THE ROLE AND PLACE OF THE SANITARY AND VETERINARY SERVICES IN THE COUNTRIES WHICH ARE MEMBERS OF THE UE. PARTICULARITIES OF THE ADDERATION PROCESS OF ROMANIA TO THE UE AND THE PROGRESS REGISTERED WITH THIS OCCASION IN THE VETERINARY FIELD

Gonciarov Magda

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Bucarest
magdagonciarov@yahoo.com

Keywords: aderation; UE; european integration; WTO

Abstract: Our countries aspiration to join the UE is the expression of identity of values and ideals and its vocation as a democratic country which belongs by culture and civilisation to the unic european space.

The advantages of Romania joining the UE are multiple:
- the benefit of joining a big family of nations;
- the security that this joining is offering;
- the advantage of participating to the world’s biggest market;
- the opportunities regarding the economic growth;
- new working places;
- access to structural funds destined for regions less prosperous in the UE (benefic for countries such as Ireland and Portugal);

The advantages for the citizens are also significant:
- the improvement of the quality of life;
- high standards regarding the protection of the environment;
- optimal conditions regarding the health system;
- social protection and the assurance of a working place;
- the right to travel and settle in any member state;
- consular and diplomatic protection from another state which is a member when visiting a country which is outside of the UE;
- European citizenship only completes the national one; it does not replace it;

As a member of the UE; Romania’s objectives are:
- the consolidation of the democratic system and the democratic institutions;
- the creation of an economic and social climate which can give the maximum of benefits to its citizens;
- efficientising the structures and economic mechanisms of the market;
- strengthening the political; economical and cultural cooperation with the state members of the UE;
- the consolidation of the Romanian state on the European and international stage regarding the stability and security.

THE NECESSITY OF EVALUATING THE VETERINARY SERVICES IN THE UE. On the date of 25th of April 2005; in Luxemburg; the Romanian president signed the Treaty of Adherence to the UE; along with representatives of the 25 states members. Romania begining with the year 2007 was included within the members of the UE.

In this conditions; the Romanian state legislation is in a series of changes which pursue the permanent alignment to the UE standards. This changes will be applied also to the veterinary structures in Romania.
For this reason; the organisation of the veterinary services must be known by the states which are members of the UE; in the hope of adopting a functional and agreed structure by the UE.(2)

From the point of view of the veterinary organisation; countries which have become members of the UE for a long period of time; the veterinary services are more stable and their main purposes are the profilaxia and eradicating diseases of animals (essentially zoonoses) and a strict control of aliments; whilst in countries which have only just recently entered the UE; the veterinary services main role is to implement the UE legislation and systems used by it.

ROMANIA AND THE EUROPEAN INTEGRATION- A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE. The idea of an european unification was presented a long time ago before realizing what has happened after the second world war especially in the works of some political and philosophical thinkers of that time.

The proble of aligning Romania to European the standard was debated in the second half of the XIX century; and especially after it has gained its independence; redisguised after the great unification; from various angle; many times with rigurous scientific arguments; almost forgotten in the communist era; aprobated with passion; intensity and also with ambiguity after the year 1989.(1)

The opinions expressed- belonging to historians; geographers; philosophers; sociologs and writers- are extremely variated and naturaly contradictory.

In the senates meeting on the 15th of February; Vasile Lascar said: „We mst not be disilusioned;we must bend this energy in order to reach the civilised world; we must by any means be equal with the other European countries.”

An exceptional diplomat; Nicolae Titulescu said: „the futurue of Europe is linked with Romania as tightly as the bond of Romania with the values and spirit of Europe”. I am certain that our national identity- which is an integrated part of the European identity- represents an expression of the Romanian traditions: interetnic tolerance; solidarity; good neighbours; values promoted by Titulescu.(2)

From the numerous appreciations formulated by Nae Ionescu twoards raporting romanians to Europe; we remember the quote in 1931: „From the year 1840 untill today all we did was to wonder about what Europe sais and we struggled to keep the pase with „it”. Almost a century has passed; and a young and healthy Romanian people still makes politics just as in Caragiale’s plays without ever wondering what this Europe really is and if it really exists”.

In its effort for modernisation and European integration ; Romania has known:form the year 1859 untill now- many transitional periodes: the first one was describeb in the forming of the modern Romanian state; characterised with the passing from the feudal system to the capitalist one; the second one began with the year 1919; dominated by the rebuilding of the economy and the integration of the united provinces with the country; the third one follows the ending of the secon world war ; and it includes the passing from capitalism to socialism; the forth one was triggered by the 1989 revolution- and is going on at present.

