Trainee's Answer

Trainee's Answer  
European Commission  
DG SANTE  
Animal Welfare Unit  
Briefing note  
1st of June 202X  
For the attention of Ms Heinrich, Director-General  
Subject: Animal welfare legislative proposal  
Reference: Impact assessment report on Animal welfare: revised regulation of 13 October 202X-1  
Background:  
Last year, the European Comission has prepared an working document of Animal welfare regulation. This year, there was an inter-service consultation with DG AGRI, DG ENV, DG TRADE on animal welfare regulation, on 16/05/202X. Conventional livestock production systems across EU countries are put under pressure by competitive global markets. The pressure to have lower prices on certain foods has led to intensification of farming with negative effect on animal welfare. The purpose of this briefing is to make more clarity towards the decision of which option to choose for the animal welfare regulation.  
Policy objectives:  
A. Phasing out confining cages  
A general transition period needed.  
B. Banning the killing of day-old male chiks  
In case of a ban, a transition period need to be combined with stricter import rules.   
C. Banning paintfull mutilations  
Incentives for voluntary action would enter into force imediatelly.   
D. Annimal welfare requirements at import  
Similar or fully equivalent.   
I. Main issues and remaining problems to solve  
1. - There is a pressure to reduce production costs, which leads to conditions and equipment they may harm the animals.   
2. - Around three hundred million farmed animals are confined in cages every year accross Europe. No single EU country is cage free.  
3. - Not all the DG agree with the line of the animal welfare regulation. The current legislation is outdated, fragmented and too general.   
4. - Need to choose between ethics and prices. The impact of imposing the animal welfare regulation will lead to increase in prices. For the moment there is a lack of incentives to invest in animal welfare. A partial or total ban on cages would have an important economic impact on the sectors concerned.   
II. Arguments and facts to ease a decision - the way foreward on animal welfare regulation  
DG AGRI does not yet agree with DG SANTE main line on animal welfare regulation. The number of poultry cage need to be determined or incetives to the farmers to ba established.   
Strengths  
- we received confirmation from DG ENV that the proposal is in line with the European Green Deal objectives  
- increase animal welfare protection  
Disadvantages  
- the big farmers cannot compete with cage free adoption because they would need more space, as underlines DG AGRI. This will lead to a price increase of 20-40% in countries like Spain, Portugal and Malta.   
- the European farmers will not be able to compete with third countries producers, who do not take into account animal welfare.  
In conclusion  
There are 3 types of options: low, medium and high. Medium and high ambition options can be combined with stricter requirements of minimum space per animal and antibiotics to be used.   
a. Following the comments received after the interservice consultation, the low ambition option or status quo should apply for protecting the market and ensure competitive pricing of food products for animal welfare.   
b. As the citizens are putting pressure through an European initiative, a decision on animal welfare should be taken asap.   
c. Regarding the poultry cage rearing, the smaller the farms, easier it is for them to implement cage free rearing.  
d. The domino effect will start from animal welfare regulation - higher food prices - burden on poor families. DG AGRI proposal of incentives seem to be a solution.   
Recommendation prefered on animal welfare regulation  
In conclusion there is an urge to implement as soon as possible the 'cage free' legislation for animals, accompagned by a cost/efficiency analysis. In parallel to the legislation, in order to facilitate a balanced economy, financial support and incentives may be provided through the new eco-schemes instrument of DG AGRI. Accepting the economic compensations to poultry farming will suggested by DG AGRI, will unblock our proposal on animal welfare regulation.   
The legislation should be more specific and sustanable, in accordance to the European Green Deal Objectives. Last, but not least, awarness -raising of consumers, economic incentives via the Common Agricultural Policy and import rules to ensure a level of competition.   
Therefore a mix between medium and high ambition options is preferred.

