

DG Health and Food Safety

Health and food audits and analysis programme 2026



Further information on the Health and Food Safety Directorate-General is available on the internet at:
http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health_food-safety/index_en.htm

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Executive summary

The European Commission's Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety develops and implements the Commission's policies on food safety and public health. Its Directorate for Health and Food Audits and Analysis ("the Directorate") conducts controls and activities that help implement and enforce the European Union (EU) legislation regarding food and feed safety, animal health, animal welfare, plant health and certain human health areas.

The 2026 Health and Food Audit and Analysis work programme outlines the Directorate's activities planned for 2026.

Activities are prioritised to cover the control universe in proportion to the risks posed in the various areas, whilst fulfilling the Directorate's legal and political mandate and aligning with the Commission's political priorities.

The work programme for 2026 supports three strategic objectives:

- Provide robust evidence on third-country standards to support EU policies and safeguard the integrity of trade agreements. This includes candidate countries for EU accession;
- Promote a healthy internal market and a high level of citizens' trust;
- Advance the 'One Health' approach for comprehensive evidence collection and policy support.

In 2026, the Directorate plans to conduct 159 Commission controls, mainly audits. In the agri-food chain area, audits are a valuable tool to verify the effectiveness of official controls performed by competent authorities to check operators' compliance. These planned controls will be complemented by on-demand controls (for instance for medical devices) or controls that depend on the fulfilment of certain conditions before being performed (for instance, for third country market access requests).

In 2026, the proportion of controls of non-EU countries is higher than in previous years (51% of controls in the agri-food-chain area, against 33% in 2025), in response to Commissioner's Várhelyi's mission letter and the EU Vision for Agriculture and Food, as well as to support the enlargement process.

Additionally, the Directorate plans a number of other activities in 2026, like the Better Training for Safer Food programme, and networking activities with Member States, which are detailed in the programme.

Further details on the controls and other activities are available in the annexes.

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1. Introduction

The Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE) develops and implements the Commission's policies on food and feed safety, animal health and welfare, plant health and public health. It has a Directorate (the Directorate for Health and Food Audits and Analysis), which is located in Ireland, dedicated to monitoring the implementation and enforcement of its policies. This is essential for ensuring that these policy objectives are met and for citizens to be confident that their interests are protected.

Every year, this Directorate publishes the details of the controls planned for the following year, as part of the annual Health and Food Audits and Analysis work programme.

This programme details the activities planned for 2026.

The Commission has adopted Implementing Decision (EU) 2025/1900 ⁽¹⁾, which establishes the programme of Commission controls for 2026 in the Member States to verify the application of Union agri-food chain legislation ⁽²⁾. The programme established by this Decision is reflected in this document.

2. Presentation of the Directorate for Health and Food Audits and Analysis

The European Commission created the Directorate for Health and Food, Audits and Analysis ("the Directorate"), formerly known as the Food and Veterinary Office, in 1997.



The Directorate for Health and Food Audits and Analysis, Grange, County Meath, Ireland

It has a team of some 125 staff, originating from most European Union (EU) Member States, with a wide range of professional experience.

The Directorate dedicates most of its resources to conducting controls in EU Member States and in third countries exporting or wishing to export plants, animals and food to the EU.

These controls monitor the implementation and enforcement of EU legislation governing food and feed safety, animal health and welfare, plant health (the agri-food chain area) and certain areas of human health (the health area).

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 234, 22.9.2023, p. 196.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 95, 7.4.2017, p. 1.

Figure 1 presents the **control universe**, an inventory of the policy areas that the Directorate has the legal mandate to check. It is broken down into five main sections (health, animals, food, feed and plants), with specific (white circles) and cross-sector (dark circles) areas.

