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 The current legislation is outdated, fragmented and too general.   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:  
The trainee's answer provides a brief overview of the main issues and remaining problems in the animal welfare legislative proposal. However, there are several areas where improvement is needed.   
  
The trainee correctly identifies the pressure to reduce production costs and the confinement of animals in cages as main issues. However, the trainee does not provide sufficient arguments and facts to support their decision-making process. They briefly mention the disagreement between DG AGRI and DG SANTE but do not explore the reasons behind it or provide any potential solutions.   
  
Additionally, the trainee does not address the potential economic impact of the proposed regulations or the concerns raised by DG AGRI regarding unfair competition with third countries. They also fail to mention the need for stricter import rules and the potential impact on food pricing.   
  
In terms of recommendations, the trainee suggests implementing the "cage-free" legislation as soon as possible, but does not provide a clear justification for this decision. They briefly mention the need for financial support and incentives for poultry farming, but do not elaborate on how this would address the concerns raised by DG AGRI.   
  
Overall, the trainee's answer lacks depth and analysis in addressing the main issues and providing well-reasoned recommendations. Improvement is needed in providing more specific arguments and considering the potential economic impact and competition with third countries.  
  
1. The central theme/definition of the subject area and content is not clear in the trainee's answer. The trainee briefly mentions the main issues, but does not provide a clear overview of the animal welfare legislative proposal and its objectives.  
  
2. Convincing arguments and solid reasoning are not used effectively in the trainee's answer. The trainee mentions some concerns raised by DG AGRI, but does not provide a comprehensive analysis or propose potential solutions.  
  
3. The trainee's answer does not clearly signal the difference between facts and opinions. The trainee mentions some facts, such as the number of animals confined in cages and the potential economic impact, but does not provide sufficient evidence or references to support their statements.  
  
4. The trainee's answer does not take into account the point of view of others, particularly the concerns raised by DG AGRI. The trainee briefly mentions the disagreement between DG AGRI and DG SANTE but does not explore the reasons behind it or propose any compromises.  
  
5. There is no evident bias in the trainee's answer.  
  
6. The trainee's answer does not have adequate titles and subtitles. The answer is presented as a continuous block of text, making it difficult to follow the trainee's arguments and recommendations.  
  
7. The trainee's answer does not present a balanced amount of detail. The trainee briefly mentions the main issues, but does not provide sufficient analysis or evidence to support their statements.  
  
8. The trainee's answer does not include supporting statistics. The trainee mentions some potential economic impacts and the number of animals confined in cages, but does not provide specific data or references.  
  
9. The trainee's answer does not have a titled Introduction section.  
  
10. The trainee's answer does not have a titled recommendations section.  
  
11. The trainee's answer does not have a titled conclusions section.  
  
12. The trainee's answer does not mention any specific EU member states.  
  
13. The trainee's answer does not contain information on non-EU countries or the international context.  
  
The strong point of the trainee's answer is that they briefly mention the main issues and remaining problems in the animal welfare legislative proposal. However, improvement is needed in providing more specific arguments, considering the potential economic impact and competition with third countries, and proposing well-reasoned recommendations. The trainee should also consider structuring their answer with titles and subtitles to improve clarity and organization.

# Predicted Communication Score

Communication Score (out-off 10): 5.0

# Predicted 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.  
  
Summary:  
According to the provided content, the trainee's answer does provide a summary of the main issues and remaining problems related to the animal welfare legislative proposal. However, there are several areas where improvements can be made to enhance the clarity, organization, and style of the response.  
  
Clarity:  
- The trainee's answer lacks a clear introduction and background section. It is important to provide a brief overview of the topic and the context of the briefing note.  
- The information provided in the trainee's answer is not well-structured and lacks coherence. It is important to present the main issues and arguments in a logical and organized manner.  
  
Organization:  
- The trainee's answer does not clearly separate the main issues and remaining problems. It is important to present each issue in a separate paragraph or section to improve readability and clarity.  
- The trainee's answer does not provide clear recommendations or options for the way forward. It is important to clearly outline the different options and provide specific recommendations for the Director-General's decision.  
  
Style:  
- The trainee's answer lacks a formal and concise writing style. It is important to use appropriate language and tone for a briefing note intended for the Director-General.  
- The trainee's answer includes unnecessary information and repetitions. It is important to focus on the main issues and arguments, and avoid unnecessary details or repetitions.  
  
Based on the above observations, here are a few top-level suggestions for improvements:  
- Start with a clear introduction and background section to provide context for the briefing note.  
- Separate the main issues and remaining problems into separate paragraphs or sections.  
- Clearly outline the different options for the way forward and provide specific recommendations.  
- Use a formal and concise writing style appropriate for a briefing note.  
- Avoid unnecessary information and repetitions.  
  
In conclusion, while the trainee's answer does address some of the main issues and remaining problems, there is room for improvement in terms of clarity, organization, and style. By following the suggested improvements, the trainee can enhance the overall effectiveness and readability of the briefing note.

# Predicted Tips/Errors

TIPS/SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT:  
- Make sure to provide a clear and concise introduction that outlines the purpose and background of the briefing note.  
- Use bullet points or subheadings to organize the main issues and remaining problems. This will make it easier for the reader to follow and understand.  
- Avoid using vague statements or generalizations. Instead, provide specific details and evidence to support your arguments and recommendations.  
- Be consistent with the terminology and spelling. For example, use "animal welfare" consistently instead of "annimal welfare" or "animal welfare regulation" instead of "animal welfare legislative proposal."  
  
SPELLING/GRAMMAR ERRORS:  
- "Comission" should be spelled as "Commission."  
- "Conventional" is misspelled as "convential."  
- "Chiks" should be spelled as "chicks."  
- "Imediatelly" should be spelled as "immediately."  
- "Accross" should be spelled as "across."  
- "Foreward" should be spelled as "forward."  
- "Asap" should be spelled as "ASAP."  
- "Prefered" should be spelled as "preferred."  
- "Sustanable" should be spelled as "sustainable."  
  
Note: The trainee's answer contains several grammatical and structural errors. The content is not well-organized and lacks clarity. It is important to work on improving sentence structure, grammar, and spelling to enhance the overall quality of the response. Additionally, providing more specific and evidence-based arguments and recommendations would strengthen the briefing note.