements of Articles 1 to 4 of Regulation (EC) No 911/2004. However, the models for the ear tags have not been communicated from Iceland to the Authority and other member states.
- It was confirmed that bovine passports are not issued or in use in Iceland.
- In the slaughterhouse visited, it was noted that the DVO had issued a decision in an inspection report, requiring that from 1 December 2014 onwards only bovines where the required Food Chain Information (FCI) had been forwarded (as required by Regulation (EC) No 853/2004) including individual identification numbers, could be transported to the slaughterhouse. According to the information received from the DVO, there had in two bovine slaughterhouses been recurrent problems with un-identified cattle arriving at the slaughterhouses, sometimes without FCI accompanying the animals without all the individual identification details.
- It was noted at both cattle farms visited that the deadlines for notifications of events to the registers/central database set in the Icelandic Regulation No 968/2001 (see also section 5.1) were not respected by the farmers. In addition, these non-compliances (delayed notifications) had not been detected or reported by the DVOs in their latest inspection reports or informed to MAST at the central level (see also section 5.3).
- In both districts visited, the control and reporting procedures for checks on the holding registers were inadequate or absent.
- The models for the holding registers used in Iceland have not been communicated to the Authority and other Member States.
- In one cattle farm visited a problem with double registration of five bovines was noted resulting in five extra non-existing bovines in the register/central database in Iceland.

Conclusions

The bovine animal registration system in Iceland in general meets the requirements of the EEA legislation concerning computerised database, ear tags and on-farm registers, but the lack of bovine passports is not in line with Article 6(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 as the Authority has not deemed Iceland's computerised database to be fully operational.

On-farm registers were in place in line with Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000. However, the checks on holding registers were not in line with Article 22(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000, in particular since the minimum requirements for controls provided for in Articles 2, 3 and 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1082/2003 have not yet been implemented.

An annual report for 2013 on the controls carried out with reference to Regulation (EC) No 1082/2003 has not been sent to the Authority as required by Article 5 of the Regulation.

The models for the ear tags and holding registers used in Iceland have not been communicated to the Authority and other member states as set out in Articles 5 and 10 of Regulation (EC) No 911/2004.

5.5 Compulsory beef labelling system

Legal Requirements

Article 5(2) of Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 requires that health marking of carcasses of domestic ungulates, as well as half-carcasses, quarters and wholesale cuts shall be carried out in slaughterhouses by, or under the responsibility of, the official veterinarian when official controls have not identified any deficiencies that would make the meat unfit for human consumption.

Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 sets out specific labelling requirements for beef meat.

The compulsory indications on the label for beef of Member State or third country origin are described in Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000. Derogations from the compulsory labelling system by way of simplification or adding information are provided in Articles 14 and 15 of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000.

According to Article 22(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 Member States are required to ensure compliance with this Regulation.

Findings

According to the answer to the pre-mission questionnaire MAST has only in the last year held meetings to introduce the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000, which meat producers and representatives from slaughterhouses attended. In addition, MAST issued instructions regarding compulsory labelling of beef in particular regarding Article 13 of the Regulation. The instructions can be found on MAST's homepage.

According to the answer to the pre-mission questionnaire the official controls are carried out according to MAST's inspection manual. In the area of compulsory labelling findings would be noted under the headline: Labelling. According to information received at the initial meeting, it is planned to update the manual by the end of 2014 concerning compulsory labelling of beef. In the initial meeting both MAST and LCAs informed the mission team that checks on compulsory labelling so far had been limited.

The mission team noted that:

- In a bovine slaughterhouse visited there was an internal traceability system in place for incoming animals with clear connection between individual numbers of the animal from the ear tag to a slaughter reference number.
- In general health marks were applied correctly in the food business operators visited.
- In the meat production plant visited a system for application of compulsory beef labelling was in place, including country of origin for Iceland and slaughter date from the approved slaughterhouse, which defined the batch of carcasses.
- In the two supermarkets visited, which both included retail butcher shops, systems for application of compulsory beef labelling were in place.

Conclusions

Compulsory labelling systems are in place in the establishments visited and, in general, met the requirements of Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000.

5.1 Voluntary beef labelling

Legal Requirements

Article 16 of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 sets out the general rules for voluntary beef labelling systems. Article 16 also establishes the procedure for approval of voluntary beef labelling systems if beef production and/or sale takes place in two or more Member States.

