

EN  
E-001303/2026  
Answer given by Mr Várhelyi  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(26.5.2026)

The Commission is in close contact with the Cypriot authorities and supports them in the control of foot and mouth disease (FMD) on the island.

The EU legal framework, in particular Regulation (EU) 2016/429<sup>1</sup> and Commission Delegated Regulations (EU) 2020/687<sup>2</sup> and 2020/689<sup>3</sup>, provides for harmonised measures across the Union, based on the principles of early detection via surveillance, regionalisation with movement restrictions of animals and products of animal origin and rapid eradication through stamping-out of confirmed outbreaks coupled with emergency vaccination.

Under Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2026/582<sup>4</sup>, specific regionalisation measures (protection zones, surveillance zones, a further restricted zone, and a vaccination zone) were set up by the Commission to address the specific risks related to FMD in Cyprus. The implementation of these measures is the responsibility of the competent authority of the Member State concerned.

The Commission regularly reviews the situation and the measures for FMD in its Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed<sup>5</sup> and carries out audits aimed at monitoring the implementation and enforcement of EU legislation.

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on transmissible animal diseases and amending and repealing certain acts in the area of animal health ('Animal Health Law') (OJ L 84, 31.3.2016, pp. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2016/429/oj>).

<sup>2</sup> Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687 of 17 December 2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and the Council, as regards rules for the prevention and control of certain listed diseases (OJ L 174, 3.6.2020, pp. 64–, ELI: [http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg\\_del/2020/687/oj](http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2020/687/oj)).

<sup>3</sup> Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689 of 17 December 2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards rules for surveillance, eradication programmes, and disease-free status for certain listed and emerging diseases (OJ L 174, 3.6.2020, pp. 211–340, ELI: [http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg\\_del/2020/689/oj](http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2020/689/oj)).

<sup>4</sup> Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2026/582 of 11 March 2026 concerning certain emergency measures relating to foot and mouth disease in Cyprus and repealing Implementing Decision (EU) 2026/484 (OJ L, 2026/582, 13.3.2026, ELI: [http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec\\_impl/2026/582/oj](http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2026/582/oj)).

<sup>5</sup> [https://food.ec.europa.eu/horizontal-topics/committees/paff-committees\\_en](https://food.ec.europa.eu/horizontal-topics/committees/paff-committees_en).