EFTA SURVEILLANCE AUTHORITY

COUNTRY PROFILE – PART 2

Iceland

Current status of progress in implementation of corrective actions to recommendations issued by the EFTA Surveillance Authority

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INTRODUCTION

This part 2 of the Icelandic country profile has been drawn up by the EFTA Surveillance Authority ("the Authority") to present in a summary format the current status of progress in implementation of corrective actions by Iceland to recommendations issued by the Authority in recent years.

The Authority works to assure that effective and efficient official control systems, related to food and feed safety, animal health and welfare, are in place. This is done mainly by carrying out missions to Iceland and issuing audit reports including recommendations based on main shortcomings revealed during its missions. Iceland is requested to present plans for corrective actions to each issued recommendation and these plans are evaluated and their implementation monitored by the Authority through a number of follow-up activities. The information in this part of the country profile has been compiled on the basis of a general follow-up audit which was carried out by the Authority in Iceland in September 2016 and on information received since then from the Icelandic authorities.

This part of the country profile is presented in two chapters:

Chapter 1 contains an overview of missions carried out by the Authority in Iceland from May 2010, including status assessment of all issued recommendations, followed by several sector specific sub chapters detailing status for corrective actions for recommendations reviewed in the general follow-up mission to Iceland in September 2016.

Chapter 2 contains an overview of missions carried out since September 2016 and missions planned by the Authority to Iceland in 2017.

This part of the country profile is to be updated at regular intervals pursuant to the EFTA Surveillance Authority's missions or additional relevant information being submitted by the Icelandic competent authorities.

Acronyms are used extensively throughout the text for the sake of brevity. A list of acronyms, abbreviations and special terms is given in Annex I.

1 OVERVIEW OF MISSIONS AND FOLLOW-UP STATUS OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The Authority regularly conducts missions to Iceland to evaluate compliance with relevant EEA legislation. Article 45 (5) (a) of *Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules*, requires that EEA states take appropriate follow-up actions in the light of recommendations resulting from the Authority controls. In relation to missions carried out by the Authority in Iceland, recommendations are issued in mission reports, addressing shortcomings identified where Iceland is requested to present action plans to the Authority, detailing the actions taken or planned to rectify the identified shortcomings. The Authority evaluates these action plans and systematically monitors their implementation through a number of follow-up activities. Iceland shall continuously provide information on progress of open recommendations which, following assessment by the Authority, may result in an update of the follow-up status of recommendations. All Authority mission reports are available on the Authority website (www.eftasurv.int).

Table 1 gives an overview of missions carried out by the Authority since June 2010 and table 2 presents an overview of number and status of all issued recommendations from Authority missions conducted in this period, including assessment of status of progress. The aim is to provide a summary of progress on the implementation of recommendations. In the following subchapters related to specific control systems, open recommendations identified by the Authority and addressed during a general follow-up mission in September 2016 are listed indicating the Authority's assessment of actions taken by Iceland.

For the purpose of assessment the following terms are used and defined as follows:

Action taken: Appropriate measures to address the recommendation have been taken.

No longer relevant: For administrative, technical or legal reasons follow-up of the recommendation is no longer appropriate or for administrative reasons further follow-up is done in relation to a recommendation issued on a more recent mission.

In progress: Appropriate measures to address the recommendation have been planned or initiated but not all of the measures have been implemented.

Action still required: Appropriate measures to address the recommendation have not been initiated.

Incorrect application: Appropriate measures to address the recommendation have not been taken and the follow-up of the issue has been referred to an incorrect application case.

Recommendations classified as "In progress" or "Action still required" do not necessarily require any immediate specific legal or administrative action on the part of the Authority but these recommendations will remain the subject of monitoring by the Authority to assess progress. On the other hand where the Authority considers the situation warrants additional action on its part, it takes appropriate additional measures.

Table 1: Overview of missions to Iceland since June 2010 where recommendation have been issued

Mission ID	Topic
2010/ICE/10	Fishery products
2011/ICE/2	Feed hygiene
2011/ICE/4	Food hygiene and import controls of food of non-animal
2011/ICE/6	Live bivalve molluscs
2011/ICE/11	Residues and contaminants in live animals and animal products
2012/ICE/4	Safety of food of animal origin, in particular meat, milk and their products
2012/ICE/6	Monitoring and control of zoonotic agents
2012/ICE/7	import controls systems and border inspection posts
2012/ICE/9	food contact materials
2013/ICE/1	Potable water used and produced by the food industry
2013/ICE/4	Fish health
2013/ICE/8	Animal by-products not intended for human consumption
2013/ICE/11	Poultry meat
2014/ICE/2	Primary products and food of non-animal origin
2014/ICE/4	Animal welfare at the time of killing
2014/ICE/6	Processed casings
2014/ICE/7	Bovine identification and labelling of beef
2015/ICE/1	Residues and contaminants in live animals and animal products (done in 2016)
2015/ICE/4	Fishery products
2015/ICE/7	Verification of effectiveness of official import controls

Table 2: Overview of status of Authority recommendations from Authority missions from June 2010

Control system (Number of missions)	Number and status of recommendations					
	No	Action taken	No longer relevant	In progress	Action still required	Incorrect application
Animal health (1)	8	7	0	1	0	0
Food of animal origin (8)	86	69	6	8	0	3
Import controls animals, food of animal origin (2)	9	8	0	1	0	0
Feedingstuffs and animal nutrition (1)	13	8	2	2	0	1
ABP / TSE (1)	15	2	0	0	0	13
Veterinary medicines and residues (2)	25	17	1	5	0	2
Foodstuffs, food hygiene, imports of food of plant origin, and pesticides (4)	44	36	2	4	0	2
Animal welfare (1)	12	9	2	1	0	0
Total (20)	**212**	**156**	**13**	**22**	**0**	**21**

It should be noted that the number of recommendations does not represent per se a measurement of the degree of responsiveness by Iceland or of the seriousness of non-compliances identified. Some recommendations may be related to minor technical aspects while others may refer to more problematic, systemic issues. Furthermore, recommendations with incorrect application status may relate to ongoing or closed infringement procedures. Two main ongoing infringement procedures concern the absence of designation of all relevant national reference laboratories and the incorrect application of requirements related to animal by-products.

The individual recommendations which were addressed in the general follow-up mission carried out by the Authority in Iceland from 12 to 16 September 2016 are presented in the following chapter for each control system.

1.1 Animal health

The EEA legislation on veterinary matters applies to Iceland except for the provisions concerning live animals, other than fish and aquaculture animals, and certain products. In the period from June 2010, the Authority has done one mission on fish health.

(Mission ID 2013/ICE/4) **Mission to Iceland from 11 to 20 March 2013 regarding application of EEA legislation related to fish health**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2013/ICE/4 - 3) The competent authorities should ensure that internal or external audits are carried out in the area of aquatic animal health to ensure that the objectives of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 are achieved in line with Article 4(6) of that regulation.	As stated in MAST´s previous reply to the recommendation regarding internal and external audits, the structure of such a system has been drafted and is currently in the Ministry of Industries and Innovation for final approval. Some steps have already been taken in the implementation of the system with e.g. members of the Audit Board having been appointed. The current plan is to gradually implement the system in 2015 and time is and will be used for training of staff to become auditors. MAST´s Quality Manager, who will be responsible for the planning of audits, will attend BTSF seminars on internal audits in November and December 2014. Subsequently an audit plan will be designed with the aim of carrying out two audits in 2015. MAST intends to carry out audits on its own procedures and preparation has commenced. The organization of the audits and ideas for the structure of such an audit system have been drafted and sent to the MoII for implementation. The draft is currently under revision at MAST. Internal audits of official control started 2016 with 5 audits being conducted covering three different subjects and three Competent Authorities. The overall audit process is based on a mandate approved by the Ministry early 2016. By this new mandate, an Audit Committee and an Audit Board were appointed by the Ministry and started working directly. The audits are carried out according to the 5-year Multi Annual National Audit Program which was developed and confirmed by the Audit Board in 2016. The audits were elaborated in the one year audit program which was confirmed by the Audit Committee according to the mandate. Detailed audit plans were developed for each individual audit conducted. MAST‘s Quality Manager is the supervisor of the internal auditing process within the Authority. He ensures that the audit process fulfils the requirements in EC acts 882/2006 and 2006/677/EC as well as the mandate. All auditors have received relevant training and will continue training as necessary. The Multi Annual National Audit Program is now under revision and expected to be confirmed in the beginning of February followed by the one year audit program for 2017.	Action taken