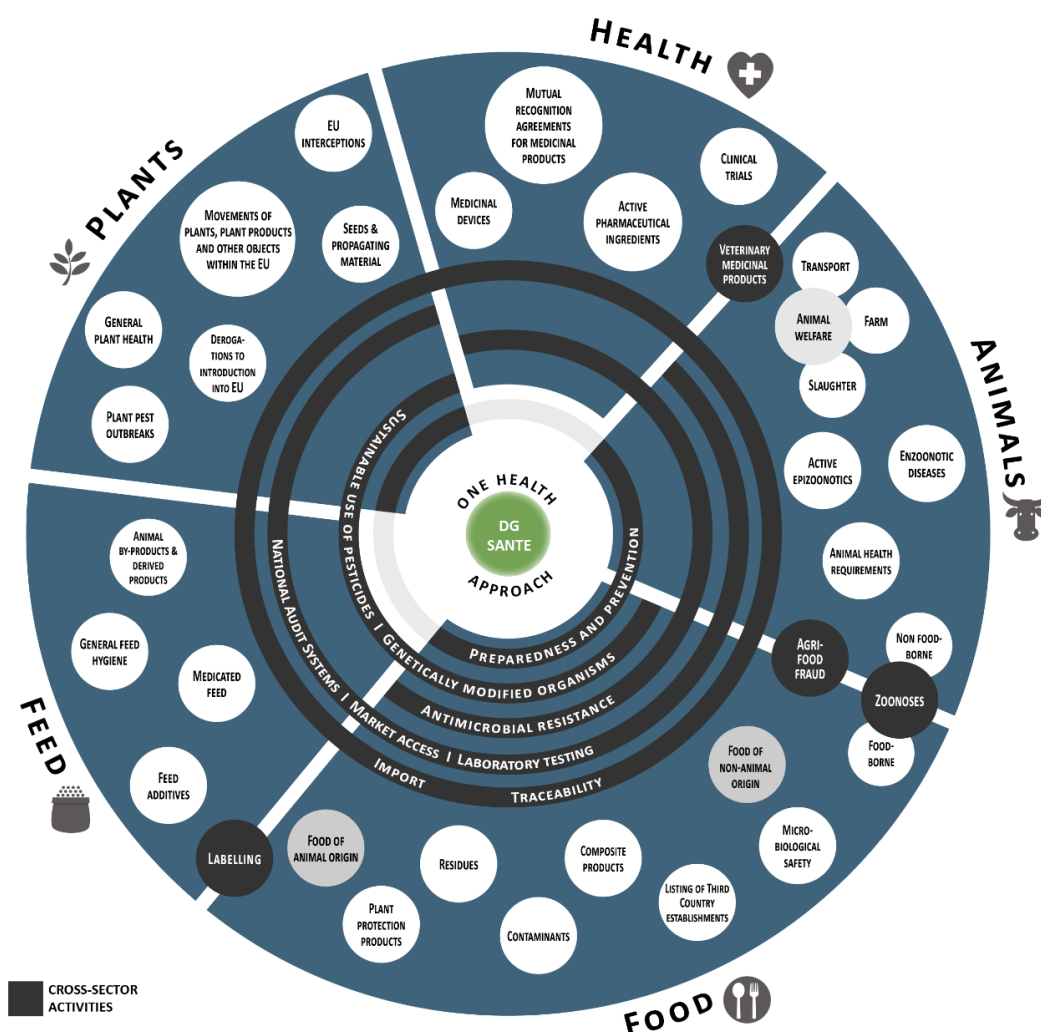


Figure 1 Control universe

The Directorate is also responsible for other activities such as networking activities with Member States, the management of the Better Training for Safer Food programme, and the input into the review or development of legislation based on the outcome of its controls.

The Directorate produces reports on its control activities, which are, with few exceptions, publicly available on the European Commission website ⁽³⁾. The Directorate also publishes overview reports and analyses providing a more comprehensive state-of-play of a given issue at a given point in time.

⁽³⁾ <https://ec.europa.eu/food/audits-analysis/audit-report>

3. Commission controls

3.1 Objectives and role of Commission controls

In the agri-food chain area

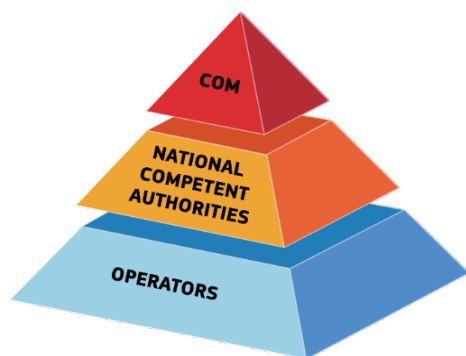


Figure 2: Levels of controls of EU safety standards in the agri-food chain area

In the EU, **operators** in the agri-food chain (such as farms, slaughterhouses, food-processing establishments and importers) have the primary responsibility for ensuring compliance with EU safety standards. In turn, **Member State** authorities (competent authorities) are responsible for checking operators' compliance by means of official controls. Member States also have to set up a system to assure themselves that they carry out their official controls effectively and consistently. **Commission** controls verify the effectiveness of Member States' official control systems.

Imported animals and goods have to comply with EU requirements. In case of animals, food of animal origin, and some food of non-animal origin, the competent authorities of **third countries/candidate countries exporting** goods to the EU must check that the operators involved in the export chain comply with specific EU requirements and certify that exported goods meet these requirements. Before export of any such products can take place, third countries/candidate countries must demonstrate their capacity to provide the above-mentioned guarantees, and the countries must be duly listed in various Commission regulations.

Commission controls play a central role in the decision-making process **for country listing** and for allowing **animals and animal products** originating in third countries/candidate countries to have access to the EU market. These controls also concern already listed third countries which are exporting food, feed, animals or plants to the EU. The Directorate targets countries according to risks associated with their exports to the EU, such as the volume of exports, non-compliant consignments identified at EU points of entry and the risks associated with the particular type of animal or goods. Commission controls also cover countries with free trade agreements with the EU.

A negative outcome of any control in a third country performed by the Directorate may result in the imposition of trade-restrictive measures to protect the health of European citizens and animal and plant health. This also incentivises the third country authorities and the implicated food business operators to take the necessary corrective measures swiftly. Examples of trade-restrictive measures include increased checks at EU borders or even suspension of imports. The Commission reviews such measures periodically.

The Directorate also carries out assessments in the context of the on-going **EU pre-accession negotiations**, in agreement with the national competent authorities, to evaluate the progress of the candidate country concerned with the implementation of the *acquis* regarding chapter 12 (on

food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy) in view of future accession to the EU. These activities are planned in accordance with the Commission's priorities.

In the health area

The Directorate's work aims to protect citizens across the EU and to address emerging challenges. The work programme contributes to the effective implementation of the Union's regulatory framework in the areas of medical devices, in line with Commissioner Várhelyi's mission letter. The programme also covers active pharmaceutical ingredients for human medicines, and clinical trials, as well as supporting Member States in the design and implementation of their national action plans to prevent the development of antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

In the area of medical devices, notified bodies are responsible for checking that medical devices meet the relevant legal requirements for certification and CE marking ⁽⁴⁾. The designation and re-assessment of these notified bodies aim to ensure that only appropriately resourced, adequately performing, and reliable notified bodies are designated.

