



AUDIT
OFFICE



REPUBLIC
OF CYPRUS

AUDIT OF THE VETERINARY SERVICES Executive Summary



**AUDIT OFFICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
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8 January 2020

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Executive Summary

AUDITED ENTITIES:
Veterinary Services

Executive Summary

Within the framework of the provisions of article 116 of the Constitution of the Republic of Cyprus, the Audit Office conducted a financial and compliance audit of the Veterinary Services (VS). The most significant findings are summarized below:

- Weaknesses of the Sheep and Goat Identification and Registration System.
- Weaknesses and omissions during the implementation of the Plan for bluetongue vaccination.
- Weaknesses regarding contracts concluded for the provision of services for the collection, transport, processing and final disposal of animal by-products.
- Weaknesses in the process of calculating slaughter fees and overtime, as well as of recording and controlling of relevant data.
- Weaknesses in the timely collection of arrears from slaughterhouses of ungulates, which were created due to the failure of slaughterhouses' owners to pay the fees they collected on behalf of the VS.
- Establishments of food of animal origin operate under conditional terms for a long period of time, which, in some cases, exceeds two years and consequently their operation is not legalized.
- Not all the statutory inspections are carried out at slaughterhouses of ungulates, poultry, rabbit and farmed game.
- The Vehicles Movement Books present systematic and significant differences with the information of the Fleet Management System.
- No sufficient supervision is exercised in the operations of the Store of the Veterinary Medicinal Products Section.

The findings and recommendations of the audit were communicated, by our letter dated 18.9.2018, to the VS for comments and opinions, as well as for taking the necessary reparatory actions. The then Director General of the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment, by her letter dated 18.4.2019, forwarded to our Office the comments of the Deputy Director of the VS, on the text of our said letter.