(Mission ID 2013/ICE/4) **Mission to Iceland from 11 to 20 March 2013 regarding application of EEA legislation related to fish health**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2013/ICE/4 - 8) The competent authorities should ensure that there are facilities equipped or authorised for slaughtering fish for disease control purposes or alternative methods for culling and disposal of diseased fish in order to ensure that disposal of carcasses will be done in line with point 12 of Annex VII of Directive 2006/88/EC.	There are still no facilities authorized for slaughtering fish for disease control purposes. It has however been suggested to the Ministry, by MAST, in a draft for a new regulation on fish health and welfare that the disinfection of effluent water should be made mandatory for all slaughterhouses of sea farmed fish. It has not yet been notified by the Ministry when the regulation will come into force. The following steps have however been taken in improving the contingency plan for fish diseases, making it ready for approval by ESA by December 2014. Removal of outdated lists of diseases, a step in the direction of making the contingency plan a more general and dynamic operating tool in the event of a disease outbreak. Lists of operators (i.e. contractors, veterinary staff and municipal health authorities) are still under consideration, as they need to be updated according to official lists kept by MAST. These lists are used for other contingency plans such as for land animal diseases as well. Updated check lists, guidelines and forms. Still undergoing improvement. Education of veterinary staff: Two veterinary officers at MAST (fish disease and epidemiology) participated in a round table rehearsal in Norway last December, held by the Nordic-Baltic Veterinary Contingency Group. The topic was testing of skills of laboratory personnel and veterinary authorities and how to use the respective contingency plans of the Nordic and Baltic countries, in a possible outbreak of VHS in rainbow trout. The remaining work of improvement, before the plan can be submitted to ESA for approval, lies mostly in updating of lists and evaluation and approval by different departments within MAST, such as the quality manager and veterinary officer for epidemiology. The competent authorities have not seen it necessary to demand treatment of effluent water from aquaculture processing establishments, based on risk assessment of the establishments currently operating and with regard to point 2 of Article 5 of Directive 2006/88/EC on risk-mitigation measures. Hence there are no facilities specifically equipped or authorised for slaughtering fish for disease control purposes in Iceland. MAST has not yet based its authorisation of fish processing facilities on Directive 2006/88/EC. In the event of an outbreak of a fish disease the contingency plan for fish diseases includes guidelines on the chain of command and communication between the environmental authorities, local municipal health authorities and MAST with regards to disposal of diseased fish, contaminated fish waste and carcasses. Further demands on disease prevention and mitigation are given by the veterinary officer for fish diseases at MAST to the aquaculture production business in question and other operators concerned. The burial sites for carcasses are not determined in advance (not listed in the contingency plan) because of different circumstances in the municipalities. The responsible Ministry has not yet implemented the drafted regulation (originally a draft from MAST delivered on 7 February 2014) containing requirements for disinfection of all effluent water from slaughterhouses and well-boats slaughtering sea farmed fish. At this moment it's uncertain when the Ministry will finalize the formal process of reviewing incoming comments. This year a new harvesting facility in the Westfjords is under construction and will be equipped as to meet the requirements for slaughtering fish for disease control purposes. The formal work of reviewing the incoming comments of the new updated draft of the regulation, covering the fundamentals regarding facilities authorized for slaughtering fish for disease control purposes, is still ongoing in the responsible Ministry. MAST has not been informed of further deadlines.	In progress

1.2 Food of animal origin

In the period from June 2010, the Authority has completed 9 missions in relation to food of animal origin. Out of a total of 98 recommendations issued in relation to these missions, 23 were identified to be addressed during the general follow-up mission in September 2016.

(Mission ID 2012/ICE/6) **Mission to Iceland from 10 to 14 September 2012 regarding application of EEA legislation related to control of Salmonella and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2012/ICE/6 - 1) Iceland should ensure compliance with Articles 4(2) (c) and 4(3) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 regarding official controls, control duties and harmonisation of supervision concerning the different authorities in charge of official controls.	MAST will in 2013 write an inspection manual in cooperation with the LCAs. Risk classification system similar to the system MAST has implemented to determine the frequency of inspection will be implemented by the LCAs latest 1 of January 2014. The inspection manual should be finalised 2013. The overall aim is to ensure harmonisation between the LCAs. The need for further guidelines will be analysed when the inspection manual has been finalised. MAST is planning audits of the LCA in 2013. MAST has in cooperation with the representatives from the LCAs written an inspection manual. The draft has been provided. It is expected to be finalized in November 2014. The inspection manual will then be tested by some of the LCA. It will then be revised if necessary. Training will be organized before the implementation which is scheduled to be in the second quarter of 2014. The inspection manual contains in chapter1, general procedures on how to perform audits and inspections on establishments under their responsibility. In chapter 1 it is defined which inspections items should be addressed under the approval process and under regular control of establishments. Each LCA should define responsibilities and how they save documents, reports and letters made in connection with official control, follow up and enforcement. Each LCA should define how reports are documented. A system for follow up of non-compliances is defined in the inspection manual. General procedure for the enforcement that should be adapted by each LCA is included in chapter 1. Internal Audits. The internal audit system will be implemented in 2014 See chapter 1.5 in the country profile. The Inspection Manual for the LCAs was published in April and issued on MAST´s website. Will be fully implemented by all areas in 2016. Training is being organized by a group of 6 from LCA and MAST side (deadline 01.09 2016). A new risk classification and performance evaluation system is being implemented for all LCAs. The implementation process is well on the way an is being done in stages. The new system will be fully implemented by all LCAs by the end of 2016.	Action taken
(2012/ICE/6 - 8) The Icelandic competent authorities should ensure that information relating to the existence of a serious direct or indirect risk to human health	Overview of recalls are on MAST´s website. http://mast.is/?pageid=7d9191c5-8599-4f5d-89b4-2ff95fb718d5&selection=innkallanir It should be notified through the RASFF network if the product is from other countries or in distribution in other countries. Guidance on recalls and withdrawals has been issued and overviews of cases and actions taken provided to the Authority.	Action taken

(Mission ID 2012/ICE/6) **Mission to Iceland from 10 to 14 September 2012 regarding application of EEA legislation related to control of Salmonella and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
deriving from food is immediately notified under the rapid alert system as required by Article 50(2) of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002.c		

(Mission ID 2014/ICE/6) **Mission to Iceland from 22 to 26 September 2014 regarding application of EEA legislation related to processed casings**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2014/ICE/6 - 1) The competent authority should ensure the effectiveness and appropriateness, in particular by verifying the effectiveness, of the official controls as required by Article 4(2)(a) and 8(3)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.	A system for the verification of effectiveness of official controls is being developed and implemented at MAST. The system consists of several components. -An internal audit system is an important aspect to ensure the effectiveness and appropriateness of official controls. Internal audits have been conducted and over the next 5 years all aspects of the official controls will be subjected to an internal audit. -Extensive harmonization procedures are in place and under constant revision. Senior officer for harmonization as well as those in charge of specific sectors or district monitor the official controls and ensure harmonization and effectiveness through training, meetings, guidelines and work procedures, dual inspections and by monitoring the results of official controls. -The results of official controls from the ÍsLeyfur database are an important tool to ensure the effectiveness of official controls. MAST monitors several aspects already and is also developing further the information that needs to be monitored from the database to ensure the effectiveness of official controls. A part of this process is to ensure that all relevant staff have access to the necessary information and are aware of how they should be used to monitor the harmonization and effectiveness of official controls. This is an area that is being developed and will improve in 2015. MAST is already looking at several factors for example; the progress of official controls both overall and by sector and districts, the differences in results of official controls between control staff (number and nature of non-compliances identified during official controls), the nature of non-compliances identified and the progress of the performance of establishments during official controls. -All of MAST's procedures and processes are under constant revision to ensure improvement and effectiveness of official	No longer relevant *(Followed-up in recommendation 2015/ICE/7 – 1)*

(Mission ID 2014/ICE/6) **Mission to Iceland from 22 to 26 September 2014 regarding application of EEA legislation related to processed casings**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	controls. The risk based prioritization and control procedures have been under extensive revision for the past year and several improvements will be introduced in 2015. -MAST has also been working extensively on setting measurable objectives for official controls and defining indicators for effectiveness. To this end MAST has participated in European and Nordic working groups (f.ex. Head of Agencies meeting in Brussels in April 2014, Working Group at FVO) that have been working on how to define indicators of effectiveness and set measureable objectives. The system for verification of effectiveness is being developed and major improvements in this area are expected to be implemented in the year 2015. Work will continue in 2017 to implement further the system for verification of official control. Please find attached the draft document describing the system to be implemented.	
(2014/ICE/6 - 2) Iceland should prepare, implement and maintain a Multi Annual National Control as required by Article 41 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.	Iceland is finalising an integrated MANCP that will be implemented in 2015. As one of the prerequisites of establishing an MANCP is risk classification of all sectors, MAST has been preparing and integrating risk prioritisation and risk classification systems for all fields. The risk prioritisation system for food of non-animal origin has been established and will be formally implemented in 2015. The risk prioritisation system for primary production is being finalised and will also be implemented in 2015. MAST has actively been preparing and developing the MANCP along with the reorganisation of the control system for food and feed. To this end MAST has visited EVIRA in Finland to learn about the Finnish MANCP, a visit established as a TAIEX project in 2012. MAST also visited the BVL in Germany in June 2014 to learn about the German MANCP, which was done as a part of the bilateral project "Safe Food" between Iceland and Germany. MAST has also actively participated in European and Nordic working groups concerning objectives and indicators of effectiveness, which are an important aspect of the MANCP. MAST is also a part of the FVO expert group on MANCP and annual reports. MAST is in the process of developing a MANCP. Work so far has been focused on the systematic changes to procedures and processes that make up the control system (risk classification systems, verification procedures, contingency planning, long-term objectives etc.) and are the necessary basis for the development of a strategic plan such as the MANCP as described in Article 41 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004. A first draft will be finalised in 2016 with official publication expected in 2017. Deadline 01.03.2017	No longer relevant *(Followed-up in recommendation 2015/ICE/4 – 5)*

(Mission ID 2014/ICE/6) **Mission to Iceland from 22 to 26 September 2014 regarding application of EEA legislation related to processed casings**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2014/ICE/6 - 3) The competent authority should ensure that establishments are approved for activities to which the food business operator can demonstrate compliance with the relevant requirements in line with Article 31(2)(c) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.	MAST will ensure that procedures already in place are being followed when granting an approval to a FBO. The issue will be taken up in a coordination meeting of MAST with all DVOs and the results of this mission introduced as well as planned remedies. ESA issues, such as results of missions and follow-up, were discussed in a CVO/DVO meeting on 12.1.2015. Approvals are reviewed in each regular inspection visit. Reports are filed in the database IsLeyfur Procedures for approval have been reviewed and published in new control handbooks. Written procedures in QM are being updated and will be published before 1 March 2017.	In progress
(2014/ICE/6 - 4) The competent authority should ensure that official controls are carried out in line with Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 854/2004, in particular with regard to audits of good hygiene practices and HACCP based procedures.	In 2015 MAST will start to carry out more targeted audits of Good Hygiene Practices and HACCP systems in several establishments, including the poultry SHs. Training of staff has taken place (Taiex and BTSF) and will also be continued. In 2015 increased emphasis was put on the HACCP systems in inspection visits. This was partly due to requirements from third countries because of export. The performance evaluation system is under review and a new system will be taken up 01.11.2016. In the new system establishments cannot be upgraded unless the HACCP system is functioning without any comments. Revision of the control system (risk classification system and inspection manual) is completed and implemented end of 2016. Was presented to stakeholders with a letter end of 2016.	Action taken
(2014/ICE/6 - 5) The competent authority should ensure that all edible parts of an animal carcass shall be subject to post mortem inspection as laid down in Annex I chapter II of regulation (EC) No	Action was taken by the DVO before the mission was completed. An e-mail was sent out to the relatively new Official Veterinarian which was followed by communication and training in the same week as the mission took place. The results of the mission, recommendations and action taken will also be introduced to all DVOs in the regular monthly meetings with the CVO. All slaughtered animals have undergone ante- mortem inspection by the OV prior to slaughter. The head of the lamb (only lamb heads are taken for human consumption) is removed from the carcass after stunning, sticking and bleeding. Because of tradition the skin has to be on the head, thus the head cannot follow the carcass over to the clean area of the slaughterhouse, since it is still with skin and blood covered wool on. The head goes therefore into a separate process, horn clipping, and wool clipping and chilling. Usually the next day the head is incinerated, split, the brain removed etc. Each slaughterhouse has a working procedure for this processing. Since the head is handled quite often by slaughter men and workers they are instructed to remove from the	In progress