3.2 Audits

Audits are the most common form of control in the agri-food chain area. They are a valuable tool to verify the effectiveness of the implementation of official controls performed by competent authorities to check how EU legislation is enforced. Audits are also performed in the health area, although they could be referred to in a different manner: for instance, as 'Union controls' in the area of clinical trials on medicinal products for human use, or as 'joint assessments' in the area of medical devices.

An audit typically involves a team of two auditors and, if appropriate, a national expert from a Member State. They can also be performed together with another competent authority, for instance, the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) Surveillance Authority (ESA) ⁽⁵⁾. In the area of medical devices, teams are composed of experts from the Member States and from the Commission, working together with the national designating authorities.

Following the development of pre-audit questionnaires and after analysis of responses to these questionnaires received from the competent authorities of the country concerned, the audit team devotes one or two weeks to meetings with national, regional and local authorities as well as carrying out visits to relevant sites (e.g. food business operators, slaughterhouses, processing plants, testing laboratories, farms, etc.) to see how competent authority controls are implemented on the spot. The Directorate issues an audit report after each audit, which may include

⁽⁴⁾ Manufacturers can place a CE (Conformité Européenne) **mark** on certain **medical devices** only if a notified body has issued a certificate of conformity for the concerned devices.

⁽⁵⁾ Based on the EEA (European Economic Area) agreement and an administrative arrangement on cooperation between DG SANTE and ESA.

recommendations to the competent authority to address any systemic or significant non-compliances identified.

The Directorate systematically follows-up on the actions taken by Member States in addressing these recommendations. In addition, when audits identify serious non-compliances in a Member State or in a third country, enhanced follow-up and enforcement actions may prove necessary. For instance, the Directorate may carry out follow-up audits to verify the implementation of the agreed corrective actions and, in a minority of cases, there could be a need for high-level meetings. As a last resort, legal action may have to be considered.

The Directorate uses a combination of remote technology (videoconferencing) and in-country visits to conduct its audits. The methodology to be used for individual controls is decided in consultation with the competent authorities on a case-by-case basis.

In some cases, the Directorate performs desk-based audits to check that the official controls carried out by the competent authorities of listed third countries are appropriate to verify the compliance of the exported animals and goods with EU requirements and reliably certify compliance with those requirements. This is done primarily through the auditees' reply to a specific and comprehensive questionnaire. Desk-based audits typically include animal and/or public health requirements within their scope. The decision to perform desk-based audits can be based on a number of factors such as export volumes, performance in previous Commission controls, and the degree of risk posed by the specific commodities for which the country is listed.

The Directorate produces [overview reports](#), which summarise the situation in a certain sector across Europe on a given topic, based on a series of audits or controls in several Member States. This helps with implementation or may help in the production or review of EU legislation.

3.3 Fact-finding visits

In general, fact-finding visits are organised in anticipation of the applicability of legal requirements, or in areas where the Commission needs to complete its knowledge about the operation of legislation. The results of these visits provide evidence to policy units for the review or development of legislation, guidance to assist Member States, and support the preparation of subsequent audits series. The approach is very similar to that used for audits, including a preliminary questionnaire, meetings with competent authorities and visits to relevant sites to collect evidence, as appropriate.

4. Other activities

The Directorate performs other activities primarily targeted at Member States, contributing to the implementation and enforcement of EU legislation, as illustrated below.

4.1 Assessments

Most of the assessments performed by the Directorate are specifically required by EU legislation to verify compliance with EU legislation. They include or consist of a desk assessment of documents produced by the competent authorities or competent authorities' reply to a questionnaire tailor-made to address a specific need or topic.

An example is the assessment of **control plans for residues of pharmacologically active substances in animals and animal products** submitted annually by all Member States, and by third countries which are either already listed or are requesting listing approval for the export of animals and animal products to the EU.

Another example is the assessment of compliance with EU legislation of **border control posts** and inspection centres in the EU Member States as a prerequisite for their (re-) designation by the competent authorities. They are based on the assessment of the floor plans and structure of the facilities. They can be complemented by on-site inspections consisting of meetings, interviews and/or visits of the facilities.

The Directorate has also elaborated product-specific **pre-country listing questionnaires** for third countries seeking market access to the EU (covering animal health and public health requirements) and it assesses the responses to determine whether the country can satisfy the EU import requirements for the commodities in question and be listed accordingly.

The Directorate also develops topic-specific questionnaires aiming to provide, based on replies from Member States' competent authorities, an overview of the situation in the EU on a specific issue or sector. As an example, the Directorate is currently producing overview reports, based on such responses, on histamine in fish and on food safety culture.

4.2 Better Training for Safer Food

Better Training for Safer Food (BTSE) is a European Commission training initiative to improve the knowledge and implementation of EU rules among staff of competent authorities. It covers food, feed, animal health and welfare, plant health, plant protection products and One Health.

The Directorate designs the training programme based on Commission priorities, in consultation with the policy units of DG SANTE and Member States. External contractors deliver courses both in the EU, and in non-EU countries exporting or seeking to export to the EU. BTSE plays a key role in training staff from candidate and potential candidate countries to meet EU technical standards for accession to the Union.

BTSE provides face-to-face and online training courses held in Member States and non-EU countries. In addition, the Commission platform "[BTSE Academy](#)" provides a Training Management System and hosts learning materials, course information and eLearning modules. The BTSE Academy features artificial intelligence enabled translation of all stored training materials into all EU official languages, enabling broad dissemination of and greater accessibility to Commission resources.

4.3 Member State networks

The Directorate chairs and manages the National Audit Systems network (NAS) ⁽⁶⁾, comprised of Member State and EFTA experts responsible for carrying out audits of official control systems in their countries in the areas covered by Regulation (EU) 2017/625. This network meets regularly in plenary or subgroup meetings with the objective of working together to enhance official control systems in the Member States and EFTA countries. This is achieved through sharing and exchanging experiences in implementing the national audit systems, discussing approaches to address common problem areas, and consolidating agreed principles and good practices into reference documents.

