

Advice 19-2016 of the Scientific Committee of the FASFC on the evaluation of a draft royal decree modifying the royal decree of November 14th, 2003 concerning the selfchecking, the obligatory notification and the traceability in the food chain

Background & Terms of reference

It is asked to the Scientific Committee to evaluate the draft royal decree amending the royal decree of November 14th, 2003 concerning the selfchecking, the obligatory notification and the traceability in the food chain.

The main changes in this draft royal decree include:

- the possibility for the FASFC to enforce the validation of the self-checking at the request of the sector;
- the possibility for the FASFC to enforce the validation of the self-checking in the context of exports;
- the possibility for the FASFC to suspend the validation of the self-checking;
- the contractual obligation of the operators with foreign laboratories to respect transparency towards the FASFC;
- the possibility for the FASFC to suspend, withdraw or refuse the granting of an approval to a certification body as well as the expiration of the approval;
- the possibility for the FASFC to supply an access to certification bodies to certain data from operators active in the food chain;
- an update of the relevant accreditation standards;
- a coordination with the Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 concerning the placing on the market of plant protection products and repealing Directives 79/117/EEC and 91/414/EEC of the Council.

Methodology

The advice is based on expert opinion.

Results

The Scientific Committee has submitted some comments.

The Scientific Committee is of the opinion that the obligatory notification should be regulated at European level and that obligatory notification is the responsibility of the operator and not of the laboratory.

Conclusions

The Scientific Committee has no fundamental remarks on the draft royal decree except for one comment on the mandatory notification by laboratories.

The full text is available on this website in dutch and in french.