(Mission ID 2014/ICE/6) **Mission to Iceland from 22 to 26 September 2014 regarding application of EEA legislation related to processed casings**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
854/2004.	process suspicious heads which are not fit. The heads are of little economical value and therefore easy to dispose of in the process or at a later stage. The slaughterhouses determine the size of the production lot to ensure traceability, which most often is the slaughter day as one lot. Some processed heads are exported to Faroe Islands or to 3rd countries (Africa).They are only consumed thoroughly boiled. The product is considered as safe food. Furthermore the OV, in his daily routine, controls if procedures are followed, and is also contacted by the slaughterhouse if any suspicion arises during slaughter. The same applies to lamb legs (hind legs), which follow more or less the same procedure, but on a much lesser scale, and the consumption is very little in Iceland, but some is exported to 3 rd. countries, depending market situation, each year. Iceland therefore considers that the heads have undergone post mortem inspection and it can be noted that the USDA/FSIS has approved this procedure. A meeting is scheduled with DVOs before the next slaughter season to review and emphasise results of ESA missions and important issues in SHs in general. (Deadline indicated 01/02/2015) MAST has provided the Authority with a letter from the CVO in Iceland to the USDA regarding performance of official control in sheep SHs in Iceland. The USDA approved of the system and SH have had a long-lasting licence to export lamb meat to the US. The certificates for export are audited regularly by the USDA/FSIS. The following was noted in a FSIS audit report in 2007: ´Equivalence determinations are those that have been made by FSIS for Iceland under provisions of the SPS agreement. Currently, Iceland has two equivalence determinations regarding inspection procedures as follows: 1. Removal of sheep heads from carcasses prior to veterinary disposition.	

(Mission ID 2014/ICE/7) **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**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2014/ICE/7 - 1) Iceland should ensure that deadlines for farmers' obligations to report events to the database, as set out in Article 7(1) of	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. National legislation was amended with Regulation No 748/2016.	Action taken

(Mission ID 2014/ICE/7) **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**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000, are made part of the Icelandic legal order as required by Article 7(a) of the EEA Agreement.		
(2014/ICE/7 - 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. (Deadline indicated 31/12/2016) Work procedures have not been updated yet. However, a team has been established within MAST to work on information technique, coordination of databases etc. When this has been organized written procedures will be updated and should be available end 2017.	Action taken
(2014/ICE/7 - 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.	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. Iceland has implemented Regulation (EU) No 653/2014 (IS 33/2016) that amends these provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000. Passports are not demanded for domestic transport and Article 6(3) has been deleted. Recommendation therefore not considered relevant anymore.	No longer relevant

(Mission ID 2014/ICE/7) **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**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2014/ICE/7 - 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. Control handbooks for official control of different animal species have been updated and/or new ones published. They are on MAST´s website. http://mast.is/matvaelastofnun/utgafa/skodunarhandbaekur/. MAST has provided a draft document regarding the risk categorisation for official control in primary production.	Action taken
(2014/ICE/7 - 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 has been communicated to the Authority.	Action taken
(2014/ICE/7 - 6) Iceland should submit to the Authority annual reports within the set deadline pursuant to Article 5 of Regulation	The report for 2014 will be sent to the Authority before the deadline of 31 August 2015. Information for 2015 will be collected and sent to ESA before 1. April 2017.	In progress

(Mission ID 2014/ICE/7) **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**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(EC) No 1082/2003.		

(Mission ID 2015/ICE/4) **Mission to Iceland from 19 to 23 October 2015 regarding application of EEA legislation related to the hygiene of fishery products**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2015/ICE/4 - 1) Iceland should ensure that, if traditional production methods are used, national measures are adopted and notified to the Authority in accordance with, as relevant, Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 852/2004, Article 10 of Regulation (EC) 853/2004 or Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 2074/2005.	A draft to a national regulation on traditional productions methods and adaptation of certain requirements laid down in annex II of regulation 852/2004 and annex III of regulation 853/2004 is in place. Requirements for drying of fish in the open air are laid down in paragraph 12 of the regulation. The draft in attachment was sent to the ministry 30.12.2015. There are some comments in the draft from the Ministry and MAST´s reply to the comments. The ministry will send the draft out for comments in the beginning of 2016. The ministry has received comments on the regulations from local health authorities and stakeholders and MAST has been asked to review the comments and decide if they should be taken into consideration. Deadline 28.04.2016. Regulation No 856/2016 in force since October.	In progress
(2015/ICE/4 - 3) The competent authority should ensure they have procedures in place to verify the effectiveness of official controls as required by Article 8(3)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.	A formalized verification system is being developed that will describe the verification procedures and processes to identify the effectiveness of official controls. This project is closely connected with the development of the MANCP. Several verification procedures are already in place that will be further developed and implemented in 2016 and 2017. A working group will be established that will be responsible for describing the verification system and identifying indicators to measure the effectiveness of official controls and compliance with planned arrangements, the necessary procedures that need to be implemented and data that needs to be collected and analysed. The group will develop a project outline before 1.5.2016. Group has been established and project outline will be developed before 01.09.2016. Work will continue in 2017 to implement further the system for verification of official control. Please find attached the draft	No longer relevant *(Followed-up in recommendation 2015/ICE/7 – 1)*

(Mission ID 2015/ICE/4) **Mission to Iceland from 19 to 23 October 2015 regarding application of EEA legislation related to the hygiene of fishery products**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	document (updated since mission) describing the system to be implemented.	
(2015/ICE/4 - 4) The competent authority should ensure that internal audits are carried out in accordance with Article 4(6) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.	The ministry plans to appoint the audit committee early 2016. A new Quality Manager has very recently started working at MAST. Further training of auditors will take place in 2016 and by the end of the year 2 audits will be completed. The Audit Committee has been appointed and the system approved and signed. An audit plan for 2016 has been designed and an audit team of 6 established. A 3-day training seminar by BSI Iceland (British Standards Institution) already took place in April 2016. The first audit will be carried out in May 2016. Internal audits of official control started 2016 with 5 audits being conducted covering three different subjects and three Competent Authorities. The overall audit process is based on a mandate approved by the Ministry early 2016. By this new mandate, an Audit Committee and an Audit Board were appointed by the Ministry and started working directly. The audits are carried out according to the 5-year Multi Annual National Audit Program which was developed and confirmed by the Audit Board in 2016. The audits were elaborated in the one year audit program which was confirmed by the Audit Committee according to the mandate. Detailed audit plans were developed for each individual audit conducted. MAST's Quality Manager is the supervisor of the internal auditing process within the Authority. He ensures that the audit process fulfils the requirements in EC acts 882/2006 and 2006/677/EC as well as the mandate. All auditors have received relevant training and will continue training as necessary. The Multi Annual National Audit Program is now under revision and expected to be confirmed in the beginning of February followed by the one year audit program for 2017.	Action taken
(2015/ICE/4 - 5) Iceland should prepare a single integrated multi-annual national control plan in accordance with Article 41 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.	MAST is in the process of developing a MANCP. Work so far has been focused on the systematic changes to procedures and processes that make up the control system (risk classification systems, verification procedures, contingency planning, long-term objectives etc.) and are the necessary basis for the development of a strategic plan such as the MANCP as described in Article 41 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004. A first draft will be finalised in 2016 with official publication expected in 2017. A working group will be established to work with the editor and directors on finalising the MANCP. A first draft will be finalised in 2016 with official publication expected in 2017. MAST has prepared a draft version of the MANCP for Iceland. It is foreseen to be published early 2017.	In progress
(2015/ICE/4 - 6) The competent authority should ensure that approval of food business operators	From 2011 MAST has been working in accordance with a work procedure describing the steps taken by MAST to approve food business operators. In line with the recommendation given by ESA, MAST will start a project of reviewing the procedure to ensure that the requirements of Article 31(2) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 will be fully covered. The review project will be conducted according to a work procedure in MAST quality system. The main aspects of the review	In progress

(Mission ID 2015/ICE/4) **Mission to Iceland from 19 to 23 October 2015 regarding application of EEA legislation related to the hygiene of fishery products**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
processing fishery products in Iceland is in line with the requirements laid down in Article 31(2) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.	program are: 1) The importance of following working procedures. 2) Formalizing the subjects which the procedure does not cover today. 3) How sector and activity codes are used. Food v Feed. 4) Review the issue of license. Working group has been defined. Procedures for approval have been reviewed and published in new control handbooks. Written procedures in QM are being updated and will be published before 1 March 2017.The applicant applies electronically for approval on MAST´s website (through ´Þjónustugátt´). The application is sent automatically to the relevant senior officer or DVO who is responsible for establishing the applicant as a customer in MAST´s document system and registers him in the database IsLeyfur as well.	
(2014/ICE/4 - 7) The competent authority should ensure that regular checks are carried out on the hygiene conditions of landing as required by Chapter I of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 854/2004.	MAST will consider how control with hygiene condition of landing could be organised. Improvement project will be organised according to work procedure in MAST quality system. In attachment there is a draft description of the project. Delayed from 01/04/2016 until 01/10/2016. Working group has been established. Control of landing is carried out in cooperation with the DoF from 2012 (temperature of fish at landing etc.). Defined in a contract which is currently under revision. To be completed 1 April 2017.	In progress
(2014/ICE/4 - 8) The competent authority should ensure that official samples and monitoring of the quality of potable water used by food business operators are carried out in accordance with requirements laid down in Article 7 and Annex II of Council Directive 98/83/EC.	Water used by food businesses should come from water supplies that are under the control of LCAs. FBOs also take samples once per year. Seawater used in fish processing plant is not under the control of the LCAs. FBOs take samples once per month. The FBO sampling is verified in MAST´s inspection. MAST organised sampling of seawater for analysing of microbiological parameters last year and the sampling is ongoing will continue 2016. At the same time information on the origin of seawater and eventual treatment of seawater will be collected. Sampling plan for potable water used at point of compliance 2017-2020 will be made 2016. The sampling plan will be based on risk assessment. Results from official sampling in 2016 and a copy of the sampling plan referred to for 2017 - 2020 has been provided to the Authority.	In progress

