

2nd AHAW network – subgroup on Avian Influenza (AI) meeting

23-24 September 2025

14:00-18:00 / 09:00-13:00

Minutes agreed on November 2025

Location: EFSA - Meeting Room M07

Attendees:

- Network Participants:

Country	Member State Organisation
Austria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety
Belgium	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain
Bulgaria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NRL "Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease", NDRVMI Bulgaria
Croatia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Cyprus	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Veterinary Services
Denmark	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Danish Veterinary and Food Administration
Estonia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• National Centre for Laboratory Research and Risk Assessment• Agriculture and Food Board
Finland	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finnish Food Authority
France	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ANSES• DGAL
Germany	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut (FLI)
Greece	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Animal Health Directorate / Ministry of Rural Development and Food
Hungary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• National Food Chain Safety Office
Iceland	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Icelandic Food and Veterinary Authority
Ireland	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Italy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie
Latvia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Food and Veterinary Service of Latvia
Lithuania	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• State food and veterinary service• National Food and Veterinary Risk Assessment Institute
Luxembourg	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Luxembourg Veterinary and Food Administration
Malta	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ministry for Agriculture, Fisheries and Animal Rights
Netherlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Authority NVWA
Norway	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Norwegian Veterinary Institute
Portugal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Direção Geral de Alimentação e Veterinária



MEETING MINUTES - 2nd AHAW network – subgroup on Avian Influenza (AI) meeting

Romania	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority
Slovak Republic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic
Slovenia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Administration for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection
Spain	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MAPA
Sweden	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Swedish Veterinary Agency

- Observers:
Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (Switzerland); Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (Albania); Administration for food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary affairs (Montenegro); Food and Veterinary Agency of the Republic of North Macedonia (North Macedonia); Veterinary Directorate, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Water Management of the Republic of Serbia (Serbia); General Directorate of Food and Control (Turkey).
- EFSA:
BIOHAW Team Animal Health: AZNAR Inmaculada, ZANCANARO Gabriele
IDATA Team Data Gateway and Outreach: AMINALRAGIA-GIAMINI Roxani, IANCU Catalin



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted with the following changes:

- Participation of the European Commission at the beginning of Day 2, for the provision of clarifications on the data to be submitted to EFSA for the purposes of the Annual Report on Avian Influenza (see Agenda point 6.a)

3. Report 2024: introduction

The novelties introduced in the report were presented and discussed. Participants acknowledged the inclusion of new data sources to increase the report's comprehensiveness, as well as the revised method for computing positive cases. The new approach was endorsed.

4. Report 2024: feedback from data providers and discussion

See point 5

5. Report 2024: feedback from data providers and discussion (continued)

The new report was presented section by section.

Feedback was provided to EFSA regarding the visualisation of results. Relevant Member States offered clarifications on the interpretation of results. Further suggestions on additional information were also made.

EFSA committed to assess the feasibility of implementing all feedback in the current report and, where not possible, to take it into account for the next edition.

6. Welcome back and Apologies for absence

The chair welcomed the participants

a. European Commission on data to be submitted for the purposes of the annual report on avian influenza

The European Commission (COHEN Iulia) reiterated the message previously delivered to Member State representatives at a PAFF meeting earlier this year, that the overall



aim is to have a complete overview of the activities related to avian influenza surveillance at EU level (and not purely focused on surveillance activities that are financially supported by the EC). To this end, after a discussion on what would be feasible to submit next year, EFSA invited the participants to submit their views via email regarding the data to be submitted next year. The aim is to achieve homogeneity in terms of the data MSs will submit to EFSA. MSs should send their views by the 15th of October. EFSA will collect the views and discuss with the EC with the aim to organise an online follow-up meeting with MSs.

Participants requested an official communication from the Commission once a final decision is reached.

7. Data reporting issues and discussion

EFSA presented the results of the survey conducted to gather feedback on the data collection process. The overall outcome was largely positive. Contributors who provided negative feedback were contacted individually. EFSA will take the necessary actions to improve the service.

Member States underlined the valuable support provided by data stewards.

8. Data collection and annual report in 2025: novelties and improvements

EFSA presented the timelines for the next data collection, which will take place in 2026 (covering sampling and testing activities conducted in 2025). All relevant information is available on the EFSA website.

No major changes are planned for the coming year.

9. Wrap up and next steps

The Chair summarised the decisions taken during the meeting. The summary was endorsed by all participants.