

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE 63<sup>RD</sup> PLENARY MEETING OF  
THE SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS  
HELD IN DUBLIN ON 9-10 MARCH 2011**

**AGENDA:**

- 1. OPENING, APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**
- 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- 4. CHAIR RESIGNATION AND ELECTION OF NEW CHAIR/VICECHAIR**
- 5. NEW REQUESTS TO EFSA/BIOHAZ**
  - 5.1 MANDATE BSE MONITORING 3 MEMBER STATES**
  - 5.2 REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A NEW METHOD OF DISPOSAL OF CATEGORY 2 ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS – COMPOSTING AND INCINERATION OF DEAD-ON-FARM PIGS.**
- 6. DRAFT OPINIONS FOR POSSIBLE ADOPTION**
  - 6.1 *CAMPYLOBACTER* IN BROILER MEAT PRODUCTION: CONTROL OPTIONS AND PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES AND/OR TARGETS AT DIFFERENT STAGES OF THE FOOD CHAIN**
  - 6.2 QUANTITATIVE ESTIMATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACT OF SETTING A NEW TARGET FOR THE REDUCTION OF *SALMONELLA* IN BROILERS (*GALLUS GALLUS*)**
  - 6.3 REVIEW OF THE BSE-RELATED RISK IN BOVINE INTESTINES**
- 7. PROGRESS REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING MANDATES**
  - 7.1 PUBLIC HEALTH HAZARDS TO BE COVERED BY INSPECTION OF MEAT**
  - 7.2 EVALUATION OF TSE TESTS**
  - 7.3 AN UPDATE OF THE RECENT KNOWLEDGE ON THE OCCURRENCE AND CONTROL OF FOOD-BORNE VIRUSES**
  - 7.4 NOROVIRUSES IN OYSTERS: METHODS, LIMITS AND CONTROL OPTIONS**
  - 7.5 RISK BASED CONTROL OF BIOGENIC AMINE FORMATION IN FERMENTED FOODS**

- 7.6 RESISTANCE CAUSED BY BACTERIAL STRAINS PRODUCING EXTENDED-SPECTRUM B-LACTAMASES AND/OR AMPC B-LACTAMASES IN FOOD AND FOOD PRODUCING ANIMALS**
- 7.7 ESTIMATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACT OF SETTING A NEW TARGET FOR THE REDUCTION OF *SALMONELLA* IN TURKEYS**
- 7.8 REQUEST FOR AN EVALUATION OF A NEW PROCESSING METHOD ACCORDING TO THE ANIMAL BY-PRODUCT REGULATION FOR FISHERY PRODUCTS**
- 7.9 EVALUATION OF THE SAFETY AND EFFICACY OF LACTIC ACID FOR THE REMOVAL OF MICROBIAL SURFACE CONTAMINATION OF BEEF CARCASSES, CUTS AND TRIMMINGS**
- 7.10 AN ASSESSMENT OF EPIDEMIOLOGICAL DATA IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH HAZARD TO THE PRESENCE OF PARASITES IN WILD CAUGHT FISH FROM CERTAIN FISHING GROUNDS IN THE BALTIC SEA**
- 7.11 MANDATE ON HATCHERY WASTE (CHANGES OF CATEGORISATION OF PARTICULAR ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS FROM CATEGORY 2 TO CATEGORY 3)**
- 7.12 MANDATE ON PROPOSED PRODUCTION METHOD FOR SMOKED “SKIN-ON” SHEEP MEAT**

**8. FEED BACK FROM THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE AND FROM OTHER WGS**

**9. STANDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA:**

- 9.1 EMERGING RISKS**
- 9.2 FEEDBACK FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION**
- 9.3 BIOHAZ NETWORKS**

**10. BRAINSTORMING ON POSSIBLE SELFTASKING ISSUES**

**11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**12. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

## **PARTICIPANTS**

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### Panel Members:

Olivier Andreoletti, Herbert Budka, Sava Buncic, John D Collins, John Griffin, Arie Havelaar, Tine Hald, James Hope, Günter Klein, James McLauchlin, Christine Müller-Graf, Christophe Nguyen-The, Birgit Noerrung (newly elected Chair), Luisa Peixe, Miguel Prieto Maradona (apologies), Antonia Ricci, John Sofos, John Threlfall, Ivar Vågsholm, Emmanuel Vanopdenbosch.