(Mission ID 2015/ICE/4) **Mission to Iceland from 19 to 23 October 2015 regarding application of EEA legislation related to the hygiene of fishery products**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2014/ICE/4 - 9) The competent authority should ensure that official controls of fishery products are carried out in line with the requirements laid down in Chapter II of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 854/2004.	Samples for analysis of histamine in mackerel and herring were taken 2014 and 2015. Samples of capelin, herring and Greenland halibut were taken for analysis of heavy metals. Dioxins and Dioxin like PCBs were analysed in canned fish liver and cod liver oil. The results are in the attached excel document. Some results are not available by 8th of January. Updated table will be sent to ESA when all the results are available. Sampling plan for 2016 has been made. See attachment. Working group (MAST, MATIS, ANR and SFS (association of fish producers)) was established 2015 by the ministry to reorganise the monitoring programs of contaminants in fish and fishery products. The group will submit recommendations on the subject to the minister by the end of January. MAST has decided to make a control plan on organoleptic examinations and checks on parasites. The first step is to make a plan for corrective actions. The plan is expected to be finalised in February. Guidelines on control of additives will be written in 2016 and the control will be implemented in June/ May. For your information 21 samples of meat products were analysed for nitrite and nitrate in 2015. Control plan for parasites and organoleptic examinations delayed until 01.10.2016 In progress. Documents have been prepared for official inspectors to use during control. They have been introduced to inspectors and their use and results will be noted in the reports in Isleyfur.	Action taken

1.3 Imports of animals and food of animal origin

In the period from June 2010, the Authority has completed 2 missions in relation to imports of animals and food of animal origin. Out of a total of 9 recommendations issued in relation to the two missions, 2 were identified to be addressed during the general follow-up mission in September 2016.

(Mission ID 2012/ICE/7) **Mission to Iceland from 15 to 19 October 2012 regarding application of EEA legislation related to import/transit controls systems and border inspection posts**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2012/ICE/7 - 4) The competent authority should ensure that persons responsible for consignments of products of animal origin arriving from third countries notify such consignments before their physical arrival to Iceland as required by Article 3 of Directive 97/78/EC and Article 2(1) of Regulation (EC) No 136/2004. Furthermore, it should be ensured that the requirement of pre-notifications is enforced by the competent authorities in an efficient and effective way as provided for in Article 54 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.	The procedure for import of POAO from 3rd countries (MAST QM: VLY-034 and attached documents) will be revised in order to improve the obligations of the person responsible for the load regarding time limits of pre-notifications and actions taken due to lack of pre-notifications. A system will be arranged to inform the person responsible for the load on their obligations, as well as notifying them on the enforcement of an increased inspection-costs due to lack of pre-notifications. The checklist GAT-004 was revised 04/02/2013, accordingly. Increased inspection costs were introduced on the seminar for carrier companies Increased inspection costs of a minimum 2 h extra fees due to lack of pre-notifications was announced and validated 25/10/2013. Examples of extra fee cases and cases of lack of pre-notification have been provided to ESA. Completed 11/04/2013. MAST´s action plan to increase the percentage of timely pre-notifications in TRACES: a) Increased inspection costs will be announced to the person responsible for the load and charged with first delayed pre-notification. b) Progressive inspection costs will be charged if non-timely pre-notifications by the same importer occur within one year from the last delayed pre-notification. c) Further infringements on timely pre-notifications will be followed up by contacting the person responsible for the load by a formal meeting. d) Announcement of these changes will be sent to all importers, customs agents and carrier companies.	Action taken

(Mission ID 2015/ICE/7 – 1) **Mission to Iceland from 30 November to 4 December 2015 to evaluate national procedures in place to verify the effectiveness of import control systems for products of animal origin**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2015/ICE/7 - 1) The competent authority should ensure that there are procedures in place to verify the effectiveness of official controls for imports of products of animal origin, as required by Article 8(3) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004, and that they take corrective actions and document it as required by Article 8(3)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004, when weaknesses related to official controls are detected.	Iceland has provided a detailed plan regarding a system for verification of effectiveness to the Authority. Iceland identifies 11 procedures for verification and actions correlating to the procedures, a timeframe is given for most of the actions, however sometimes only indicating a starting point. Most of the actions should take place in 2016. Work will continue in 2017 to implement further the system for verification of official control. The new office of coordination at MAST will be leading this work in 2017. A team will be created for this task and written procedures developed.	In progress

1.4 Feedingstuffs and animal nutrition

In the period from June 2010, the Authority has completed 1 mission in relation to feedingstuffs and animal nutrition. Out of a total of 13 recommendations issued in relation to this mission, 4 were identified to be addressed during the general follow-up mission in September 2016.

(Mission ID 2011/ICE/2) **Mission to Iceland from 31 January to 4 February 2011 regarding application of EEA legislation related to feed hygiene**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2011/ICE/2 - 1) The competent authorities should ensure effective co-operation between and within competent authorities as required by Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.	MAST is the CA responsible for all official control of feed business, including the feed operations of food business operators that might supply co-products as feed. MAST will set up the necessary channels between MAST and the local public health authorities to identify food business that supply co-products as feed. Information on FBOs supplying co-products will be collected in inspection visits in 2013. Ongoing, not finished. Attached is a list of FBOs that provide co-products to be used as feed. Some are already registered but others were collected by DVOs in 2013 and work has been initiated to have them registered. Information is still to be collected in two districts. In the inspection manual for LCA chapter 9 it is required that the LCAs looks at the rules on how co-products of food intended for feed is handled in the food business. It will be one of the main emphasis in the training on the use of the inspection manual that is foreseen 2016-2017. Some of the food businesses supplying co-products as feed material have been registered and inspected by MAST. See the handbook on MAST website: http://mast.is/library/Lei%C3%B0beiningar/SkodunarhandbokHES1511.pdf	In progress
(2011/ICE/2 - 2) The competent authority should ensure full compliance with Article 8(3) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 in particular by establishing procedures to verify the effectiveness of official controls.	The establishing of procedures is ongoing and will be finished this year. To ensure the effectiveness of official controls on food hygiene, and in accordance with the requirements set forth in Article 8 of Regulation (EC) 882/2004, documented procedures are in place for official controls for feed in the form of checklists. A control plan will be incorporated into the MANCP and as such will be affected by the overall strategic objectives of the MANCP. According to the requirements of Article 3(1) of regulation (EC) 882/2004 and 42(2)(b) modifications are being made to the risk assessment and risk categorisation system of MAST to ensure the efficiency of controls. This process is scheduled to be finished this year as it is the basis for the development of a strategic MANCP. Audits in accordance with Article 4(6) of regulation 882/2004 are due to be carried out by MAST to ensure the effectiveness of official controls although as of yet no audits have been carried out in the area of feed control. The official control of the LCAs will also be audited. The establishment of a Board of Directors and an audit team is now with the Ministry. MAST´s current audit team attended a Taiex seminar on internal audits in August 2012. See attached agenda. Work procedures have been published as a part of MAST´s quality manual. The procedure on official control (VLY-002) in feed establishments was audited in November 2013. The audit system will be implemented in 2014 Reference is made to the relevant chapter in the country profile.	No longer relevant *(Followed-up in recommendation 2015/ICE/7 – 1)*

(Mission ID 2011/ICE/2) **Mission to Iceland from 31 January to 4 February 2011 regarding application of EEA legislation related to feed hygiene**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2011/ICE/2 - 3) The competent authority should ensure full compliance with Article 41 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 by establishing and applying a single integrated multi annual national control plan.	A working group has been established to work on the draft MANCP. The work is ongoing and the draft and work schedule has been presented to the Authority.	No longer relevant *(Followed-up in recommendation 2015/ICE/4 – 5)*
(2011/ICE/2 - 13) The competent authority should ensure compliance with Article 54 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 by taking action in case of non-compliances and use available enforcement measures to ensure that the operators remedy the situation.	Quality manual for monitoring and follow-up for MAST is under construction. With the quality manual it is intended to ensure that the comments made by ESA are followed. Non- compliances are followed up according to the procedures in MAST´s inspection manual and quality manual. IS-Leyfur the database gives a good overview of FBO that need a follow- up. Enforcement is according to MAST procedures.	In progress

1.5 Animal by-products and transmissible spongiform encephalopathies

In the period from June 2010, the Authority has completed 1 mission in relation to animal by-products and transmissible spongiform encephalopathies. Out of a total of 15 recommendations issued in relation to this mission, The Authority initiated infringement procedures for thirteen recommendations.

1.6 Veterinary medicines and residues

In the period from June 2010, the Authority has completed 2 missions in relation to veterinary medicines and residues. Out of a total of 25 recommendations issued in relation to this mission, 11 were identified to be addressed during the general follow-up mission in September 2016.

