



European Food Safety Authority AHAW Panel

MINUTES OF THE XIIITH PLENARY MEETING OF THE PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

(14-15TH JUNE 2005)

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PARTICIPANTS

Donald M. Broom, Michael Gunn, Joerg Hartung, David B. Morton, James Michael Sharp, Ronald J. Roberts, Georgios Theodoropoulos, Philippe Vannier, Martin Wierup, Marion Wooldridge, Stefano Cinotti, Per Have, Dirk U. Pfeiffer.

EFSA: M. Pittman and J. Serratos (Scientific co-ordination AHAW panel) and S. Mateljan (EFSA Administrative support).

European Commission: P. Bernorio, A. Fuessel 14th afternoon (DG SANCO E2), I. Minguez 15th afternoon (DG RTD).

1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chairman welcomed the participants and no member declared a conflict of interest in any of the items on the agenda of this meeting.

Apologies were announced for Bo Algers, Harry Blokhuis, Xavier Manteca, Alejandro Schudel, Marina Verga, Michel Pépin, José M. Sánchez-Vizcaino, S. Osaer (DG SANCO), also Don Broom (14th afternoon), and I. Capua and M. Gunn (15th afternoon).

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE XII PLENARY MEETING

The minutes of the 12th Plenary Meeting held in Brussels on 25-26th May, were unanimously adopted by written procedure on 8th June 2005 and published on Internet (<http://www.efsa.eu.int>).

4. NEW MANDATES

No new mandates have been received by EFSA.

5. OPINIONS SUBMITTED FOR POSSIBLE ADOPTION

5.1. PRRS

The chairman of the working group, replied to all pending questions requested by the members of the Panel concerning the scientific opinion. Amendments and some editorial changes were introduced. The document was adopted unanimously.

5.2. Rift Valley Fever

The chairman of the working group explained the scientific opinion for possible adoption. The document was discussed and after a few changes and amendments the document was unanimously adopted.

5.3. Space allowances and floor types for weaners and rearing pigs.

The chairman of the working group presented and discussed extensively all contributions to the scientific opinion sent by the panel members. The discussion was not finished and was postponed the next plenary.

6. STATE OF PLAY OF THE SCIENTIFIC OPINIONS AND REPORTS

6.1. Avian Influenza.

The chairman of the working group explained the situation of the scientific report, risk assessment and the scientific opinion. It was agreed that the members of the panel will send comments, on the circulated draft of the AI scientific report to the EFSA secretariat on the 27 June the latest. All comments and amendments will be collated by EFSA and the AI chairman and sent back to the Panel members on the 1 July.

If the risk assessment is finalised together with the conclusions and recommendations they will be submitted for possible adoption at the next plenary in July.

6.2. Welfare of farmed domestic Rabbits

The chairman of the working group, described the situation of the scientific report and opinion. A final meeting of the WG has been scheduled for 21st and 22nd June in order to finalise the Report and the Scientific Opinion. The Scientific Report to be submitted at this meeting was distributed to the panel members stating that comments were welcome from the Panel members by the 20 June, in order to take them into consideration at the next WG meeting. If the Report and Scientific Opinion are finalised by the 1st July, the document will be submitted for possible adoption at the July's plenary.

6.3. Laboratory animals

According to the established work plan the first draft for the scientific report should be available for discussion in July. In the meantime Panel members agreed to send their comments to EFSA. The final Report and Opinion will be discussed at the plenary in September.

6.4. Other opinions

The following ongoing opinions were not reported because the short time frame and will be reported at next plenary: Foot and Mouth Disease, Dairy By-products, Stunning, IBR, Welfare of calves, Trichinella, Salmonella in Pigs, Brucellosis and Captive birds

7. MISCELLANEOUS

7.1. Plenary meetings

Next plenary meeting will hold in Parma on the 11-12 July. The Panel members accepted to start the XIV plenary meeting on the 11th July from 9.00 am to 18.00 pm– and on 12th July from 9.00 am to 14.00 pm.