The Directorate also chairs and manages the expert group of Member State liaison bodies on the protection of animals during transport ⁽⁷⁾. This group promotes cooperation and coordination among Member States and with the Commission. Its tasks include addressing practical issues and questions related to implementing Union legislation, programmes, and policies on animal protection during transport. The group also serves as a platform for sharing experiences and good practices in this area.

4.4 EUROPHYT-Outbreaks

EUROPHYT-Outbreaks is the European rapid alert system for the notification by Member States of plant pest outbreaks. The Directorate has developed and operates this system in close cooperation with Member States in such a way that it provides an overview of the outbreak situation in the EU, and data analysis to support Member State and Commission policy making decisions and the targeting of official and Commission controls.

4.5 Plant health surveys

EU plant health legislation requires Member States to carry out annual surveys for the presence of identified priority pests, and certain other quarantine pests presenting a significant threat to the EU economy and the environment. Since 2021, Member States are using an IT-tool (EUROPHYT-Surveys) to report the results of these surveys to the Commission. The Directorate analyses and prepares presentations on survey results for the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed. These reports support informed policy decision making at EU-level on plant pests including potato pests, longhorn beetles, pinewood nematodes, and others.

4.6 Third country establishment listing

Third countries are eligible to export food of animal origin to the EU only if the country is listed for export of the specific category of food of animal origin to the EU, and if the products are produced in EU-approved establishments. The establishments are inspected by the competent

⁽⁶⁾ [Expert Group on National Audit Systems \(E03027\)](#)

⁽⁷⁾ [Expert Group of Liaison bodies on the protection of animals during transport \(E03909\)](#)

authorities in the third country and, if found to be in compliance with EU hygiene rules, are submitted to the Commission for inclusion in the Commission's Trade Control and Expert System (TRACES) database. Publication in TRACES allows stakeholders and control authorities in the Member States to readily identify EU-approved establishments. The third country competent authorities are responsible for keeping the lists of establishments up to date and for informing the Commission of any changes (including information in case an establishment no longer fulfils the requirements). The Directorate is responsible for maintaining the lists of food-producing establishments in TRACES.

4.7 Other activities

The Directorate supports the work of other Directorates within DG SANTE by providing input, based on the outcome of its controls, into the review or development of legislation in different areas.

5. Work priorities for 2026

The Directorate prioritises and carefully plans its activities to ensure it fulfils its legal mandate to carry out Commission controls in proportion to the risks posed in the various areas of the control universe whilst contributing to Commission political priorities:

- **Strategic objective 1 - Provide robust evidence on third country standards to support EU policies and safeguard the integrity of trade agreements:** Commission controls in third countries verify that effective controls are in place to ensure that their exports meet EU health, safety, and quality standards, to protect EU consumers and food business operators. This also includes controls of candidate countries for EU accession.
- **Strategic objective 2 - Promote a healthy internal market and a high level of citizens' trust:** Commissions controls verify that official control systems in all Member States ensure uniform compliance with EU legislation, safeguard public health, and maintain market fairness. Other activities such as training and workshops delivered through the BTSF platform also support harmonisation and improved compliance with the EU *acquis*.
- **Strategic objective 3 - Advance the 'One Health' approach for comprehensive evidence collection and policy support:** Controls and other activities of an advisory nature strengthen the integration of human, animal, plant health and environmental health in the Directorate's activities, ensuring that evidence is collected across sectors to inform policy decisions. This will improve cooperation between relevant sectors and stakeholders to better prevent, detect and control health threats.

Each strategic objective is addressed through specific objectives identified in Annex 1. For each objective, the prioritisation of topics and countries takes account of legal requirements, food safety and health risks (associated with products, their origin, production or trade volumes, evidence of non-compliance, and the outcome of past audit activities) and policy considerations.

In the health domain, topics relate to the Commission's political priorities, including the Commission's pharmaceutical strategy, and/or explicit legal requirements for the conduct of Commission controls. Many controls in this domain are demand driven.

6. Controls planned for 2026

The Directorate plans to perform 159 controls in 2026, of which 150 are audits, in the areas of food and feed safety, animal health, animal welfare, plant health and in certain areas of human health. These will be complemented by on-demand controls, notably joint assessments in the area of medical devices, or controls that depend on the fulfilment of certain conditions before being performed (e.g. controls related to third country market access requests).

In the programme for 2026, the proportion of controls of non-EU countries is higher than in previous years. In the agri-food-chain area, it stands at 51% of controls compared to 33% in 2025, in response to Commissioner Várhelyi's mission letter and the EU Vision for Agriculture and Food ⁽⁸⁾, as well as to support the enlargement process.

In 2026, the Directorate will commence work on the following topics:

- **One Health**, two new projects, respectively on vector borne disease and on *Listeria*, both targeted at Member States;
- **Animal health**, a new series of controls on preparedness for Category A animal health diseases, focused on Member States; and
- **Food safety**, two new projects, respectively on fish oil and on food contact materials containing recycled plastic, addressing both Member States and third countries.

Control activities in 2026 are detailed in annex.

- Annex 1 provides the list of controls by objective. For certain controls, countries have not been identified yet.
- Annexes 2 to 4 list the controls planned in 2026 by country. Annex 2 relates to Member States, Annex 3 relates to candidate countries and Annex 4 to third countries.