(Mission ID 2011/ICE/11) **Mission to Iceland from 6 to 16 December 2011 regarding application of EEA legislation related to control of residues and contaminants in live animals and animal products, including controls on veterinary medicinal products**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2011/ICE/11 - 6) Iceland should ensure that necessary training is provided to responsible staff for official controls and sampling of residues and contaminants in live animals and animal products including controls on veterinary medicinal products in line with the requirements of Article 6 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.	MAST has for many years organized annual one or two day seminars for DVOs and OVs where training on official sampling has been part of the agenda. A seminar was held in the middle of November 2011 (DVOs) and another in middle of February 2012 (DVOs & OVs). There is a monthly meeting with the DVOs where the topic of official sampling is most often discussed. Please provide information if any further specific training initiatives are planned at current for sampling of residues and contaminants in live animals and animal products including controls on veterinary medicinal products. A training programme is being designed in cooperation of MAST, Matís and the German Institute Laves. The training was previously planned under the IPA programme of the EU. Training will be offered in 2014 for MAST and LCA staff with emphasis on how to prepare sampling programmes, sampling methods, treatment of samples and the processing of results. The training will include study visits for some MAST staff to Germany. A training programme is being designed in cooperation of MAST, Matís and the German Institute Laves. The training was previously planned under the IPA programme of the EU. Training will be offered in 2014 for MAST and LCA staff with emphasis on how to prepare sampling programmes, sampling methods, treatment of samples and the processing of results. The training will include study visits for some MAST staff to Germany. In 2014 extensive training courses were held for MAST staff members including sampling techniques. In July 2014 a group of 4 MAST staff members, and 1 from the LCAs went for a 3 day study visit to LAVES, Oldenburg, Germany. Both laboratories, and a slaughterhouse were visited. MAST has already started work to make written guidelines for official staff regarding sampling related to the NRCP. A first draft will be available beginning of September 2016.	Action taken

(Mission ID 2015/ICE/1) **Mission to Iceland from 8 to 12 February 2016 regarding application of EEA legislation related to control of residues and contaminants in live animals and animal products, including controls on veterinary medicinal products**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2015/ICE/1 - 1) Iceland should ensure coordination and cooperation within MAST and between MAST and IMA when drawing up the national residue monitoring plan and when planning official controls on veterinary medicinal products in order to ensure that all relevant information is taken into account in the planning in line with Article 4(3) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 and Article 4(2)(b) and (c) of Directive 96/23/EC.	A request has been sent to IMA for a list of veterinary drugs sold in Iceland and changes of active substances from year to year. Such a request will be sent each year for updated information. Cooperation between MAST and IMA has already started by regular meetings sharing of information and field visits to veterinary pharmacies. IMA has provided a link to a list of all marketed VMPs in Iceland. http://www.lyfjastofnun.is/media/serlyfjaskra/Dyralyf_med_markadsleyfi_p.pdf. Furthermore, MAST has a list from IMA of other VMPs imported on temporary exemptions in 2015. This list is enclosed. MAST and IMA are now regularly visiting VMP Pharmacies together.	Action taken
(2015/ICE/1 - 2) Iceland should ensure that when planning the national residue monitoring plan, selection of substances to be tested within each of the essential subgroups shall be decided based on all relevant risk factors, as required by Article	MAST has requested data from IMA on use of VMPs for different species. During the year the plan is to review the selection of substances to be tested for assurance that the NRMP covers all VMPs used in Iceland in addition to banned substances and other relevant contaminants. MAST will look into using data from the database Heilsa in the planning in cooperation with the DVOs to ensure that the right farms are sampled.	Action taken

(Mission ID 2015/ICE/1) **Mission to Iceland from 8 to 12 February 2016 regarding application of EEA legislation related to control of residues and contaminants in live animals and animal products, including controls on veterinary medicinal products**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
5(2)(c) and Annex III to Directive 96/23/EC, also including but not limited to, data on use of VMPs in Iceland.		
(2015/ICE/1 - 3) Iceland should ensure that the minimum sampling levels and frequencies, including point of sampling, are respected for all commodities, as required by Article 5 and Annex IV of Directive 96/23/EC, in particular, but not limited to, the minimum sampling frequency for eggs and poultry and sampling at farm level for poultry and aquaculture animals.	The sampling plan for 2016 fulfils the minimum sampling levels. Steps have been taken to ensure that sampling will be possible at farm level in poultry (feed) and at different stages of farming in aquaculture. The sampling plan for 2016 has been accepted by ESA. Improvements will continue in the plan for 2017.	Action taken
(2015/ICE/1 - 4) Iceland should, where appropriate, include sampling of feed and water in its national residue monitoring plan, as set out in Article 3 of Directive 96/23/EC.	In 2016 feed will be sampled at farm level in poultry farms. In 2017 it will be considered which substances to look for in water and if and where this sampling is most feasible based on risk assessment. The sampling plan for 2016 has been accepted by ESA. Improvements will continue in plan for 2017.	Action taken

(Mission ID 2015/ICE/1) **Mission to Iceland from 8 to 12 February 2016 regarding application of EEA legislation related to control of residues and contaminants in live animals and animal products, including controls on veterinary medicinal products**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2015/ICE/1 - 5) Iceland should ensure that sampling for the national residue monitoring plan is carried out according to requirements of the Annex to Commission Decision 98/179/EC and in particular that sampling shall be carried out in variable intervals spread over the whole year (point 2.1) and that collection of samples is targeted (point 2.3).	All sampling instructions are being reviewed in order to make it easier to target more suspect animals for sampling. The spreading of sampling throughout the year needs more planning and review of contracts with the laboratories. This will not be possible to fulfil until 2017. However, MAST will try in 2016, within the framework of the existing lab contracts, to spread samples as much as practical and possible (see also point 3)	In progress
(2015/ICE/1 - 6) Iceland should ensure that investigations and follow-up of non-compliant test results regarding presence of residues are in line with Articles 16(2), 18(1) of Directive 96/23/EC.	A written procedure is under construction and will include different steps, reports and actions to be taken and persons responsible for each step. Written procedure will be finished in February 2017	In progress
(2015/ICE/1 - 8) Iceland should ensure that methods offered by a contract laboratory for analysing samples under the national residue monitoring plan are	The validation documents have already been obtained from the laboratories involved and verified that they are indeed validated as required and accredited. For some few instances we have requested more documentation. These documents are regularly updated by the laboratories and brought to MAST´s attention. This issue will be included in the written procedure on contracting laboratories which is under review. The contract for 2016 with the main laboratory working for MAST includes provisions for the lab to inform MAST of the validation status of different methods used by the lab and any changes to the validation and accreditations. The same will apply	Action taken

(Mission ID 2015/ICE/1) **Mission to Iceland from 8 to 12 February 2016 regarding application of EEA legislation related to control of residues and contaminants in live animals and animal products, including controls on veterinary medicinal products**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
validated as required by Article 3(c) of Decision 2002/657/EC.	for contracts made with all other labs from now on.	
(2015/ICE/1 - 9) Iceland should ensure that proper enforcement action towards the relevant operators are taken to ensure that veterinary medicinal products are not dispensed to the public without a veterinary prescription, as required by Article 67(aa) of Directive 2001/82/EC.	22 inspections in veterinary pharmacies are on IMAs inspection plan in 2016. IMA now has the resources to follow up on the inspections. Five inspections were performed 2016 and current plan has been updated to accommodate for fewer inspections than anticipated. The rate of inspections, risk based, every 2-10 years, is considered appropriate.	In progress
(2015/ICE/1 - 10) Iceland should ensure that all treatments of food producing animals are recorded, as required by Article 10 of Directive 96/23/EC and Article 69 of Directive 2001/82/EC.	Veterinarians in private practice (PVPs) have already been reminded of their duty to record all treatments of food producing animals. After reviewing all recordings in the database Heilsa, the District Veterinarians sent information by e-mail to all the veterinarians that have not fulfilled their legal duty of recording treatments of cows and horses in the data base. Data concerning exemptions, given by the CVO, to distribute antibiotics to sheep farmers was also analysed and those PVPs that did not fulfil the conditions of the exemption were also sent an e-mail from the DVO in their district. Please find attached examples of the e-mails. Veterinarians in private practice have been asked by MAST to give an explanation of their lack of recordings in the database and of their wrong distribution of antibiotics. If they cannot give a full explanation they will receive a reminder from the CVO. The plan is to have this completed by the end of June 2016. MAST will continue to monitor recordings in Heilsa. The plan is to increase the inspections of the recordings especially during the lambing season to monitor correct distribution of antibiotics to sheep farmers (Letters submitted as attachments) The long-term plan is to get all veterinarians treating cows, horses and sheep to record their treatments in Heilsa. This should be accomplished by the end of 2017. When that is achieved MAST will increase the scope of its control of the recordings to include comparison of the recordings in Heilsa to sales figures from the Icelandic Medicinal Agency. Deadline for implementation of corrective actions set as end of December 2017. A letter was sent in June 2016 to all PVPs and follow-up is ongoing. Written procedures are in the making for monitoring the registration and will hopefully be finished in February 2017.	In progress

(Mission ID 2015/ICE/1) **Mission to Iceland from 8 to 12 February 2016 regarding application of EEA legislation related to control of residues and contaminants in live animals and animal products, including controls on veterinary medicinal products**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	MAST is preparing the first official reminder/warning (cf. Article 18 in Act No 66/1998) to a PVP for not registering in Heilsa and others will follow to be finished in February 2017 at the latest.	
(2015/ICE/1 - 11) Iceland should ensure that inspections are carried out through all links of the distribution chain of veterinary medicinal products in line with Articles 65, 66, 68 and 69 of Directive 2001/82/EC, also regarding, but not limited to, inspections at horse and sheep farms.	New inspection handbooks for sheep and horses were finalized in April 2016. They include a chapter on the performance of VMP inspection on farms. The farmer is responsible for recording all treatments and diagnoses on his farm with help from his/her veterinarian. He/she also has to know and record withdrawal periods for all medicines used on his/her farm. The official inspector checks if VMPs are used correctly and if withdrawal periods are recorded and respected. Recordings of diagnoses are checked as well as if medicines on the farm are labelled correctly (incl. use and withdrawal periods). If there are any non-compliances the inspector keeps a record of those and informs the VMP expert at MAST. If expired, unlabelled or illegal VMPs are found at the farm they are confiscated. The handbooks will be published on MAST website (soon) and sent to ESA. Inspection handbooks for sheep, horses and cattle have been published on MASTs webpage. http://mast.is/matvaelastofnun/utgafa/skodunarhandbaekur/ Handbook for pigs, poultry and aquaculture will be published in 2017.	In progress

1.7 Foodstuffs, food hygiene, imports of food of plant origin, and pesticides

In the period from June 2010, the Authority has completed one mission in relation to import of food hygiene/import of food of plant origin, one mission related to food contact materials, one mission related to potable water and one mission on primary production of food of non-animal origin. Out of a total of 44 recommendations issued in relation to these missions, 12 were identified to be addressed during the general follow-up mission in September 2016.

