

Scientific Panel on Animal Health and Welfare

Minutes of the 107th Plenary meeting

Held on 12-13-14 September 2017, Parma, (Italy)

(Agreed on 21 September 2017)

Participants Plenary 13-14 September

■ Panel Members

Dominique Bicot, Paolo Calistri, Klaus Depner, Sandra Edwards, Margaret Good, Christian Gortazar Schmidt, Hans Hermann Thulke, Virginie Michel, Miguel Angel Miranda, Simon More, Mohan Raj, Søren Saxmose Nielsen, Liisa Sihvonen, Hans Spoolder, Jan Arend Stegeman, Antonio Velarde Calvo, Preben Willeberg and Christoph Winckler (13/09 only)

■ EFSA

ALPHA UNIT: Alessandro Broglia, Denise Candiani, Sofie Dhollander, Chiara Fabris, Andrey Gogin, Lisa Kohnle, Nikolaus Kriz, Joana Morgado, Frank Verdonck, Gabriele Zancanaro (ALPHA),

DTS UNIT: Nicola Maj

■ EUROPEAN COMMISSION (via teleconference)

DG SANTE: Francesco Berlingieri, Pierangelo Bernorio, Barbara Logar, Laszlo Kuster, Laura Perez-Alvarez, Maria Pittman, Stanislav Ralchev

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The chair welcomed the meeting participants. Apologies were received from and Anette Bøtner, Andy Butterworth and Bruno Garin-Bastuji.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted with inclusion of the Bsal AHL opinion for discussion.

3. Declarations of Interest of Scientific Panel Members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Declarations of Interests (DoI), EFSA screened the Annual (ADoI) and Specific Declaration of Interest (SDoI) provided by the Panel Members for the present meeting. The Panel members were asked to confirm that no further interests had to be declared in the context of the agenda of the meeting. No conflict of interest has been identified.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 106th Plenary meeting held on 28-30 June 2017, Parma (Italy)

The minutes of the previous plenary meeting have been adopted by written procedure.

5. New Mandates

Not applicable

6. Scientific outputs submitted for possible adoption

- **Scientific opinion on the listing and categorisation of animal diseases in the framework of the Animal Health Law on infestation with *Varroa* spp. (Varroosis) ([EFSA-Q-2017-00151](#)), contagious caprine pleuropneumonia ([EFSA-Q-2017-00150](#)), contagious bovine pleuropneumonia ([EFSA-Q-2017-00149](#)), ovine epididymitis (*Brucella ovis*) ([EFSA-Q-2017-00148](#)), border disease ([EFSA-Q-2017-00147](#)), trichomonosis ([EFSA-Q-2017-00146](#)), bovine genital campylobacteriosis ([EFSA-Q-2017-00038](#))**

The following scientific opinions on the listing and categorisation of animal diseases in the framework of the Animal Health Law were discussed and adopted:

1. Bovine genital campylobacteriosis
 2. Trichomonosis
 3. Border disease
 4. Ovine epididymitis (*Brucella ovis*)
 5. Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia
 6. Contagious caprine pleuropneumonia
 7. Infestation with *Varroa* spp. (Varroosis)
- **Art. 29: Scientific opinion on avian influenza (M-2015-0079) ([EFSA-Q-2015-00214](#) and [EFSA-Q-2016-00348](#))**

The comments received from the Panel and EC were discussed and the text was edited where required. The conclusions and recommendations were reviewed in detail and agreed. Finally, the opinion was adopted.

7. Scientific outputs submitted for discussion

- **Scientific opinion concerning the use of low atmosphere pressure system (LAPS) for stunning poultry ([EFSA-Q-2016-00327](#))**

Following the inclusion of the results of the extensive literature search and of the judgemental hazard-ranking based on expert opinion, the LAPS draft opinion was submitted for discussion to the Panel. The Panel asked for some clarifications and provided some suggestions to improve the quality of the text. Particular attention was dedicated to the conclusions and the recommendations. Overall, the document was considered to properly address all terms of reference as provided by the EC. The document will now be finalised and then be submitted for adoption at the upcoming AHAW plenary meeting in October.

- **Scientific and technical assistance on African swine fever (2017) ([EFSA-Q-2017-00154](#))**

The draft report on the epidemiological analysis on African swine fever in eastern EU has been presented and discussed with the Panel. The Panel discussed the preliminary outcomes of the simulation model to evaluate the efficacy of the wild boar management measures in relation to the control of ASF, as well as the outcomes of the descriptive epidemiology and the risk factor analysis. Suggestions for improvement were provided by the Panel, including the need for clearer interpretations and conclusions of the epidemiological analysis.