Findings

According to information provided by MAST in its reply to the pre-mission questionnaire there has not been implemented a system for voluntary beef labelling and consequently there is not a procedure in place for approving voluntary labelling. The mission team did not detect any examples of voluntary beef labelling during the on-the-spot visits.

Conclusions

Voluntary labelling of beef as set out in Article 16 of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 is not applied in Iceland.

6 Final meeting

A final meeting was held on 7 November 2014 at the MAST office in Reykjavik with representatives from MAST, one of the LCAs visited and the Ministry of Industries and Innovation. At the meeting, the mission team presented its main findings and preliminary conclusions of the mission with reference to the relevant EEA legislation. The Icelandic representatives were given the opportunity to comment or ask for clarification during the meeting. The Icelandic representatives did not indicate any disagreement with the main findings and the preliminary conclusions and undertook to address them.

In addition, MAST provided evidence for the satisfactory follow-up taken for the 20 non-identified bovines slaughtered in slaughterhouses in 2013 and 2014 detected in the computerised database by the mission team (see section 5.3).

At the meeting the mission team also explained that, based on a more detailed assessment of the information received during the mission, additional conclusions could be included in the report.

7 Recommendations

Iceland should notify the Authority, within two months of receiving the final report, by way of written evidence, of the corrective actions taken and a plan for corrective measures and actions, including a timetable for completion of measures still outstanding, relevant to all the recommendations hereunder. The Authority should also be kept informed of the completion of the measures included in the timetable.

No	Recommendation
1	Iceland should ensure that deadlines for farmers' obligations to report events to the database, as set out in Article 7(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000, are made part of the Icelandic legal order as required by Article 7(a) of the EEA Agreement.
2	Iceland should ensure that the entering of data in the computerised database is in compliance with Articles 5 and 22(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000.
3	The competent authorities should ensure compliance with Article 6(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 as regards the use of passports whenever bovine animals are moved or, alternatively, ensure that the conditions in Article 6(3) of the same Regulation for determining that bovine passports are not to be used are fulfilled.
4	Iceland should, in line with Article 22(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000, take all necessary measures to ensure compliance with that Regulation, in particular by ensuring implementation of the minimum requirements of controls to be carried out as provided for in Articles 2, 3 and 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1082/2003
5	Iceland should communicate the models for the ear tags and holding registers used in Iceland to the Authority and other Member States as set out in Articles 5 and 10 of Regulation (EC) No 911/2004.
6	Iceland should submit to the Authority annual reports within the set deadline pursuant to Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 1082/2003.

Annex 1 – List of abbreviations and terms used in the report

The Authority	EFTA Surveillance Authority	
DVO	District Veterinary Officer	
EEA	European Economic Area	
EEA Agreement	Agreement on the European Economic Area	
FCI	Food Chain Information	
LCA	Local municipal environmental health and protection offices	
MAST	The Food and Veterinary Authority of Iceland	

Annex 2 - Relevant legislation

The following EEA legislation was also taken into account in the context of this mission:

- a) The Act referred to at Point 1.1.7.c of Chapter I of Annex I to the EEA Agreement, *Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 July 2000 establishing a system for the identification and registration of bovine animals and regarding the labelling of beef and beef products and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 820/97*, as amended;
- b) The Act referred to at Point 1.1.11 of Chapter I of Annex I to the EEA Agreement, *Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules*, as amended;
- c) The Act referred to at Point 1.1.12 of Chapter I of Annex I to the EEA Agreement, *Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 laying down specific rules for the organisation of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption*, as amended and adapted to the EEA Agreement by the sectoral adaptations referred to in Annex I thereto;
- d) The Act referred to at Point 1.2.20 of Chapter I of Annex I to the EEA Agreement, *Commission Decision 93/317/EEC of 21 April 1993 concerning the content of the code to be used on bovine ear marks*, as amended;
- e) The Act referred to at Point 1.2.76 of Chapter I of Annex I to the EEA Agreement, *Commission Regulation (EC) No 494/98 of 27 February 1998 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 820/97 as regards the application of minimum administrative sanctions in the framework of bovine animals*, as amended;
- f) The Act referred to at Point 1.2.86a of Chapter I of Annex I to the EEA Agreement, *Commission Regulation (EC) No 509/1999 of 8 March 1999 concerning an extension of the maximum period laid down for the application of ear-tags to bison (*Bison bison* spp.)*;
- g) The Act referred to at Point 1.2.86b of Chapter I of Annex I to the EEA Agreement, *Commission Regulation (EC) No 2680/1999 of 17 December 1999 approving a system of identification for bulls intended for cultural and sporting events*,
- h) The Act referred to at Point 1.2.112 of Chapter I of Annex I to the EEA Agreement, *Commission Decision 2001/672/EC of 20 August 2001 laying down special rules applicable to movements of bovine animals when put out to summer grazing in mountain areas*, as amended.
- i) The Act referred to at Point 1.2.140 of Chapter I of Annex I to the EEA Agreement, *Commission Regulation (EC) No 1082/2003 of 23 June 2003 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the minimum level of controls to be*

carried out in the framework of the system for the identification and registration of bovine animals, as amended;