Human Evaluator

# Actual Overall Score

OVERALL SCORE: 6.0/10

# Actual Overall Summary

Overall Summary:   
Summary  
According to the Notice of Competitions of current EPSO competitions, the only competency that will be assessed in the Case Study exam is Written Communication

# Actual Communication Score

COMMUNICATION SCORE: 6.0/10

# Actual Communication Summary

Communication Summary:   
Observations  
Generally, this is a very good attempt to present a complex issue.  
The introductory paragraph conveys relevant background information regarding the topic. However, the written style needs work in terms of professional fluency, and there are grammar issues that need to be ironed out.   
  
Also, I’m not entirely clear on the focus of the briefing from this introduction, as the disagreement of DG AGRI should be flagged from the outset.   
  
In the policy objective section, the key issues are set out clearly in bullet points. However, from I. Main Issues, the briefing gives the impression of being a work-in-progress, due to its overreliance on writing in note form. Because of this, the text seems slightly disjointed and there is a lack of coherence at times.   
Furthermore, some points are not elaborated on further, analysed for their significance, or more completely argued.   
Some key details and relevant information is omitted or generalized. Providing more specifics and data on key issues will give a more comprehensive overview of the situation and lead to more informed reasoning regarding the solutions going forward.   
E.g.:  
- Could have mentioned that the impact assessment shows a lower price impact than what DG AGRI claims.   
- The timing for bans were subject to being based on low, medium or high ambition options for each measure, so briefly mention what these options mean.  
  
The suggestions given are commendable, but these need to be clearer, with recommendations given with solid reasoning as well as an exploration of consequences.  
  
Some further grammar issues and several typos impact the readability of the document.

# Actual Tips/Errors

Tips/Suggestions for Improvement (if any):   
Tips to improve  
  
Give more thought to both overall structure and paragraph structure. Think about the order of your sentences in the introduction i.e., how to construct it in terms of relaying information in a logical progression.   
Write with more confidence and fluency rather than relying on note form.  
Leave enough time to read over for fluency and typos.   
Expand on solutions/recommendations by providing reasons for each and explore the advantages and disadvantages for each course of action.  
  
Spelling/Grammar Errors (if any):

AI Evaluator

# Predicted Overall Score

Overall Score (out-off 10): 6.8

# Predicted Overall Summary

Overall Summary:  
Thank you for your briefing note on the animal welfare legislative proposal. You have provided a clear overview of the main issues and remaining problems to be addressed. Your arguments and facts are well-presented and support your recommendations. However, there are some areas where improvement is needed.  
  
Content:  
Your briefing note addresses the main issues and provides relevant arguments and facts. You have highlighted the pressure to reduce production costs and the need to choose between ethics and prices. You also mentioned the disagreement between DG AGRI and DG SANTE on the animal welfare regulation. However, it would be beneficial to provide more specific information on the current legislation and its shortcomings. Additionally, you could include more details on the impact of imposing the animal welfare regulation, such as the economic impact on the sectors concerned.  
  
Grammar and Mechanics:  
There are several grammatical and punctuation errors throughout your briefing note. For example, there are missing articles ("an working document" should be "a working document") and incorrect verb forms ("increase animal welfare protection" should be "increasing animal welfare protection"). It is important to proofread your work carefully to ensure accuracy and clarity.  
  
Sentence Structure:  
Your sentences are generally clear and concise. However, there are some instances where the sentence structure could be improved for better readability. For example, in the sentence "The legislation should be more specific and sustainable, in accordance to the European Green Deal Objectives," it would be clearer to say "The legislation should be more specific and sustainable, in accordance with the objectives of the European Green Deal."  
  
Clarity:  
Overall, your briefing note is clear and easy to understand. You have provided a logical flow of information and presented your arguments and recommendations effectively. However, there are some areas where you could provide more specific details or examples to support your points. For example, when discussing the impact of imposing the animal welfare regulation, you could provide specific figures or data on the expected price increase or the economic impact on the sectors concerned.  
  