(Mission ID 2011/ICE/4) **Mission to Iceland from 28 February to 4 March 2011 regarding the application of EEA legislation related to Official Controls on Food Hygiene and Import Controls of Food of Non-Animal Origin**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2011/ICE/4 - 2) The competent authority should ensure that procedures for granting conditional approval are in line with Article 31 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.	MAST will coordinate issuance of operating licenses from LCAs. Guidelines will be published for the LCAs for coordinated application of regulation (EC) No 882/2004. Conditional approval is issued by the LCAs according to 882/2004 and 853/2004, article 34. Most LCAs have at some point granted conditional approval. Inspection manual for the LCAs was issued in april 2015. In chapter 1.4.3 there is a proposal to a procedure for the issuance of operating licences. Each LCA should adapt the procedures accordingly. The inspection manual should be fully implemented 01.07.2017 Inspection manual: http://mast.is/library/Lei%C3%B0beiningar/SkodunarhandbokHES1511.pdf	Action taken
(2011/ICE/4 - 7) The competent authority should ensure compliance with Article 8 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 regarding verification of the effectiveness of official controls on food hygiene.	A working group has been formed to identify, formalize and implement verification procedures and responsibilities both centrally and at different organizational levels. A draft will be presented of the general system and procedures envisioned during the general follow-up mission.	No longer relevant *(Followed-up in recommendation 2015/ICE/7 – 1)*
(2011/ICE/4 - 8) The competent authority should ensure that internal audits are carried out as required by Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.	MAST has initiated internal audits of the working procedures in its Quality Manual and will carry out internal audits on the basis of 882/2004. The official control of the LCAs will also be audited. The establishment of a Board of Directors and an audit team is now with the Ministry. See attached documents that were sent to the Ministry. MAST´s current audit team attended a Taiex seminar on internal audits in August 2012. Work procedures have been published as part of MAST´s quality manual. In 2016 the Ministry appointed the Audit Committee which now has started working in accordance to the approved audit system. The MANAP has been designed and confirmed by the Internal audit board and the audit plan for 2016 has been approved by the Internal audit committee. MAST´s new Quality Manager, which will be supervising the audit process, has the whole year been	Action taken

(Mission ID 2011/ICE/4) **Mission to Iceland from 28 February to 4 March 2011 regarding the application of EEA legislation related to Official Controls on Food Hygiene and Import Controls of Food of Non-Animal Origin**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	making various preparation for the audits which will be executed this autumn and is planned to be finished before the end of the year. The first audit will be executed this September. All auditors have received relevant training previously and have received further training earlier this year.	
(2011/ICE/4 - 15) The competent authority should ensure that non-compliant lots are destroyed or re-dispatched as required by Article 19 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.	MAST will collect information regarding the work procedure for destruction or re-dispatch by all LCAs. Procedures will be evaluated and information sent out to all parties involved. Information regarding work procedures for destruction or re-dispatch has not been collected from the LCAs. This work will be initiated by MAST and ESA informed about the outcome. LCA-HER has a certain written procedure for destruction or re-dispatch. Other LCAs act accordingly although the procedures are not yet documented. The LCAs will implement this procedure into their control handbook that will be issued in 2014. LCA-Rvk (HER) procedure: in cases where food products are recalled from the market and need to be destroyed this is carried out in the presence of a LCA inspector. In cases where products are found not in compliance with the EEA legislation but are in compliance in other countries (e.g. USA) they can be returned to the country of export / origin and documents confirming this are sent to the LCA-Rvk. Please see MAST procedure VLY-039 in attachment 2011_ICE_4_1. As previously stated the LCA-HER has a written procedure and other LCAs follow the same procedure although not yet documented in some of them. The use of such procedures is not frequent.	Action taken

(Mission ID 2012/ICE/9) **Mission to Iceland from 3 to 7 December 2012 regarding application of EEA legislation related to food contact materials**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2012/ICE/9 - 2) The competent authorities should take measures to harmonise the official controls on food contact materials throughout the country in line in Articles 4(3), 4(4) and 4(5) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004. The competent authorities	For harmonisation a training course related to the Nordic control project will be held in Lund, Sweden in March 2014. MAST and some LCAs will attend. A training course in Iceland will be held by MAST in April 2014. Guidance document on declarations of compliance is being prepared as a part of the Nordic control project. Final draft will be ready before the Nordic training course and will be finalized soon after. Information on FCM on MAST's homepage will be updated. That work is planned to be finalized by the end of 2014. By the end of the Nordic control project (first half of 2015) further need for harmonisation (training and guidance) will be assessed. For harmonisation a training course related to the Nordic control project will be held in Lund, Sweden in March 2014. MAST and some LCAs will attend. A training course in Iceland will be held by MAST in April 2014. Guidance document on declarations of compliance is being prepared as a part of the Nordic control project. Final draft will be ready before the Nordic training course and will be finalized soon after. Information on FCM on MAST's homepage will be updated. That work is planned to be finalized by the end of 2014. By the end of the Nordic control project (first half of 2015) further need for harmonisation (training and guidance) will be assessed. Iceland participates in two ongoing Nordic working	Action taken

(Mission ID 2012/ICE/9) **Mission to Iceland from 3 to 7 December 2012 regarding application of EEA legislation related to food contact materials**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
shall ensure that internal or external audits are carried out to ensure that the objectives of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 are achieved in line with Article 4(6) of that regulation.	group projects with a representative from the Icelandic Food and Veterinary Authority (MAST). One project focuses on making a guidance document and check lists for control of FCM producers and FBOs with a focus on evaluating DoCs. The other is a Nordic control campaign with participation of all five Nordic countries. The main focus of the control program is to harmonise the understanding of what information a DoC should contain and what background documentation could be demanded using the guidance provided by the first project. The Nordic control project included a 3 day training of inspectors and administrative staff. This training is a step in the harmonisation of control since it includes adding general knowledge about FCM and introducing the Nordic guidance documents. This training was also used to build up further training in Iceland for inspectors from both MAST and LCAs which is another step in harmonisation of the control on FCMs. Five persons attended the Nordic training on March 17-19 in Lund, Sweden. Following the Nordic training MAST organized one-day training on FCM with a focus on assessing DoCs using the guidance document that resulted in the Nordic project mentioned above. This training also served as a kick-off for the Nordic control campaign. Training was held on April 30 in Reykjavik with 31 participants from both MAST and LCAs. The Nordic control campaign will take place in all 5 Nordic countries in May-November. LCAs also showed interest in joint inspections (LCA/MAST) as a part of the project in Iceland. Following the training seminars and evaluation of documents it has been decided not to base further work on the Union guidance to Regulation (EC) No 10/2011 as referred to in the table of corrective actions in the final report of ESA's mission in Iceland in 2012, but to focus rather on the outcome of the Nordic cooperation. MAST's homepage regarding FCM is being updated and work will continue throughout the year 2014 and planned to be finished early 2015. Some guidance will be accessible there both for inspectors and business operators. MAST and LCA control handbooks for food establishments both include a chapter on FCM that needs updating. Both handbooks are under review and should be published in the fall 2014 with identical chapters on FCM control in food businesses. The control of FCM producers and importers is not yet included in the LCA inspection manual, but work has been initiated to include such information and the aim is to have this chapter included in the version that will be published in fall 2014. A new control handbook for LCA inspections in food establishments has been published that includes a chapter on FCM. The handbook is found here: http://mast.is/library/Lei%C3%B0beiningar/SkodunarhandbokHES1511.pdf An updated chapter on FCM in MAST´s handbook is complete and has been tested but the book is not published yet. Further guidance on declarations of compliance is planned in 2016. It will be based on the „Nordic checklist“. The checklist will be translated to Icelandic (work in progress) and also a shorter version will be created. This work should be finished in late 2016. A control handbook for inspections in FCM producing and importing establishments is planned. The aim is to have it ready by the end of 2016. Audit system will be implemented in 2016. See also point 5 below. MAST's homepage regarding FCM has partly been updated, but further work is required. Work will continue in 2017. The control of FCM producers and importers is not yet included in the LCA inspection manual, but work has been initiated to include such information. A working group has been formed, which consists of two members from the LCA and one member from	

