

BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS & ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

Network on  
*Echinococcus multilocularis* infection in animals  
annual report

Minutes of the 12<sup>th</sup> meeting

**Held on 13 October 2022  
WEB-conference**

**(Agreed on 14 October 2022)**

**Participants**

- Network Representatives of Member States (including EFTA Countries):**

Country	Name
Finland	Marja Isomursu; Antti Oksanen
Ireland	James O'Shaughnessy
Norway	Inger Sofie Hamnes

- Hearing Experts**

Not applicable

- European Commission:**

Thierry Chalus (DG SANTE)

- EFSA:**

BIOHAW Unit: Gabriele Zancanaro (Scientific Officer); Frank Verdonck (Head of Unit)

## **1. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants. Frank Verdonck expressed his gratitude to the participants for the commitment and shared his appreciation in how this exercise, from the data submission to the publication of the scientific report, is improving over time.

## **2. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## **3. Scientific assessment: discussion on the annual report 2022**

The different sections of the document were examined by the participants to ensure that the content reflected the data submitted by the countries.

Inger Sofie Hamnes noted some inconsistencies in the histograms and the maps. Gabriele Zancanaro identified the problem in the program code of the statistical software used to produce these items. The code will be fixed, the document amended accordingly and sent to Inger Sofie Hamnes for final confirmation.

All comments were addressed and the suggestions from the participants were included in the document.

## **4. Endorsement**

Gabriele Zancanaro asked for endorsement of the document. Finland and Ireland provided their endorsement.

Norway will be asked to endorse it at a second stage by email, following the amendments of the document related to the relevant sections.

United Kingdom (Northern Ireland) will be contacted separately to address the relevant comments and for endorsement of the document.

## **5. Introduction of NUTS 2021 & AOB**

The participants were informed about the introduction of a new NUTS catalogue, updated in 2021, for the next data submission in 2023.

In relation to the data submission, Gabriele Zancanaro recommended to use a more appropriate value to describe the sampling strategy.

Gabriele Zancanaro encouraged Finland and Norway to publish the results of the exercises performed to estimate the test sensitivity of the analytical method used in their laboratories.

Thierry Chalus expressed his gratitude for the commitment of the participants and of EFSA and highlighted the importance of this work confirmed by the attention of the EC to this parasite and related surveillance activities.

## **Closure of the meeting**