WORKING DOCUMENT 4

**Amendments to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689**

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COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) …/...

**of XXX**

**amending Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards rules for surveillance, eradication programmes, and disease-free status for certain listed and emerging diseases**

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on transmissible animal diseases and amending and repealing certain acts in the area of animal health (‘Animal Health Law ’), and in particular Article 29, Article 39, Article 41(3) and Article 42(6) thereof,

Whereas:

[Initial capital…].

[Initial capital…],

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

**Amendments to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689**

Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689 is amended as follows:

(1) In paragraph (2) of Article 6, a new point (fa) is inserted after point (f) as follows:

‘(fa) Section 7 of Annex III for infestation with *Echinococcus multilocularis*;’

(2) In Article 72, a new point (ja) is inserted after point (j) as follows:

‘(ja) Section 2 of Part V of Annex V for status free from infestation with *Echinococcus multilocularis*;’

(3) In paragraph (3) of Article 81, a new point (ja) is inserted after point (j) as follows:

‘(ja) Section 2 of Part V of Annex V for status free from infestation with *Echinococcus multilocularis*;’

(4) In Article 84, paragraph (1), a new point (o) is added as follows:

‘(o) free from infestation with *Echinococcus multilocularis* was granted in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 576/2013.

(5) Annexes III and V to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689 are amended in accordance with the Annex to this Regulation.

*Article 2*

**Entry into force and application**

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It shall apply from 21 April 2026.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

ANNEX

Annexes III and V to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689 are amended as follows:

1. In Annex III, a new Section 7 is added as follows:

**Section 7**

**Infestation with *Echinococcus multilocularis***

1. Sedimentation and counting technique (SCT), or a technique of equivalent sensitivity and specificity, for the detection of the *Echinococcus multilocularis* parasite on intestinal contents.

2. Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) methods, or a technique of equivalent sensitivity and specificity, for the detection of species-specific deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) from tissue or eggs of the *Echinococcus multilocularis* parasite on intestinal contents or faeces.

(2) In Annex V, a new Part V is added as follows:

‘PART V

**INFESTATION WITH *Echinococcus multilocularis***

Section 1

**Surveillance to demonstrate the absence of infestation with** ***Echinococcus multilocularis* in the wild definitive host population**

The surveillance to demonstrate the absence of infestation with *Echinococcus multilocularis* in the wild definitive host population must:

1. describe the target wild definitive host Canidae population and include the density, age structure, geographical and gender distribution, taking into account the relative risks of infestation with the *Echinococcus multilocularis* in different species and subpopulations of the target wild definitive host Canidae population;

2. consist in the ongoing collection, during each 12-month surveillance period, of samples from wild definitive host Canidae tested negative with one of the methods referred to in Section 7 of Annex III;

3. be designed to allow, on a representative sample of wild definitive host Canidae, the detection of the *Echinococcus multilocularis* parasite, if present in any epidemiologically relevant geographical unit in the Member State or zone thereof in the wild definitive host population at a prevalence of not more than 1% at a confidence level of at least 95%.

Section 2

**Granting of the status to a Member State or zone as free from infestation with *Echinococcus multilocularis***

The status free from infestation with *Echinococcus multilocularis* may only be granted to a Member State or a zone thereof if:

1. for the past three consecutive 12-month periods, the Member State has implemented an annual surveillance in accordance with Article 67, which has demonstrated that the infestation with *Echinococcus multilocularis* has not been established because of the absence of red foxes, as wild definitive host animals, in its entire territory:

2. in the presence of wild definitive host Canidae populations and provided that there has been no confirmed case of infestation with *Echinococcus multilocularis* in those animals, one of the following requirements is fulfilled:

(a) there has been no confirmed case of infestation with *Echinococcus multilocularis* in wild definitive host Canidae during the past 25 years in accordance with Article 70(1)(a) and for the past 10 years, the requirements set out in Article 70(2) have been met.

(b) for the past three consecutive 12-month periods, an annual surveillance programme, which complies with the requirements set out in Section 1, has demonstrated the absence of infestation with *Echinococcus* *multilocularis* in wild definitive host Canidae.

Section 3

**Maintenance of the status of a Member State or zone free from infestation with *Echinococcus multilocularis***

The status free from infestation with *Echinococcus* *multilocularis* granted to a Member State or a zone thereof may only be maintained if:

1. for a Member State or zone thereof which has been granted a free status in accordance with point 1 of Section 2, the competent authority:

(a) maintains a surveillance to detect the presence of wild red foxes on its territory;

(b) immediately notifies the Commission and the other Member States of the detection of the presence of wild red foxes during each 12-month surveillance period;

2. for a Member State or zone thereof which has been granted a free status in accordance with point 2 of Section 2, the competent authority maintains an annual surveillance that:

(a) demonstrates the absence of infestation with *Echinococcus* *multilocularis* in wild definitive host Canidae in accordance with the requirements set out in Section 1;

(b) enables the early detection of infestation with *Echinococcus* *multilocularis* in wild definitive host Canidae.