The Directorate may review the controls planned for 2026 if the circumstances require a change of priorities (such as emerging risks or crises, new political priorities) or prevent the performance of a control (such as security issues).

⁽⁸⁾ [COM\(2025\) 75 A Vision for Agriculture and Food Shaping together an attractive farming and agri-food sector for future generations](#)

Annex 1– Activities planned in 2026 by objective

Strategic objective 1.- Provide robust evidence on third country standards to support EU trade policy, ensure a level playing field, and safeguard the integrity of trade agreements.

Specific objective 1.1- Assess the effectiveness of control systems in third countries exporting to the EU		
Area	Theme	Activities planned in 2026
Human health	Active pharmaceutical ingredients / mutual recognition agreement	3 audits
Animal health	Animal health requirements	3 audits; China (poultry), Thailand (poultry) and United States (poultry)
Plant health	Plant health requirements	7 audits; Uganda, Costa Rica, China, Japan (Bonsai), Peru, Thailand, and one to be decided
Food	Residues of pharmacologically active substances - food of animal origin	10 audits; Tunisia, Panama, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Republic of Korea, Bangladesh, Uruguay, Türkiye, Moldova and one to be decided. Desk-based assessment of residue control plans of 30 non-EU countries (estimate)
	Fish and fishery products	13 audits; China (fish oil), Chile (fish oil), Oman (fish oil), Panama (fish oil), Türkiye, Uruguay, and 7 desk-based audits (Papua New Guinea, Senegal, Cabo Verde, Solomon isles, Taiwan, Nigeria, Malaysia)
	Meat and meat products	4 audits; Brazil (Beef), Argentina (Poultry meat and wild hare), United Kingdom (Beef), Uruguay (Beef)
	Food contact material – recycled plastics	4 audits; United Kingdom, India, Türkiye, China
	Live bivalve molluscs	2 audits; Japan and Vietnam
	Microbiological risks - food of non-animal origin	2 audits; Serbia and Türkiye
	Contaminants - food of non-animal origin	2 audits; United States, Türkiye
Plant protection product	Pesticide residues- food of non-animal origin	5 audits: Kenya, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Madagascar

Specific objective 1.2- Provide evidence-based analysis of third country alignment with EU standards and technical support to policy		
1.2.1- Evaluate market applications		
<i>Area</i>	<i>Theme</i>	<i>Activities planned in 2026</i>
Animal health	Animal health requirements	2 audits: Moldova (heated pork meat) and Ukraine (heated pork meat)
Food	Meat and meat products	3 audits: Bosnia Herzegovina (Bovine, ovine and caprine meat), Moldova (heated pork meat), Ukraine (Porcine heat-treated meat products)
	Fish and fishery products	1 audit of Cambodia
Plant health	Seed equivalency	1 audit of Senegal
1.2.2- BTSF workshops and Sustainable Training Missions (STMs)		
Agri-food chain	BTSF/STMs	A number of workshops and courses providing tailored technical support to competent authorities of exporting third countries
Specific objective 1.3- Support the accession process by providing an objective and timely evaluation of candidate countries' implementation of the EU acquis.		
<i>Area</i>	<i>Theme</i>	<i>Activities planned in 2026</i>
Human health	Active pharmaceutical ingredients	Up to 2 fact-finding visits; candidate countries to be decided
Agri-food chain	Chapter 12 of pre-accession negotiations	1 fact-finding visit of Moldova (general assessment) 11 sectoral audits: 2 on animal health (countries to be decided), 2 on plant health (Albania and Montenegro), 3 on food safety (Albania and 2 countries to be decided), 2 on pesticides and contaminants (Moldova and Albania) and 2 on import controls (Albania and Montenegro)

Strategic objective 2 - Promote a healthy internal market and a high level of citizens' trust

Specific objective 2.1- Strengthen Member States' official control systems.		
2.1.1- Sector specific controls		
<i>Area</i>	<i>Theme</i>	<i>Activities planned in 2026</i>
Animal health	Category A diseases under animal health law	African swine fever: 3 audits; Bulgaria, Hungary and Poland Avian influenza: 2 audits; Czechia and Poland Sheep and goat pox: 1 audit of Bulgaria

Animal health	Preparedness	2 audits on category A diseases contingency plans; Croatia and Sweden
	Category B&C diseases under animal health law	Monitoring of category B&C diseases: 4 audits; Croatia, Lithuania, Malta and Portugal
Animal welfare	During transport	5 audits; Croatia, Ireland, Slovenia, Spain and one country to be decided
	On-farm - poultry	3 audits; Germany, Netherlands and Spain
Plant health	Outbreaks - emergency measures	3 audits; Germany (<i>Popillia japonica</i>), Portugal (<i>Bursaphelenchus xylophilus</i>) and Spain (<i>Scirtothrips</i> spp.)
	Plant health preparedness	1 audit of Netherlands
Food	Residues of pharmacologically active substances - food of animal origin	3 audits: Austria, France and Netherlands Desk-based assessments of residue control plans of EU Member States and Northern Ireland
	Fishery products	1 audit of Malta Fish oil: specific questionnaire to all Member States and 2 fact-finding visits: France and Germany
	Meat and meat products	9 audits; Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Poland and Spain
	Food contact material – recycled plastic	2 audits; Netherlands and Poland
Entry into the EU	Import controls of live animals and goods	7 audits; Cyprus, France, Greece, Hungary, Netherlands, Romania and Switzerland A number of border control posts assessments followed up, if necessary, by on-site controls, before designation, depending on demand.
Plant protection product	Authorisation, marketing and use	1 audit of Denmark
	Use of plant protection products	7 audits: France, Germany, Latvia, Malta, Poland, Slovenia, and Sweden
Genetically modified organisms	Authorisation, marketing, traceability and labelling	1 audit of Bulgaria
2.1.2 Member State working groups to foster cooperation and knowledge exchange among Member States		
<i>Area</i>	<i>Theme</i>	<i>Activities planned in 2026</i>
Agri-food chain	National audit systems	2 plenary sessions and 2 working groups