THE PROGRESS MADE BY ROMANIA TWOARDS JOINING THE UE IN THE VETERINARY FIELD UNTILL THE CLOSING DATE OF THE ADERATION NEGOTIATIONS(DECEMBER 2004). In the 2000 agenda; the comision mentioned that it will periodically report to the European Council the progresses made by each candidat country from Central and East Europe twoards getting ready to join the UE; and it will persent its fist raport at the end of the year 1998.(3)
Therefore; the comision has published a series of periodical anual raports in which it
describes Romanias progress in the years 1990 and 2003.

The European Council in Bruxelles from June 2004 restated that UE’s main objective
is that Romania and Bulgaria join the union in 2007 if they are ready and concluded:

„The European Council eagerly awaits The Periodic Raport of the UE on the year
2004; which evaluates the abilities of the two countries to assume their obligativities as state
members”.

In this period many progress has been made regarding the armonization of the
Romanian legislation with the European legislation in the veterinary domain; especially the
identification of animals; the imports from other countries and animal nutrition.

The identification of animals was approved and is now obligatory ( bands) for
bovines; suides; caprines and ovines. The registration of animals is made in a computer base
data in each farm. The institution responsible for the identificaiton and registration of the
animals is THE NATIONAL SANITARY AND VETERINARY AUTHORITY AND FOR
ANIMAL PRODUCTS (ANSVSA). It has made a detailed plan twordrs making a system
which is aprooved by the UE standards; especially for the bands which are placed on the
animals; passpotrs and the computer data base. The plan has scheduled that at the end of the
year 2004 it will establish the system for bovines; and in the year 2006 for ovines; caprines
and suines.

It was adopted the legal system for the dezvoltatiion of the ANIMO system ( to be
adapted to the TRACES system at the aderation date; replacing the ANIMO system) and its
interconnection with the system already existent in the UE.

The Authority is responsible for the evaluation; management and communication of
the riscs of aliments and animal foods and it represents the conatct point for the European
Authority for the Safety of Aliments. The new institution has taken the whole infrastructure of
laboratories; as wel as the Posts for the Boarder Inspection to controling the aliments and
animal foods. The Authority is also responsible for the Rapid Alert System for Aliments and
Animal Foods; which is operational and has began to send information to the Comitee.

The new law refering to the organisation and activity of the veterinary services and
the safety of animal products has replaced the old one existent from 1974; and has created the
ANSVSA. The implementation of the new legislation is taking place gradualy but it is a
process that is dependent of the high administrativ capacity of the Authority.

The adminstrative capacity was improved by creating the ANSVSA. This new
institution is independent and has its own autonomy and functiones as an specialised organ of
public administration with a juridic personality. In all this period there have been training
programs for the staff.

The capacity of laboratories has been improved: a biosecurity unit was inaugurated at
the Institute of Diagnosis and Animal Health in order to perform tests for infectious diseases
of animals at increased risk for both people and the environment. Eight regional diagnostic
laboratories and animal health have been equipped with new testing equipment in order to
allow diagnosis and confirmation of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE). It was
obtained and used a rapid test for the diagnosis of transmissible spongiform encephalopathy.
At Calarasi was specifically set up a laboratory for the control of animal waste. The training
staff has been completed successfully.

As regards for the general health of animals; implements a comprehensive national
program for surveillance; prevention and eradication of major diseases. Some problems
remain with regard to classical swine fever; equine infectious anemia; and generally
compensate farmers and the trade in live animals; especially ecvinele. There can be reported
progress as regards transmissible spongiform encephalopathies. However; by taking further steps to restructure the production units to meet the conditions of hygiene for Community factories processing animal waste.

Romania has decided to stay afterwards 8 points inspection at the border (PIF). The assessment of food establishments has been achieved during the period of reference; the conclusion is that there are a considerable number of units which do not conform with the requirements of the Union. Also; a large number of units has not drawn up a plan for modernization. A breakthrough in animal welfare is the law on the protection of animals; adopted in May 2004.

It was adopted legislation on recognition of qualifications veterinarian and the regulation of matters relating to the exercise of the profession veterinarian (Judgement. 860 of 3 June 2004).

THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE VETERINARY SERVICES IN THE EUROPEAN UNION. The European Union underlined two main directions to be followed in the objectives of veterinary services. They concern the health of consumers and food safety on the one hand; and on the other hand control and eradication of animal diseases. For food safety; the European Commission issued three basic principles: -separation of legislative responsibilities of the scientific community; -a greater transparency in the adoption process to make decisions and veterinary checks;-separation of the legislative responsibilities regarding control. Accordingly; the Commission adopted a radical reform within departments that deal with the health of consumers. The Scientific Committees management placed under the responsibility of the Directorate-General for Policy and Consumer Health Protection; which handles Office and Veterinary and Food (FVO).(6)

The Commission has reorganized and the three "instruments" used to protect consumer health: scientific analysis; risk analysis; monitoring and inspections. Scientific analysis is a very important part in creating new legislation and for optimal use of existing legislation. Risk analysis is a process which consists of three phases: assessment; risk management and communication considered. The objective of risk management is to reduce or annul the level of risk identified to obtain an optimal level of production. Monitoring and inspections-responsibility for the implementation of food law; veterinary and phytosanitary European Union is the obligation of Member States; only monitors the way in which they assume these responsibilities through the inspection of the Directorate-General for Policy and Consumer Health Protection. FVO monitors legislation for food hygiene; veterinary medicine and agriculture in the European Union and the rest of the countries; and contribute to maintaining confidence in food safety consumer Europe.

The main objectives of the law on foodstuffs in the European Union are:-ensuring a maximum level of protection of public health and consumer protection; -ensuring the free movement of goods within the single market; -provision of law based primarily on scientific analysis and risk analysis; -ensuring the competitiveness of European industry and increase export opportunities; -ensuring a coherent legislation; rational and comprehensible. The EU is a major importer and exporter of food. As an importer; the Union must ensure that imported foods have the same high standards as those within it. As an exporter; the Union must ensure the safety of non food provided on their markets. The legislation must be compatible with the external obligations of the European Union; in particular with the arrangements established by the WTO.

As regards the control and eradication of diseases; creation of WTO and the signing by the EU Member States Agreement on the application of sanitary and phytosanitary measures (SPS Agreement) have laid the foundations for reducing tariff trade barrier; based
Thus; countries wishing to ban the import of animals or animal products from a specific country or region; to protect their own health; animals must make reasoned scientific evidence in this regard. Countries wishing to export; on the other hand; must provide proof that they are free of certain diseases. (7)

In both cases; it is necessary to a proper database on the health of animals. Thus; the responsibilities of public veterinary services is proceeding to the second priority objectives to facilitate international trade and protecting public health. To obtain official recognition as free of certain diseases; states concerned must provide substantial evidence to the WHO and / or commercial partners. To this end; a necessary system of solid information about the health of animals in a given territory; the task to be performed by the veterinary services of all countries wishing to participate in international trade.(9)

CONCLUSIONS

- Regarding the organization of veterinary services in the EU Member States; is observed in the first row close liaison between different departments; sections; sectors and directions which are ultimately the same purposes: to protect public health; animal health; animal welfare; to insure a proper diet in terms of quality and hygiene.

- There are separate different sectors of activity of veterinary services for an more efficient services. They prefer a veterinary centralized system for ensuring that a database is wide and gets the information faster and can be managed easily. There is close co-working with laboratories and other diagnostic institutions; including those interested in human medicine.

- The majority of European veterinary services are under the control of the Ministry of Agriculture; in general; so called; or having different names (for example; the Federal Ministry for Consumer Protection; Food and Agriculture; Germany); with the exception of Italy; whose veterinary services are under control of the Ministry of Health. However; the Ministry of Health in many European countries is involved in the coordination of veterinary services for better protection of public health; as is the case in Luxembourg; the Netherlands; Belgium; Spain and Finland. The situation of our father; in which health services are subordinated to the Government; untilneste only in Lithuania.

- The protectoin of animal health in the European Union is a very important objective for the veterinary services; considering that Europe is free of certain diseases. Veterinary services dealing with veterinary controls at the borders to keep tje country cleand of any diseases.

- At European level; the veterinary services of member countries work together for achieving the goals not only within national territories; but also at international level within the European Union. There are specialized Directions to this effect in the internal organisation of veterinary services; such as in Hungary (Directorate for European Integration and Department).(8)

- Cooperation between European veterinary services has increased efficiency in the actions taken. Thus; were eradicate a series of diseases dangerous to humans and animals; was limited expansion of others; European consumer foods offered him safe from the hygienic point of view; a high-quality; and as regards animal products; try one optimization; simultaneously with the imposition of an increase in animals based on the principles of respect for the welfare of the
BIBLIOGRAPHY

3. Ontanu G.; 2001; Book of Hope; Bucharest; page 142-158
4. *** http://europa.eu.int/austria/
5. *** O. G. R. No. 42 of 29/01/2004 on the organization of veterinary activities
6. *** O.G.R. 04/11/2004 No 88 of amending and supplementing GO R. Nr. 42/2004 concerning the organization of activities for health and food safety
7. *** H.G. No 130 of 29/01/2006 on the organization and functioning of the National Sanitary Veterinary Authority for Food Safety and units subordinated to it