(Mission ID 2012/ICE/9) **Mission to Iceland from 3 to 7 December 2012 regarding application of EEA legislation related to food contact materials**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	MAST. A draft chapter has been produced but further work is required. Work will continue in 2017 and is expected to be finished by July 2017. The MAST inspection manual which contains an updated chapter on FCM is finished and has been tested. The final version was published in December 2016. Internal audits of official control started 2016 with 5 audits being conducted covering three different subjects and three Competent Authorities. The overall audit process is based on a mandate approved by the Ministry early 2016. By this new mandate, an Audit Committee and an Audit Board were appointed by the Ministry and started working directly. The audits are carried out according to the 5-year Multi Annual National Audit Program which was developed and confirmed by the Audit Board in 2016. The audits were elaborated in the one year audit program which was confirmed by the Audit Committee according to the mandate. Detailed audit plans were developed for each individual audit conducted. MAST's Quality Manager is the supervisor of the internal auditing process within the Authority. He ensures that the audit process fulfils the requirements in EC acts 882/2006 and 2006/677/EC as well as the mandate. All auditors have received relevant training and will continue training as necessary. The Multi Annual National Audit Program is now under revision and expected to be confirmed in the beginning of February followed by the one year audit program for 2017. It will be suggested to include an audit on the official control of FCM in the MANAP.	
(2012/ICE/9 - 4) Iceland should ensure that official controls are carried out to enforce compliance with Regulation (EC) No 1935/2004 in line with Article 24 of that Regulation. In particular, the competent authorities should decide on the appropriate frequency of regular official controls on all stages of production, import and use of food contact materials on the basis of risk and ensure the quality and consistency	The recommendation is taken notice of. LCAs involved in the mission have already increased the emphasis on this control (both producers and importers). The frequency is based on risk assessment. Other LCAs will be informed about the results of this mission and encouraged (where relevant) to initiate and/or improve this control. The amendment of the Act on Food will increase the clarity of responsibilities and division of tasks as well as implement provisions on control fees in this category. See also Annex 1 – General comments. Amendment of the Act on Food has been introduced to Parliament. LCAs: In at least 4 areas there are no producers to which the regulation applies. In those areas where such producers are the same procedures will be in place for risk assessment as for food establishments. The rate will also be defined in the risk assessment. More emphasis has been put on the control of materials and articles in contact with food and the importance of the existence of a "declaration of compliance" for all packaging materials has been and will continue to be introduced to all involved. Following a recent amendment to the Food Act clarifying the legal basis for the control of producers and importers of FCM the LCAs will follow the guidelines and handbook that MAST will issue. No official sampling of FCM has been carried out. See Recommendation 2 above. This will be one of the tasks of the WG.	In progress

(Mission ID 2012/ICE/9) **Mission to Iceland from 3 to 7 December 2012 regarding application of EEA legislation related to food contact materials**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
the official controls in line with the requirements of Article 3 and 4 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.		
(2012/ICE/9 - 5) The competent authorities should establish procedures to verify the effectiveness of official controls carried out, and procedures to ensure that corrective action is taken when needed, in accordance with Article 8(3) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004. Furthermore, the competent authorities should ensure that documented procedures are in place in line with the requirements of Article 8(1) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.	It is foreseen that the verification of the effectiveness of official control as well as follow-up procedures and enforcement will be carried out simultaneously to audits of the official control of both MAST and LCAs. The issue of follow-up and enforcement will also be taken up in a joint meeting of MAST and LCAs in May. LCAs will be encouraged to establish procedures for their official control of the manufacture and import of FCMs. Discussions between Mast and LCAs are ongoing. The Icelandic audit system has been designed and nominations have recently been completed for the Audit Committee. The Quality Manager at MAST was responsible for the audit system and for planning the verification of official control. For certain reasons MAST has been without a Quality Manager for a few months resulting in no audit plans being designed for 2014. Due to this the task of carrying out both the verification and audits of official control at MAST and the LCAs has been delayed. A new QM will be hired in the next few weeks. In the last few months some MAST staff has received training in BTSF seminars to become auditors and plans will be made for audits to take place in 2015. The system for internal audits awaits a final approval by the Ministry and nominations for the Audit Board. Internal audits should commence in 2016, although the focus might not be on FCM issues in the first year. Work will continue in 2017 to implement further the system for verification of official control. Please find attached the draft document (updated since mission) describing the system to be implemented.	No longer relevant *(Followed-up in recommendation 2015/ICE/7 – 1)*
(2012/ICE/9 - 7) The competent authorities should ensure that official controls are carried out to verify that declarations of	Producers of FCMs in the district of LCA-HHK have already been visited as a follow-up of the mission. Both are in the process of sampling and sending their products for analysis. See also input concerning LCAs in point 4 above. As mentioned above under recommendation 2, it has been decided not to base further work on the Union guidance document and several steps have been taken in the last few months in training of inspectors and harmonisation of official control of both FBOs and producers/importers of FCMs. It should be noted that producers or importers of FCMs are not located in all 10 areas of the LCAs. Most of the LCAs that do have such operators under their responsibility have recently informed MAST that training has been beneficial for their	Action taken

(Mission ID 2012/ICE/9) **Mission to Iceland from 3 to 7 December 2012 regarding application of EEA legislation related to food contact materials**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
compliance for food contact materials comply with the requirements set out in Article 16 of Regulation (EC) No 1935/2004, Article 15 of Regulation (EC) No 10/2011 and Article 2a of Council Directive 84/500/EEC.	staff and official control of such operators is now active and in place. DoCs have been checked as well as certificates from laboratories that analysis of materials has been carried out. The producers have been informed about their responsibility and they have taken certain measures to further improve their documentation and work procedures. Further work on control handbook for LCAs of FCM importers and producers is planned in 2016 (see also point 2). A working group has been formed to revise LCA inspection manual with regard to control of FCM producers and importers. The working group consists of two members from the LCA and one member from MAST. A draft chapter has been produced but further work is required. Work will continue in 2017 and is expected to be finished by July 2017.	
(2012/ICE/9 - 8) The competent authorities should ensure that producers of food contact materials implement Good Manufacturing Practice as required by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2023/2006 and Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1935/2004. The competent authorities should further ensure that official controls include the assessment of the Good Manufacturing Practice as required by Article 10(2)(d) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.	The recommendation is taken notice of. The amendment of the Food Act will facilitate this by providing clear authority for LCAs to collect fees for their official control of the production of FCMs. Producers of FCMs in the district of LCA-HHK have already been visited as a follow-up of the mission. This recommendation has been introduced to the producers which have set up an own-control plan based on GMP. LCAs will take into account the requirements of the Regulation and focus on GMP in establishments and ensure in future inspections that both the official control and the establishments fulfil the requirements of the regulation. (Deadline 02/06/2014) See also point 7 above.	In progress

(Mission ID 2013/ICE/1) **Mission to Iceland from 21 to 25 January 2013 regarding application of EEA legislation related to the evaluation of control systems for the quality of water used and produced by the food industry**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2013/ICE/1 - 2) The Icelandic competent authorities should take the necessary measures to ensure that there is, in practice, efficient and effective coordination and cooperation between all the competent authorities involved in official controls on potable water, as required by Article 4(3) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004	Actions will be taken to coordinate the work of the LCAs regarding the official controls of potable water. It is clearly stated in Act No 93/1995 on Foodstuffs that food controls are as a general rule under the responsibility of the LCAs, unless the unity falls under article 6 of the Act. In article 6 it is stated that MAST shall carry out official controls pursuant to this act of a. primary production, b. imports and exports of livestock products, c. meat processing and meat packaging facilities, excluding meat processing facilities operated in retail establishments, d. milk processors and egg producers, e. communicable livestock diseases, e. the treatment, inspection and evaluation of slaughter products, f. health inspections of farmed fish, h. the treatment, transport, storage, processing and distribution of marine products, excluding retail, i. the import of food not referred to in points a. to h. In article 6 the tasks of MAST are fully defined and the authority may not act beyond its powers. As the controls are divided among 10 LCAs (which are all self-governing), there is a provision in article 22 of the Act No 93/1995 where it is stated that MAST shall supervise and coordinated the work of the LCAs. The supervision has been interpreted to mean that MAST shall oversee official controls of foodstuffs in general; this includes the coordination of official control to ensure that they are implemented in the same manner throughout the country. In order to fulfil these tasks MAST may issue guidelines that the LCAs are supposed to follow. MAST shall ensure the cooperation of all those working in this field and shall in that respect make sure that control procedures are cost-efficient and designed to avoid as far as possible the duplication and overlap of effort. MAST shall cooperate closely with LCAs and provide advice and services in the field of food controls within the limits of its capacities and as required by the circumstances. These provisions have never been interpreted to imply that MAST has the responsibility to carry out control nor to organize the control for the LCAs. The LCAs have to bear these duties themselves, including the organization of the control and carrying it out and if necessary to apply enforcements measures. Guidance document on official controls under Regulation 536/2001 on drinking water, will be published in 2014. A guidance document has been drafted in cooperation with the LCAs. A meeting of all involved is planned in January and the guidance document to be issued in March 2016. MAST has provided the Authority with a draft guidance document for the official control of potable water. The publication is pending the awaited amendment of the Regulation on potable water.	In progress
(2013/ICE/1 - 8) Iceland should ensure that the minimum frequency of check and audit monitoring is decided in accordance with the requirements laid down in Table B1 of	The minimum frequency of check monitoring has been decided for water supplies serving less than 500 inhabitants but the minimum frequency of audit monitoring is decided by the LCAs in collaboration with MAST. The LCAs perform a risk assessment on the water works on which the frequency of audit monitoring is then based. This issue will be taken up with the LCAs in the coming months. The LCAs perform a risk classification on all FB under their control and monitoring and audit will be based on the outcome. An amendment of Directive 98/83/EC has been published (Directive (EU) 2015/1787) and soon to be incorporated into the EEA agreement. This amendment amends Annex II in such a way as to set the minimum frequency of sampling above zero. This	Action taken

(Mission ID 2013/ICE/1) **Mission to Iceland from 21 to 25 January 2013 regarding application of EEA legislation related to the evaluation of control systems for the quality of water used and produced by the food industry**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
Annex II to Directive 98/83/EC read in conjunction with note 6 thereto, for supply zones producing 100 m3 or less a day, or, as is the criterion in the national Icelandic legislation, for 500 or less inhabitants.	amendment will be introduced to the LCAs and minimum frequency ensured. Further cooperation with the LCAs regarding this issue and definition of the minimum frequency of audit monitoring is awaiting the amendment of the Regulation on potable water. The publication is scheduled in February 2017.	

(Mission ID 2014/ICE/2) **Mission to Iceland from 3 to 7 March 2014 regarding application of EEA legislation related to primary production of food of non-animal origin**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2014/ICE/2 - 1) Iceland should ensure that the Authority is informed of requirements regarding approvals of certain establishments required by national law, as is required by Article 6(3)(c) of Regulation (EC) No 852/2004.	With Act No 40/2016 the Act No 93/1995 on Foodstuffs was amended in such a way that all official control of primary production of products of non-animal origin (fruits &vegetables), is now the responsibility of the LCAs. The producers are registered and do not need an approval, with the exception of sprout producers who do need to be approved.	In progress

1.8 Animal welfare

Iceland is not obliged to implement the EU *acquis* regarding animal welfare except concerning protection of animals at the time of killing. In the period from June 2010, the Authority has completed one mission on this topic and issued 12 recommendations and thereof 7 were identified to be addressed during the general follow-up mission in September 2016.