- **Scientific and technical assistance on Avian influenza ([EFSA-Q-2017-00229](#))**

The draft scientific report has been presented to the Panel. The structure of the report was explained and illustrated; all comments received by the peer-reviewers were discussed and the related changes proposed by the WG to address those comments were presented; conclusions and recommendations were evaluated by the Panel. The epi data collection carried out by EFSA was discussed in detail and the very good collaboration with the MSs, which provided data and information on AI outbreaks and applied prevention and control measures, was emphasised. The weaknesses of the data collection were thoroughly discussed and proposals for making it more fit for risk factor analysis were identified and discussed. The Panel was informed that the document will be approved by the end of September as a joint report between EFSA, ECDC and EURL, and that it is the first report in a series: an update has to be provided every quarter.

- **Scientific opinion on the listing and categorisation of animal diseases in the framework of the Animal Health Law on *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans* (Bsal) ([EFSA-Q-2017-00205](#))**

The scientific opinion on Bsal was discussed and the comments provided by the WG and EC presented and endorsed. The opinion adoption is foreseen in October.

8. Feedback from the Scientific Committee/Scientific Panels, EFSA, the European Commission

- **Discussion on possible self-task from the Panel about the revision/update of the guidance for evaluating stunning effectiveness**

The Panel discussed and agreed to propose a self-tasking mandate to EFSA in order to update the 'guidance on assessing stunning methods'. Such need follows up from the work carried out in the context of the assessment of the studies submitted for the LAPS. The next step of the procedure foresees that the Chair of the Panel, on its behalf, sends the request to EFSA through a formal letter to the EFSA Executive Director. This letter will be prepared and circulated amongst the Panel members.

- **EFSA including its Working Groups /Task Forces**

8.1.1 Scientific Network on Risk Assessment in Animal Health and Welfare

The Animal Health Network will meet on 12-13 October 2017 in Parma. The main topic in agenda is "Data collections on animal disease outbreaks (e.g. Avian

Influenza, African Swine Fever, Lumpy Skin Disease): lessons learnt and looking forward”.

EFSA aims to further develop its data collections on animal diseases by improving the technical aspects of data submission, making the collected data available to MSs and providing automatically generated tables and maps after data submission. A discussion on these topics will take place during the meeting to get input from the MSs on their needs and to identify the level of detail required/feasible to submit and report data.

It will also be the start of a process of dialogue between EFSA and MSs to harmonise the interpretation of the terminology used and where needed to develop better definitions.

8.1.2 Scientific Network on National Contact Points from Reg. 1099/2009

EFSA has a role in organising the scientific support through the network of NCPs set up by Regulation 1099/2009 on the protection of animals at the time of killing. The 2nd meeting of the NCP network will be held on 18 October 2017 in Parma. The Main topic of the meeting will be to create and organise an online space for sharing of i) scientific and technical expertise relating to the approval of slaughterhouses, ii) scientific opinions on the instructions provided by manufacturers on the use and maintenance of restraining and stunning equipment, iii) scientific opinions on guides to good practice and iv) recommendations in relation to inspections and audits.

8.1.3 Discussion of potential emerging risks to AHAW

No topic identified that required discussion.

8.1.4 Scientific Committee and Scientific Committee Working Groups

No topic identified that required discussion.

9. Any other business

- It was agreed that agreed that the upcoming Panel meeting in October will be the last in 2017.
- Information on webinars on ‘Rapid risk assessment tools’

A webinar on rapid risk assessment methodologies developed by MSs will be held on 29 Nov 2017 around 11.00 CET. The webinar will be advertised online and via email and the interested audience can register to a link. Three rapid risk assessment tools will be presented:

- Tool for probability of introduction and exposure of Swedish livestock to exotic disease (Cecilia Hulten)
- “Risikoeinschätzung” (ad hoc risk estimate) with up-to-date information on the epidemiological situation (with maps, tables etc.) and recommendations for measures to be taken by risk managers – tool also published on the FLI internet site (Franz Conraths)
- Defra rapid risk assessment tool and process (Helen Roberts)

Extra Panel session on AHL opinions

12 September 2017, Parma

Participants:

Panel members:

Dominique BICOUT, Paolo CALISTRI, Klaus DEPNER, Margaret GOOD, Christian GORTAZAR SCHMIDT, Virginie MICHEL, Miguel Angel MIRANDA, Søren Saxmose NIELSEN, Liisa SIHVONEN, Simon MORE, Jan Arend STEGEMAN, Antonio VELARDE CALVO, Hans-Hermann THULKE, Preben WILLEBERG and Christoph WINCKLER.

EFSA:

Alessandro BROGLIA, Lisa KOHNLE, Francesca BALDINELLI (ALPHA);

The comments provided beforehand by the AHAW Panel and by the EC on the opinions on

1. Bovine genital campylobacteriosis,
2. Trichomonosis,
3. Border disease,
4. Ovine epididymitis (*Brucella ovis*),
5. Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia,
6. Contagious caprine pleuropneumonia
7. Infestation with *Varroa* spp. (Varroosis)
8. Bsal

were discussed among the Panel members and endorsed in the text, and in relation to that, where needed, the judgement was revised and/or additional information added in the body text of the opinion.