Animal welfare	During transport	1 meeting with all Member States and EFTA countries
2.1.3- BTSF courses and workshops		
Agri-food chain	BTSF	A number of courses for competent authorities of EU Member States
2.1.4- Controls in the human health area		
Human health	Medical devices	10 re-assessments of notified bodies based on legal obligations A number of assessments for designation or scope extension of notified bodies, depending on requests. A number of reviews of corrective and preventive action plans, depending on requests
	Human medicinal products	Continuation of a series of Union controls to all Member States, Iceland and Norway initiated in 2025

Strategic objective 3 - Advance the 'One Health' approach to support policy development

Specific objective 3.1- Integrate One Health principles into audit and analysis planning.		
<i>Area</i>	<i>Theme</i>	<i>Activities planned in 2026</i>
One Health	Vector borne zoonoses	3 fact-finding visits; Austria, Italy and Spain
	Zoonotic Influenza virus	1 fact-finding visit of Czechia
	Listeria – One Health	Targeted questionnaire on <i>Listeria</i> - One health sent to all Member States in view of an assessment planned in 2027
Antimicrobial resistance	Medicated feed	9 audits; Finland, France, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Netherlands, Portugal and Romania
	AMR monitoring	Questionnaire to finalise the series of audits
	Use of antimicrobial veterinary medicinal products	3 audits; Cyprus, Hungary, Lithuania
Specific objective 3.2- Support stronger coordination between human health, veterinary, plant health and environmental authorities aligning with the One Health approach.		
One Health	Zoonotic Influenza virus	1 workshop with all Member States ending the series of fact-finding visits

Annex 2 – Controls of Member States planned in 2026

Country name	Title of controls	Control type
Belgique/België (Belgium)	Evaluate the food safety controls in place governing the production and placing on the market of meat preparations and meat products	Audit
България (Bulgaria)	Evaluate official controls on Genetically Modified Organisms	Audit
	Evaluate the implementation of animal health controls in relation to African swine fever	Audit
	Evaluate the implementation of animal health controls in relation to sheep and goat pox and peste des petits ruminants	Audit
Česko (Czechia)	Evaluate the application of measures for the prevention and control of avian influenza	Audit
	Study the measures to reduce risks from potentially zoonotic avian influenza	Fact-finding visit
Danmark (Denmark)	Evaluate the authorisation and controls of marketing and use of plant protection products	Audit
	Evaluate the food safety controls in place governing the production and placing on the market of meat preparations and meat products	Audit
Deutschland (Germany)	Evaluate the implementation of measures to achieve the sustainable use of pesticides	Audit
	Evaluate the situation and controls for <i>Popillia japonica</i>	Audit
	Evaluate the protection broiler welfare from farm to slaughter	Audit
	Fact-finding control in relation to the production and placing on the market of fish oil and products derived therefrom for human consumption	Fact-finding visit
Éire/Ireland	Evaluate the implementation of official controls on medicated feed	Audit
	Evaluate animal welfare controls during transport by livestock vessel to non-EU countries	Audit
Ελλάδα (Greece)	Evaluate the system of official import controls	Audit

Country name	Title of controls	Control type
España (Spain)	Evaluate the situation and controls for <i>Scirtotbrrips</i> spp.	Audit
	Evaluate the food safety controls in place governing the production and placing on the market of meat preparations and meat products	Audit
	Evaluate animal welfare controls during transport by livestock vessel to non-EU countries	Audit
	Evaluate the protection of broiler welfare from farm to slaughter	Audit
	Identify good practices and gaps in policy actions to reduce serious zoonotic risks from vector borne diseases following the one health approach	Fact-finding visit
France	Evaluate the implementation of official controls on medicated feed	Audit
	Evaluate the system of official import controls	Audit
	Evaluate controls on residues of pharmacologically active substances, pesticides and contaminants in animals and animal products	Audit
	Evaluate the implementation of measures to achieve the sustainable use of pesticides	Audit
	Fact-finding control in relation to the production and placing on the market of fish oil and products derived therefrom for human consumption	Fact-finding visit
Hrvatska (Croatia)	Category B and C diseases under Animal Health law	Audit
	Animal Health - Category A diseases - contingency planning	Audit
	Evaluate animal welfare controls during transport by livestock vessel to non-EU countries	Audit
Italia (Italy)	Evaluate the implementation of official controls on medicated feed	Audit
	Evaluate the food safety controls in place governing the production and placing on the market of meat preparations and meat products	Audit
	Identify good practices and gaps in policy actions to reduce serious zoonotic risks from vector borne diseases following the one health approach	Fact-finding visit
Κύπρος (Cyprus)	Evaluate the system of official import controls	Audit
	Assess the controls on antimicrobial veterinary medicinal products	Audit