- j) The Act referred to at Point 1.2.141 of Chapter I of Annex I to the EEA Agreement, *Commission Regulation (EC) No 911/2004 of 29 April 2004 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards eartags, passports and holding registers*, as amended and adapted to the EEA Agreement by the sectoral adaptations referred to in Annex I thereto;
- k) The Act referred to at Point 1.2.142 of Chapter I of Annex I to the EEA Agreement, *Commission Regulation (EC) No 644/2005 of 27 April 2005 authorising a special identification system for bovine animals kept for cultural and historical purposes on approved premises as provided for in Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council*;
- l) The Act referred to at Point 1.2.143 of Chapter I of Annex I to the EEA Agreement, *Commission Decision 2006/28/EC of 18 January 2006 on extension of the maximum period for applying eartags to certain bovine animals*;
- m) The Act referred to at Point 6.1.16 of Chapter I of Annex I to the EEA Agreement, *Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs*, as amended;
- n) The Act referred to at Point 6.1.17 of Chapter I of Annex I to the EEA Agreement, *Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin*, as amended and adapted to the EEA Agreement by the sectoral adaptations referred to in Annex I thereto;
- o) The Act referred to at Point 7.1.13 of Chapter I of Annex I to the EEA Agreement, *Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety*, as amended and adapted to the EEA Agreement by the sectoral adaptations referred to in Annex I thereto;
- p) The Act referred to at point 18 of Chapter XII of Annex II to the EEA Agreement, *Directive 2000/13/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 March 2000 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to labelling, presentation and advertising of foodstuffs*, as corrected, amended and adapted to the EEA Agreement by the sectoral adaptations referred to in Annex II thereto.

Annex 3 – Reply to the draft report

ESA Mission on identification of cattle and beef labelling 2014				
No	Recommendation	Reaction of Icelandic authorities	Date of Compliance	Comment/attachment
1	Iceland should ensure that deadlines for farmers' obligations to report events to the database, as set out in Article 7(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000, are made part of the Icelandic legal order as required by Article 7(a) of the EEA Agreement.	It will be directed to the Ministry of Industries and Innovation to amend the national legislation to make it in line with the provisions of the EU legislation.	01.05.2015	
2	Iceland should ensure that the entering of data in the computerised database is in compliance with Articles 5 and 22(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000.	The written work procedures on the official control of registration and labelling will be reviewed and notice taken of the provisions of the Regulation. This will be followed up with training for MAST inspectors.	31.12.2016	
3	The competent authorities should ensure compliance with Article 6(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 as regards the use of passports whenever bovine animals are moved or, alternatively, ensure that the conditions in Article 6(3)	MAST intends to apply for recognition of the registration system HUPPA as the registration data base for individual animals. The application will be prepared in the coming months.	01.08.2015	

	of the same Regulation for determining that bovine passports are not to be used are fulfilled.			
4	Iceland should, in line with Article 22(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000, take all necessary measures to ensure compliance with that Regulation, in particular by ensuring implementation of the minimum requirements of controls to be carried out as provided for in Articles 2, 3 and 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1082/2003	The risk categorisation for official controls in this field is in preparation. The aim is to control a minimum of 3% of holdings annually. The control handbook for bovine animals (milk and meat producing) LBE-032 is currently under review and risk based controls will be a part of that review.	01.01.2016	
5	Iceland should communicate the models for the ear tags and holding registers used in Iceland to the Authority and other Member States as set out in Articles 5 and 10 of Regulation (EC) No 911/2004.	The description of the models for the ear tags will be communicated to the Authority in the coming months.	31.12.2015	
6	Iceland should submit to the Authority annual reports within the set deadline pursuant to Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 1082/2003.	The report for 2014 will be sent to the Authority before the deadline of 31 August.	31.08.2015	