

Parma, 1 March 2012

ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

Web minutes of the 4th AHAW Network meeting on the request for technical assistance on Schmallenbergvirus

1 March 2012 (11:00-12:00 h) - teleconference

EFSA / AHAW

Participants

External experts: Estelle Meroc, Yves Van der Stede, Philippe Houdart, Claude Saegerman, Anette Bøtner, Rene Bødker, Edith Authié, Pascal Hendriks, Catherine Collignon, Robert Kocsis, Paolo Calistri, Federica Monaco, Wim Ooms, Armin Elbers, Marcel Spierenburg, Luis Romero Gonzalez, Ulla Carlson, Helen Roberts, Trevor Drew

EFSA: Ana Afonso (Chair), Jane Richardson, Katriina Willgert, Jose Cortina Abrahantes

1. Welcome

2. Adoption of agenda

An update from ECDC was added as an additional discussion point to the agenda. The agenda was adopted without any further changes.

3. Discussions

Adoption of previous meeting minutes (9/2/2012)

Update of EFSA activities

EFSA is finalizing the data collection system to address Terms of Reference (TOR) 2 of the request for urgent scientific and technical assistance from the European Commission (EC) on "Schmallenberg" virus (SBV). Data collection is expected to be launched on 5 March 2012. Member States (MS) have been requested to nominate a reporting officer for SBV data submission. Up to now, EFSA has received 17 nominations.

Based on the data that will be submitted, maps of spatial distribution, temporal indicator and a preliminary assessment of the impact of SBV in terms of cases will be prepared for the first report to be produced by 31 March 2012. The ongoing work on SBV in EFSA is managed internally, but support will be requested from external experts.

Update from ECDC

The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) is following the SBV situation closely but no supranational program has been established. ECDC has not updated their initial assessment of negligible risk for public health. ECDC and EFSA will maintain contact through teleconferences every second week for updates.

Update of activities in Member States

MS reported national SBV situations and ongoing activities. As of the 1st of March 2012, SBV had been confirmed in 7 countries. Some countries reported an increasing number of cases in cattle reported per week while the number of cases observed in sheep is decreasing.

In addition, *Culicoides* captures collected for BTV surveillance from last year are being analysed in several MS. Interest was shown for a surveillance network for vectors of veterinary importance similar to the ECDC European network for vector surveillance for public health (VBORNET).

4. Pending actions

5. Next meeting date

April 2nd, 2012 (conference call)