Latvija (Latvia)	Evaluate the implementation of official controls on medicated feed	Audit
	Evaluate the implementation of measures to achieve the sustainable use of pesticides	Audit
Lietuva (Lithuania)	Assess the controls on antimicrobial veterinary medicinal products	Audit
	Category B and C diseases under Animal Health law	Audit
Magyarország (Hungary)	Evaluate the implementation of official controls on medicated feed	Audit
	Evaluate the system of official import controls	Audit
	Assess the controls on antimicrobial veterinary medicinal products	Audit
	Evaluate the food safety controls in place governing the production and placing on the market of meat preparations and meat products	Audit
	Evaluate the implementation of animal health controls in relation to African swine fever	Audit
Malta	Evaluate the implementation of measures to achieve the sustainable use of pesticides	Audit
	Category B and C diseases under Animal Health law	Audit
	Evaluate the food safety control systems in place governing the production and placing on the market of fishery products	Audit
Nederland (Netherlands)	Evaluate the system of official import controls	Audit
	Evaluate controls on residues of pharmacologically active substances, pesticides and contaminants in animals and animal products	Audit
	Evaluate the system of official control over the production of food contact materials with (or containing) recycled plastic	Audit
	Evaluate emergency preparedness in the plant health sector	Audit
	Evaluate the food safety controls in place governing the production and placing on the market of meat preparations and meat products	Audit
	Evaluate the protection of broiler welfare from farm to slaughter	Audit
	Evaluate the implementation of official controls on medicated feed	Audit

Österreich (Austria)	Evaluate controls on residues of pharmacologically active substances, pesticides and contaminants in animals and animal products	Audit
	Evaluate the food safety controls in place governing the production and placing on the market of meat preparations and meat products	Audit
	Identify good practices and gaps in policy actions to reduce serious zoonotic risks from vector borne diseases following the one health approach	Fact-finding visit
Polska (Poland)	Evaluate the implementation of measures to achieve the sustainable use of pesticides	Audit
	Evaluate the system of official control over the production of food contact materials with (or containing) recycled plastic	Audit
	Evaluate the food safety controls in place governing the production and placing on the market of meat preparations and meat products	Audit
	Evaluate the implementation of animal health controls in relation to African swine fever	Audit
	Evaluate the application of measures for the prevention and control of avian influenza and of Newcastle disease	Audit
Portugal	Evaluate the implementation of official controls on medicated feed	Audit
	Evaluate the situation and controls for <i>Bursaphelenchus xylophilus</i> (Pinewood nematode)	Audit
	Category B and C diseases under Animal Health law	Audit
România (Romania)	Evaluate the implementation of official controls on medicated feed	Audit
	Evaluate the system of official import controls	Audit
Slovenija (Slovenia)	Evaluate the implementation of measures to achieve the sustainable use of pesticides	Audit
	Evaluate animal welfare controls during transport by livestock vessel to non-EU countries	Audit
Suomi/Finland (Finland)	Evaluate the implementation of official controls on medicated feed	Audit
	Evaluate the food safety controls in place governing the production and placing on the market of meat preparations and meat products	Audit
Sverige (Sweden)	Evaluate the implementation of measures to achieve the sustainable use of pesticides	Audit
	Animal Health - Category A diseases - contingency planning	Audit

Annex 3 – Controls of candidate countries planned in 2026

Country name	Control title	Control type
Bosna i Hercegovina/Босна и Херцеговина (Bosnia and Herzegovina)	Evaluate controls on residues of pharmacologically active substances, pesticides and contaminants in animals and animal products	Audit
	Evaluate the public health control system in place in relation to a Bosnian listing request to export bovine, ovine and caprine meat and products therefrom to the European Union	Audit
Crna Gora/Црна Гора (Montenegro)	Evaluate the level of technical preparedness to effectively implement and enforce EU AGRI-Food Law on their accession to the EU in the area of plant health	Audit ⁽⁹⁾
	Pre-accession – Import controls	Audit ⁽¹⁰⁾
Republica Moldova (Moldova)	Assess the implementation of official controls in the agri-food chain in order to meet EU requirements in this area	Fact-finding visit ⁽¹¹⁾
	Assess the technical preparedness to effectively implement and enforce EU agri-food law on their accession to the EU, in the area of pesticides and contaminants	Audit ⁽¹²⁾
	Evaluate the animal health controls in place in relation to the export of pork meat, and their products to the European Union	Audit
	Evaluate the public health control system in place in relation to a Moldavian listing request to export porcine heat-treated meat products to the European Union	Audit
	Evaluate controls on residues of pharmacologically active substances, pesticides and contaminants in animals and animal products	Audit

⁽⁹⁾ In the context of the on-going EU accession negotiations in agreement with the national competent authorities to evaluate the progress of the candidate country concerned with the implementation of the *acquis* regarding chapter 12 (on food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy) in view of the future accession to the EU.

⁽¹⁰⁾ Ibid.

⁽¹¹⁾ Ibid.

⁽¹²⁾ Ibid.

Country name	Control title	Control type
Shqipëria (Albania)	Enlargement - import controls	Audit ⁽¹³⁾
	Evaluate the level of technical preparedness to effectively implement and enforce EU AGRI-Food Law on their accession to the European Union in the food sector	Audit ⁽¹⁴⁾
	Assess the technical preparedness to effectively implement and enforce EU agri-food law on their accession to the EU, in the area of pesticides and contaminants	Audit ⁽¹⁵⁾
	Evaluate the level of technical preparedness to effectively implement and enforce EU AGRI-Food Law on their accession to the EU in the area of plant health	Audit ⁽¹⁶⁾
Srbija/Србија (Serbia)	Evaluate the system of official controls relating to microbial safety of food of non-animal origin intended for export to the European Union	Audit
Türkiye	Assess the system in place to control mycotoxins in pistachios and dried figs intended for export to the European Union	Audit
	Evaluate the system of official control over the production of food contact materials with (or containing) recycled plastic	Audit
	Evaluate the control systems in place governing the production of fishery products intended for export to the European Union	Audit
	Evaluate food irradiation facilities	Audit
	Evaluate controls on residues of pharmacologically active substances, pesticides and contaminants in animals and animal products	Audit
Україна (Ukraine)	Evaluate the animal health controls in place in relation to the export of pork meat/products to the European Union	Audit
	Evaluate the public health control system in place in relation to a Ukrainian listing request to export porcine heat-treated meat products to the European Union	Audit

⁽¹³⁾ Ibid.