(Mission ID 2014/ICE/4) **Mission to Iceland from 5 to 9 May 2014 regarding application of EEA legislation related to animal welfare at the time of killing**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2014/ICE/4 - 1) Iceland should notify national infringement provisions to the Authority, as required by Article 23 of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009 and notify rules on penalties applicable to infringements and stricter national measures to the Authority, as required by Article 26 of the same Regulation.	The Ministry of Industries and Innovation has formally notified to the Authority the national provisions required by Articles 23 and 26.	Action taken
(2014/ICE/4 - 2) The competent authority should ensure that all staff performing official controls related to animal welfare at the time of killing receive appropriate training and are kept up-to-date in their area of competence, as required by Article 6 of Regulation (EC) No	Appropriate training was made available to all veterinarians (official and contracted) performing official control in slaughterhouses fall 2015. The training is performed by use of electronical courses from Animalia (Norway) and BTSF course on AW at slaughter and disease control (finalized by exam). Also, all available seats on the BTSF training courses abroad are being accepted by MAST for the OVs. Further the veterinarian of welfare at the central office has visited all district offices with slaughterhouses (2015-2016) and arranged meetings with OVs to address any unsolved problems or questions. Special focus was put on AW in slaughter of poultry. Mast applied for additional 2 seats (had 1 available) on the BTFS course in AW at poultry slaughter in Barcelona in June 2016 so 1 OV from both S- and SV district (the districts w poultry slaughter) could attend along with the veterinarian of welfare at the central office. Presenting highlights from the meeting for the other OVs is planned in august 2016 (was postponed to September 2016). Additionally the special veterinarian for poultry together with the special veterinarian for welfare invited Swedish specialist in poultry AW (general poultry AW and at slaughter etc.) and arranged training course in September 2016 available for OVs and FBOs	Action taken

(Mission ID 2014/ICE/4) **Mission to Iceland from 5 to 9 May 2014 regarding application of EEA legislation related to animal welfare at the time of killing**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
882/2004.	Appropriate training for veterinarians performing official controls has been made available.	
(2014/ICE/4 - 5) Iceland should prepare a MANCP, as required by Article 41 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.	MAST has control plans for the various control systems and is in the process of developing a three-year MANCP. The first edition will be published and implemented in 2015. The development of the MANCP will be an on-going process and it will be revised and improved as new control procedures are officially implemented. Each year MAST publishes an Annual Report which provides information on the work done in the previous year and results of controls and control findings.	No longer relevant *(Followed-up in recommendation 2015/ICE/4 – 5)*
(2014/ICE/4 - 6) The competent authority should ensure that the procedures in place to verify the effectiveness of official controls, as required by Article 8(3) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004, include verifying effectiveness of official controls related to requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009.	Please see chapter the Country Profile for Iceland regarding verification and review of official controls. The same plans and procedures will be applied to the animal welfare control system when that is fully in place based on new regulations and updated work procedures.	No longer relevant *(Followed-up in recommendation 2015/ICE/7 – 1)*

(Mission ID 2014/ICE/4) **Mission to Iceland from 5 to 9 May 2014 regarding application of EEA legislation related to animal welfare at the time of killing**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
(2014/ICE/4 - 7) The competent authority should ensure that in case of detected non-compliances, related to requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009, actions are taken for enforcement in line with the requirements of Article 54 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.	MAST will in case of detected non-compliances ensure that actions are taken according to the legislation and MAST´s Quality Manual (VLY-052). The work procedure is currently under revision in relation to the new act on animal welfare and the derived regulations that have been drafted. When they will be published the procedure will be issued again (attachment submitted VLY-052 AW). 12.01 2015 - Doc No 734670: In progress. Others are in progress. Documents and procedures will be updated when all are officially published. All regulations for the welfare of farm animals have been updated and published. Documents and procedures are being updated. Written work procedures for follow-up and enforcement regarding animal welfare cases as well as food and feed production have been updated and are in the process of publishing in MAST QM. Training for official veterinarians has already taken place, 18 November 2016 and 9 January 2017. The procedure, legislation and enforcement methods available have also been included in all control manuals.	Action taken
(2014/ICE/4 - 8) Iceland should ensure that official controls in slaughterhouses take place in accordance with Annex I of Regulation (EC) No 854/2004, regarding verification of compliance with requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009, as required by Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 854/2004, and in particular regarding obligations of business operators as laid out in Article 4, 5, 6, 15, 16,	MAST will revise procedures regarding verification of compliance of Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 to the Control Handbook of food establishments in addition to what is listed in point 4. Follow-up letters have also been sent to slaughterhouses and DVOs in order to ensure corrective actions, put remedies in place and to prevent non-compliances (See 2 attachments). This applies to the results of the mission in general.	Action taken

(Mission ID 2014/ICE/4) **Mission to Iceland from 5 to 9 May 2014 regarding application of EEA legislation related to animal welfare at the time of killing**		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
Annex I and Annex III of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009.		
(2014/ICE/4 - 9) The competent authority should ensure that certificates of competence, attesting the passing of an examination, as required Article 21(1)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009 are delivered and ensure that training courses are available for all personnel involved in killing and related operations, as required by Article 21(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009.	Competent authority (MAST) will ensure to regularly make available training courses for personnel involved in killing of slaughter animals and related operations in Iceland. All involved personnel slaughtering red meat and pigs was invited to a training course in spring 2014. All personnel involved in poultry slaughter was invited to a training course spring 2016. All slaughterhouses have been offered access to the web based ANIMALIA training course. MAST will further organize examination and attest the passing of such examination with a Certificate of Competence. Translation of examining questions to Icelandic is finished and is being made available in the web solution. Examination of personnel at fur animal farm involved in killing of fur animals has been performed. MAST will ensure that official controls, performing inspections at fur animal farms in Iceland, supervises that procedures regarding killing of fur animals will be conducted in accordance to Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009.	In progress

2 OVERVIEW OF PLANNED MISSIONS AND MISSION NOT FINALISED

In December 2016 the Authority did a mission to Iceland on post-slaughter traceability of meat, meat products and preparations, and composite products. A final report from that mission has still not been published.

Missions on the following topics are planned to Iceland in 2017:

- Feed safety
- Import controls and use of TRACES
- Animal by-products

ANNEX I – ACRONYMS, ABBREVIATIONS AND SPECIAL TERMS

ACRONYM	DESCRIPTION
ABP	Animal By-Products
ADNS	Animal Diseases Notification System
AWI	Animal Welfare Inspectors
BIP	Border Inspection Post / *Landamærastöð*
BKD	Bacterial Kidney Disease
BSE	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
CCA	Central Competent Authority
CVED	Common veterinary entry document for products of animal origin and for live animals
CVO	Chief Veterinary Officer / *Yfirdýralæknir*
DoC	Directorate of Customs / *Tollstjórinn í Reykjavík*
DoF	Directorate of Fisheries / *Fiskistofa*
DoH	Directorate of Health
DTU	Technical University of Denmark
DVO	District Veterinary Officer / *Héraðsdýralæknir*
EA	European Co-operation for Accreditation
EC	European Community
EEA	European Economic Area / *Evrópska efnahagssvæðið*
EEA Agreement	Agreement on the European Economic Area
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
ESA	EFTA Surveillance Authority
EU	European Union
FBO	Food Business Operator / Feed Business Operator
FCM	Food Contact Material
FTE	Full Time Employees
GMO	Genetically Modified Organism(s)
HACCP	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points
IHN	Infectious Haematopoietic Necrosis
ILAC	International Co-operation for Laboratory Accreditation
IMA	Icelandic Medicines Agency
IPN	Infectious Pancreatic Necrosis
IS	(unique) Establishment Number
ISA	Infectious Salmon Anaemia
ISAC	Icelandic Board for Technical Accreditation
ISO/IEC	International Standards Organisation
ISK	Icelandic currency (Krona)
ISPM	International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures

ACRONYM	DESCRIPTION
IS-leyfur	A MAST database which contains an active list of all approved establishments producing food of animal origin or feed and information concerning official controls
IT	Information technology
JC	Joint Committee on Health Security and Communicable Disease Control
JCD	Joint Committee Decision
LBM	Live Bivalve Molluscs
LCA	Local Competent Authority / *Heilbrigðiseftirlit sveitarfélaga* (Municipal Environmental and Public Health Offices)
MANCP	Multi Annual National Control Plan
MANIAP	Multi-Annual National Internal Audit Plan
MARK	Icelandic interface for Domestic Animals
MAST	The Food and Veterinary Authority / *Matvælastofnun*
MBM	Meat and Bone Meal
MLA	Multilateral Agreement for Laboratories
MoE	Ministry of the Environment
MoEd	Ministry of Education
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoI	Ministry of Interior
MoII	Ministry of Industries and Innovation
MoWF	Ministry of Welfare
MRL	Maximum Residue Limit
MS	Member State
NCP	National Contact Point
NRCP	National Residue Control Plan
NRL	National Reference Laboratory
NMKL	Nordic Committee on Food Analysis
OIE	World organisation for animal health
OV	Official Veterinarian
PONAO	Products of non-animal origin
PPP	Plant Protection Product(s)
PVP	Private Veterinary Practitioner
RASFF	Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
SHÍ	The Association of Regional Health and Environment Authorities / *Samtök heilbrigðiseftirlitssvæða á Íslandi*
SRM	Specified Risk Material
SWEDAC	Swedish Board for Accreditation and Conformity Assessment
TAIEX	Technical Assistance and Information Exchange instrument

ACRONYM	DESCRIPTION
TRACES	Trade Control and Expert System
TSE	Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy
UK	United Kingdom
UST	Environmental Agency
VHS	Viral Haemorrhagic Septicemia
VLA	Veterinary Laboratories Agency
VMP	Veterinary Medicinal products
Worldfengur	Equine Database (owned by the breeders)