### EFSA:

Marta Hugas, Ernesto Liebana, Michaela Hempen, Winy Messens, Pietro Stella, Luis Vivas Alegre (Scientific staff). Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle (Executive Director).

### European Commission (EC):

DG Health and Consumers: Kris de Smet.

## **1. OPENING AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The meeting started at 9:00 a.m. The Chair (Dr. Marta Hugas) opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Apologies were received from M. Prieto-Maradona.

## **2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Declarations of Interests, EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of interest (ADoI) and the Specific Declaration of interest (SDoI) filled in by the experts invited to the present meeting. No conflicts of interests related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the beginning of this meeting.

## **4. CHAIR RESIGNATION AND ELECTION OF NEW CHAIR/VICECHAIR**

Prof John D. Collins communicated his resignation as Chair of the BIOHAZ Panel. The election of a chair person took place following the procedure as established by EFSA. Prof B. Noerrung was elected as Chair. As one vice chair position became vacant Prof J. Sofos was elected Vice-Chair. As from then, the newly elected chair took over from Dr. Hugas as chair.

## **5. NEW REQUESTS TO EFSA/BIOHAZ**

### **5.1. MANDATE BSE MONITORING 3 MEMBER STATES**

A new mandate submitted by the EC was received in EFSA and allocated to the BIOHAZ Panel. The terms of reference were discussed in detail. Dr Emmanuel

Vanopdenbosch was appointed as Chair person. The deadline for adoption is being negotiated with EC.

## **5.2. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A NEW METHOD OF DISPOSAL OF CATEGORY 2 ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS – COMPOSTING AND INCINERATION OF DEAD-ON-FARM PIGS**

A new mandate submitted by France was received in EFSA and allocated to the BIOHAZ Panel. The terms of reference were discussed in detail. The dossier has been considered as administratively incomplete and further information will be requested to the sender.

## **6. DRAFT OPINIONS FOR POSSIBLE ADOPTIONS**

### **6.1. *CAMPYLOBACTER* IN BROILER MEAT PRODUCTION: CONTROL OPTIONS AND PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES AND/OR TARGETS AT DIFFERENT STAGES OF THE FOOD CHAIN**

The Draft Opinion was presented by the Chairman of the Working Group, and after a thorough discussion it was adopted by the Panel on the 10/03/2011.

### **6.2. QUANTITATIVE ESTIMATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACT OF SETTING A NEW TARGET FOR THE REDUCTION OF *SALMONELLA* IN BROILERS (*GALLUS GALLUS*)**

The Draft Opinion was introduced to the Panel by the Chairman of the Working Group, and after a thorough discussion it was adopted on the 10/03/2011.

### **6.3. REVIEW OF THE BSE-RELATED RISK IN BOVINE INTESTINES**

The Draft Opinion was presented to the Panel by the Chairman of the Working Group, and after a thorough discussion it was adopted on the 10/03/2011.

## **7. PROGRESS REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING MANDATES**

### **7.1. PUBLIC HEALTH HAZARDS TO BE COVERED BY INSPECTION OF MEAT**

- (a) **Swine:** The BIOHAZ, CONTAM and AHAW panels and three other EFSA units (ZONOSES, AMU and DATEX) are involved in the reply to the mandate received. The BIOHAZ “ad hoc” WG dealing with the inspection of Swine had the last meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup> via webconference. The next WG meeting is scheduled for April 19<sup>th</sup>. A request for an extension of the current deadline for the opinion on inspection of Swine to September 2011 has been submitted to EC.
- (b) **Poultry:** A new BIOHAZ “ad hoc” WG on meat inspection of poultry has been established. The WG had the first meeting on 11/03/2011 in Dublin. The next WG meeting is scheduled for 16 May 2011 via web-conference. The current deadline for the opinion on meat inspection of poultry is June 2012.
- (c) **Cattle:** The establishment of a new WG was discussed, and Prof J. Sofos was appointed as the Chair of the WG.

## **7.2. EVALUATION OF TSE TESTS**

No new meetings of the WG have been held since the last plenary meeting of the BIOHAZ Panel.

## **7.3. AN UPDATE OF THE PRESENT KNOWLEDGE ON THE OCCURRENCE AND CONTROL OF FOOD-BORNE VIRUSES**

The last meeting of the WG took place in Brussels on 11/02/2011. The next meeting is foreseen on 16 March 2011 as a teleconference. The WG Chair gave an overall picture of the progress within this mandate, and discussed the draft conclusions and recommendations. The deadline for adoption of the opinion is December 2011.