⁽¹⁴⁾ Ibid.

⁽¹⁵⁾ Ibid.

⁽¹⁶⁾ Ibid.

Annex 4 – Controls of third countries planned in 2026

Country name	Control title	Control type
ARG - Argentina	Evaluate the official control and certification systems over the production of poultry meat and products derived therefrom and wild hares to be exported to the European Union	Audit
BGD - Bangladesh	Evaluate the controls of pesticides in food of plant origin intended for export to the European Union	Audit
	Evaluate controls on residues of pharmacologically active substances, pesticides and contaminants in animals and animal products	Audit
BRA - Brazil	Evaluate the control system in place governing the production of beef intended for export to the European Union	Audit
CHE - Switzerland	Evaluate the system of official import controls	Audit
CHL - Chile	Evaluate the control systems in place governing the production of fish oil for human consumption and products therefrom intended for export to the European Union	Audit
CHN - China	Evaluate the animal health controls in place in relation to the export of poultry meat, eggs and their products to the European Union	Audit
	Evaluate the control systems in place governing the production of fish oil for human consumption and products therefrom intended for export to the European Union	Audit
	Evaluate the system of official control over the production of food contact materials with (or containing) recycled plastic	Audit
	Evaluate the system of official controls for the export of plants and plant products to the European Union	Audit
CPV – Cape Verde	Evaluate the control systems in place governing the production of fishery products intended for export to the European Union	Audit (desk-based)
CRI – Costa Rica	Evaluate the system of official controls for the export of plants and plant products to the European Union	Audit
GBR – United Kingdom	Evaluate the system of official control over the production of food contact materials with (or containing) recycled plastic	Audit
	Evaluate the control system in place governing the production of beef intended for export to the European Union	Audit
IND - India	Evaluate the system of official control over the production of food contact materials with (or containing) recycled plastic	Audit

Country name	Control title	Control type
JPN - Japan	Evaluate the control systems in place governing the production of live bivalve molluscs intended for export to the European Union	Audit
	Evaluate the system of official controls and the certification of coniferous bonsai plants for export to the European Union	Audit
KEN - Kenya	Evaluate the controls of pesticides in food of plant origin intended for export to the European Union	Audit
KHM - Cambodia	Evaluate the control systems in place governing the production of fishery products intended for export to the European Union	Audit
	Evaluate controls on residues of pharmacologically active substances, pesticides and contaminants in animals and animal products	Audit
KOR – Republic of Korea	Evaluate controls on residues of pharmacologically active substances, pesticides and contaminants in animals and animal products	Audit
LKA – Sri Lanka	Evaluate the controls of pesticides in food of plant origin intended for export to the European Union	Audit
MDG – Madagascar	Evaluate the controls of pesticides in food of plant origin intended for export to the European Union	Audit
MYS - Malaysia	Evaluate the control systems in place governing the production of fishery products intended for export to the European Union	Audit (desk-based)
NGA - Nigeria	Evaluate the control systems in place governing the production of fishery products intended for export to the European Union	Audit (desk-based)
OMN - Oman	Evaluate the control systems in place governing the production of fishery products, including fish oil, intended for export to the European Union	Audit
PAN - Panama	Evaluate the control systems in place governing the production of fishery products, including fish oil, intended for export to the European Union	Audit
	Evaluate controls on residues of pharmacologically active substances, pesticides and contaminants in animals and animal products	Audit
PER - Peru	Evaluate the system of official controls for the export of plants and plant products to the European Union	Audit
PNG – Papua New Guinea	Evaluate the control systems in place governing the production of fishery products intended for export to the European Union	Audit (desk-based)

SEN - Senegal	Evaluate the control systems in place governing the production of fishery products intended for export to the European Union	Audit (desk-based)
	Evaluate the system of official controls and certification of seed and their equivalence with European Union requirements	Audit
SLB – Solomon Islands	Evaluate the control systems in place governing the production of fishery products intended for export to the European Union	Audit (desk-based)
THA - Thailand	Evaluate the animal health controls in place in relation to the export of poultry meat, eggs and their products to the European Union	Audit
	Evaluate the controls of pesticides in food of plant origin intended for export to the European Union	Audit
	Evaluate the system of official controls for the export of plants and plant products to the European Union	Audit
TUN - Tunisia	Evaluate controls on residues of pharmacologically active substances, pesticides and contaminants in animals and animal products	Audit
TWN - Taiwan	Evaluate the control systems in place governing the production of fishery products intended for export to the European Union	Audit (desk-based)
UGA - Uganda	Evaluate the system of official controls for the export of plants and plant products to the European Union	Audit
URY - Uruguay	Evaluate the control systems in place governing the production of fishery products intended for export to the European Union	Audit
	Evaluate the control system in place governing the production of beef intended for export to the European Union	Audit
	Evaluate controls on residues of pharmacologically active substances, pesticides and contaminants in animals and animal products	Audit
US - United States	Evaluate the animal health controls in place in relation to the export of poultry meat, eggs and their products to the European Union	Audit
	Assess the system in place to control aflatoxin contamination in peanuts intended for export to the European Union	Audit
VNM - Vietnam	Evaluate the control systems in place governing the production of live bivalve molluscs intended for export to the European Union	Audit

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