Stakeholder meeting on the welfare of cats and dogs, and farmed finfish: practices, scientific evidence and data

Brussels, 10-11 December 2026
14:00-18:00 on day 1 | 09:00-13:00 on day 2

Draft agenda

10 DECEMBER

13:00-14:00	**Registration and welcome lunch**	
SESSION 1 | Welfare of cats and dogs **Chair: Yves Van der Stede, European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)**		
14:00-14:05	**Welcome and introduction**	**Frank Verdonck**, **Yves Van der Stede,** EFSA
14:05-14:15	**The legislative context**	**SANTE.G.3 Animal Welfare**, European Commission
14:15-14:45	**Presentation of the mandate received by EFSA on welfare cats and dogs | Q&A**	**Denise Candiani** EFSA BIOHAW, Scientific coordinator of EFSA's Working Group
14:45-15:10	**Dogs breeders: priorities, animal welfare challenges and opportunities | Q&A**	**Fédération Cynologique Internationale** (tbc)
15:10-15:35	**Cats breeders: priorities, animal welfare challenges and opportunities | Q&A**	**Federation International Feline** (tbc)
15:35-15:50	**Coffee/Tea break**	
15:50-16:15	**Cats and dogs welfare: the NGO perspective | Q&A**	**Eurogroup for animals**
16:15-16:40	**Cats and dogs welfare: insights from animal welfare labels in EU | Q&A**	**Federation of Veterinarians of Europe** (tbc)
16:40-17:55	**Interactive group discussion: challenges and opportunities regarding welfare of cats and dogs** *Potential sources of information and data*	All Moderation: **Yves Van der Stede,** EFSA
17:55-18:00	**Concluding remarks**	**Yves Van der Stede**, EFSA

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11 DECEMBER

08:30-09:00	**Registration**	
SESSION 2 | Welfare of farmed finfish **Chair: Yves Van der Stede, European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)**		
09:00-09:05	**Welcome and introduction**	**Frank Verdonck**, **Yves Van der Stede,** EFSA
09:05-09:10	**The legislative context**	**Biljiana Borzan**, MEP, Committee on the Environment, Climate and Food Safety
09:10-09:35	**Presentation of the mandate received by EFSA on the on-farm welfare of farmed finfish | Q&A**	**Aitana Lopez**, EFSA, Scientific coordinator of EFSA's Working Group
09:35-09:55	**Finfish Welfare in European Aquaculture | Q&A**	**Federation of European Aquaculture Producers**
09:55-10:15	**Finfish Welfare in European Aquaculture: priorities and opportunities | Q&A**	**Eurogroup for animals** (tbc)
10:15-10:35	**Understanding Fish Welfare Through Behavioural Science | Q&A**	**FishEthoGroup**
10:35-11:00	**Coffee/Tea break**	
11:00-11:20	**Finfish Welfare in European Aquaculture: a veterinary perspective | Q&A**	**Federation of Veterinarians of Europe** (tbc)
11:20-11:40	**Finfish Welfare in Practice: experiences from offshore aquaculture production | Q&A**	**Javier Villa**, AVRAMAR
11:40-12:50	**Interactive group discussion:** **Challenges and opportunities regarding welfare of farmed fish**	All Moderation: **Yves Van der Stede,** EFSA
12:50-13:00	**Concluding remarks**	**Yves Van der Stede**, EFSA
13:00-14:00	**Networking lunch**	

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