## **7.4. NOROVIRUSES IN OYSTERS: METHODS, LIMITS AND CONTROL OPTIONS**

The last WG meeting took place on 10/02/2011 in Brussels. The next meeting is foreseen on 06/04/2011 in Brussels. The deadline for this mandate is December 2011.

## **7.5. RISK BASED CONTROL OF BIOGENIC AMINE FORMATION IN FERMENTED FOODS**

The last WG meeting took place on 11 February. The next WG meeting is scheduled for 15 March. The current deadline for adoption of this opinion is December 2011.

## **7.6. RESISTANCE CAUSED BY BACTERIAL STRAINS PRODUCING EXTENDED-SPECTRUM B-LACTAMASES AND/OR AMPC B-LACTAMASES IN FOOD AND FOOD PRODUCING ANIMALS**

The last WG meeting took place on 28/02/2011 as a teleconference. The following meeting will be on the 30/03/2011 in Parma. An extension of the deadline for this mandate to July 2011 is being negotiated with EC.

## **7.7. ESTIMATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACT OF SETTING A NEW TARGET FOR THE REDUCTION OF *Salmonella* IN TURKEYS**

The last WG meeting took place in Parma on 21/01/2011. The next WG meeting is scheduled for 23-24/05/2011 in Parma. The deadline of the opinion is March 2012.

## **7.8. REQUEST FOR AN EVALUATION OF A NEW PROCESSING METHOD ACCORDING TO THE ANIMAL BY-PRODUCT REGULATION FOR FISHERY PRODUCTS**

The last meeting of the WG took place on 23 November 2010 in Brussels. A request to perform an additional study has been sent to the applicant (Norwegian Food Safety Authority), results have been received on 9 March 2011. A WG meeting/teleconference will be scheduled soon. The original deadline of the opinion is May 2011.

**7.9. EVALUATION OF THE SAFETY AND EFFICACY OF LACTIC ACID FOR THE REMOVAL OF MICROBIAL SURFACE CONTAMINATION OF BEEF CARCASSES, CUTS AND TRIMMINGS**

The first WG meeting took place in Dublin on 08/03/2011. The next WG meeting is scheduled for 15/04/2011 in Parma.

**7.10. AN ASSESSMENT OF EPIDEMIOLOGICAL DATA IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH HAZARD TO THE PRESENCE OF PARASITES IN WILD CAUGHT FISH FROM CERTAIN FISHING GROUNDS IN THE BALTIC SEA**

The last meeting was held in Brussels on 21 February. The next teleconference will be held at mid April. The deadline has been extended until 31 July 2011.

**7.11. REQUEST FOR A SCIENTIFIC OPINION ON HATCHERY WASTE (CONCERNING CHANGES OF CATEGORISATION OF PARTICULAR ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS FROM CATEGORY 2 TO CATEGORY 3)**

The first WG meeting took place in Brussels on 01/03/2011. The next WG meeting is scheduled for 12/04/2011 in Parma. A letter proposing a clarification of the Terms of Reference of the mandate and an extension of the deadline until 31/07/2011 was sent to the European Commission.

**7.12. MANDATE ON PROPOSED PRODUCTION METHOD FOR SMOKED “SKIN-ON” SHEEP MEAT**

The last meeting of the WG took place on 08/03/2011. The next WG meeting is scheduled for 4 April 2011 via web-conference. The deadline for this mandate is May 2011. The CONTAM Panel is also involved in the drafting of the opinion and will adopt the part on abiotic risks.

**8. FEED BACK FROM THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE AND FROM OTHER WGS**

The last SC Plenary meeting took place on the 9<sup>th</sup> February in Parma. The minutes of that meeting will be available on the EFSA website (<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/event/scaf110209.htm>).

**9. STANDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

**9.1. EMERGING RISKS**

Discussions on this item were postponed to the following Plenary meeting in April.

**9.2. FEEDBACK FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

Nothing to report

### **9.3. BIOHAZARDS NETWORKS**

Nothing to report

### **10. BRAINSTORMING ON POSSIBLE SELF-TASKING ISSUES**

Several proposals for outsourcing were introduced to the panel. There was a brainstorming session about possible areas where outsourcing activities would be needed to complement the work of the Panel. The panel agreed to continue discussions at the next plenary meeting.

### **11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Panel discussed the draft document “*technical specifications on training regarding principles and methods of food safety risk assessment*” as developed by and EFSA WG

### **12. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

The meeting closed at 4:00 pm.