

5 July 2023

09:00-13:00

Minutes agreed on 6 July 2023

Location: Webconference

Attendees:

- Network Participants:

Country	Name
Finland	Antti Oksanen
Finland	Marja Isomursu
Ireland	James O'Shaughnessy

- Observers:
Ales Breclj and Inger Sofie Hamnes (Norway)
- Hearing Expert:
Adriano Casulli
- European Commission representatives:
Thierry Chalus
- EFSA:
BIOHAW Unit: Gabriele Zancanaro (Scientific Officer); Alessia Rusinà (Trainee)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

Apologies were received from William Byrne (Ireland) and Sandrine Amsler (EC)

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted with changes: considering that the sections related to UK (Northern Ireland) will be discussed in the next days with the *E. multilocularis* experts of the region, it was decided to postpone the endorsement of the scientific report which will be done by written procedure.

3. Scientific Assessment : discussion on the annual report 2023 (reporting period 2022)

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



Adriano Casulli provided new references to update the information contained in the introduction (Section 1) of the report.

Ireland noted some inconsistencies in Table 1 about data reported from Ireland. EFSA pointed out that the table is taken from an EFSA publication and will create the liaison with the BIOMO team of the BIOHAW unit, responsible for this publication for further clarifications. For the purpose of this report, the table will not be modified as simply reported.

Finland provided additional explanations on the date of sampling and the acceptance date at the laboratory. The data provided, in c.a. 20% of the cases, the laboratory acceptance date as proxy for the sampling date.

Finland communicated that a process for the publication of the data on the estimation of the test sensitivity has started. EFSA asked Adriano Casulli if, as EURL, some support could be given to Finland and maybe Norway for the publication on this topic. Support from EURL was granted.

Norway thanked EFSA for the improvements introduced this year when providing the summary report to the countries. The tables, plots and maps were considered extremely useful and will be used for national scientific communication purposes. EFSA welcomed the news, reiterating that this is exactly its mission, i.e., to support the MSs in fulfilling their obligations towards the EC and possibly to help them in their national activities.

The EC thanked all participating countries for the commitment done over time to fulfil the legal requirements to demonstrate freedom from *E. multilocularis*.

The EC raised a special acknowledgment for the proficient activity of UK (Northern Ireland) which this year achieved the target confidence of freedom.

4. Endorsment

The endorsement will follow a written procedure

5. Any Other Business

NA

6. Closure of the meeting