Organization:  
Your briefing note is well-organized and follows a logical structure. You have provided an introduction, main issues, arguments and facts, and a conclusion with recommendations. However, it would be helpful to include subheadings for each section to improve readability and make it easier for the reader to navigate through the document.  
  
Style:  
Your writing style is generally appropriate for a briefing note. You have used formal language and presented the information in a concise manner. However, there are some areas where you could improve clarity by providing more specific details or examples. Additionally, it would be beneficial to use more precise language when discussing the impact of the animal welfare regulation, such as providing specific figures or data.  
  
Overall, your briefing note provides a good overview of the main issues and arguments related to the animal welfare legislative proposal. However, there are areas where improvement is needed in terms of grammar, sentence structure, clarity, and organization. I suggest proofreading your work carefully and providing more specific details or examples to support your points. Keep up the good work and continue to practice and improve your writing skills.

# Predicted Communication Score

Communication Score (out-off 10): 5.0

# Predicted Communication Summary

KEY OBSERVATIONS:  
- The trainee's answer lacks clarity and conciseness. The sentences are often overly complicated and unclear, making it difficult for the reader to understand the main points.  
- The trainee does not tailor the message to the needs of the Director-General. The answer does not address the specific issues and options outlined in the case study, and it does not present the information in a clear and structured manner.  
- The trainee's arguments and reasoning are weak. They do not effectively convey the key points and fail to address the concerns raised by DG AGRI.  
- The trainee does not take into account the point of view of others, particularly DG AGRI. They do not consider the need for compromise or alternative solutions to address the concerns raised.  
  
COMMUNICATION SUMMARY:  
According to the Notice of Competitions of current EPSO competitions, the only competency that will be assessed in the Case Study exam is Written Communication. Therefore, only this competency was assessed in your evaluation.  
  
Based on the evaluation of your answer, there are several areas where improvement is needed. The writing style of your answer is unclear and overly complicated, making it difficult for the reader to understand your main points. The clarity and conciseness of the text need to be improved. Additionally, the structure of your answer does not effectively address the main issues and options outlined in the case study.   
  
In terms of the quality, relevance, and conciseness of your arguments, there is room for improvement. Your arguments and reasoning are weak and do not effectively address the concerns raised by DG AGRI. It is important to consider the point of view of others and to present a balanced and well-informed decision.  
  
To improve your performance, I suggest focusing on improving the clarity and conciseness of your writing. Use clear and simple language to convey your message. Additionally, make sure to address the specific issues and options outlined in the case study and consider the point of view of others. Present well-reasoned arguments and provide evidence to support your points.  
  
Overall, your answer would benefit from a more structured and focused approach, addressing the specific issues and options outlined in the case study.

# Predicted Tips/Errors

Content:  
- The trainee's answer addresses the main issues and provides some relevant arguments and facts related to the animal welfare regulation.  
- The trainee mentions the pressure to reduce production costs and the negative impact on animal welfare.  
- The trainee acknowledges the disagreement between DG AGRI and DG SANTE regarding the proposed regulation.  
- The trainee mentions the potential economic impact and the need for incentives for farmers to invest in animal welfare.  
- The trainee suggests a combination of medium and high ambition options for the regulation.  
  
TIPS/SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT:  
- Provide more specific and detailed information about the main issues and arguments related to the animal welfare regulation.  
- Clearly explain the different options and their potential impact on animal welfare and the agricultural sector.  
- Consider the perspectives of different stakeholders, such as farmers, consumers, and animal welfare organizations.  
- Provide more evidence and references to support the arguments and facts presented.  
- Consider the potential economic benefits of implementing the proposed regulation, such as improved product quality and consumer trust.  
  
SPELLING/GRAMMAR ERRORS:  
- "Annimal" should be "Animal"  
- "ba" should be "be"  
- "incetives" should be "incentives"  
- "sustanable" should be "sustainable"