



Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW) Panel Activities

**EFSA Management Board
Parma, 23 January 2008**

**Philippe Vannier
Chairman of AHAW Panel**

AHAW Panel mandate

AHAW Panel deals with questions on all aspects of **animal health and animal welfare**, primarily relating to **food producing animals** including fish.

Composition of the Panel

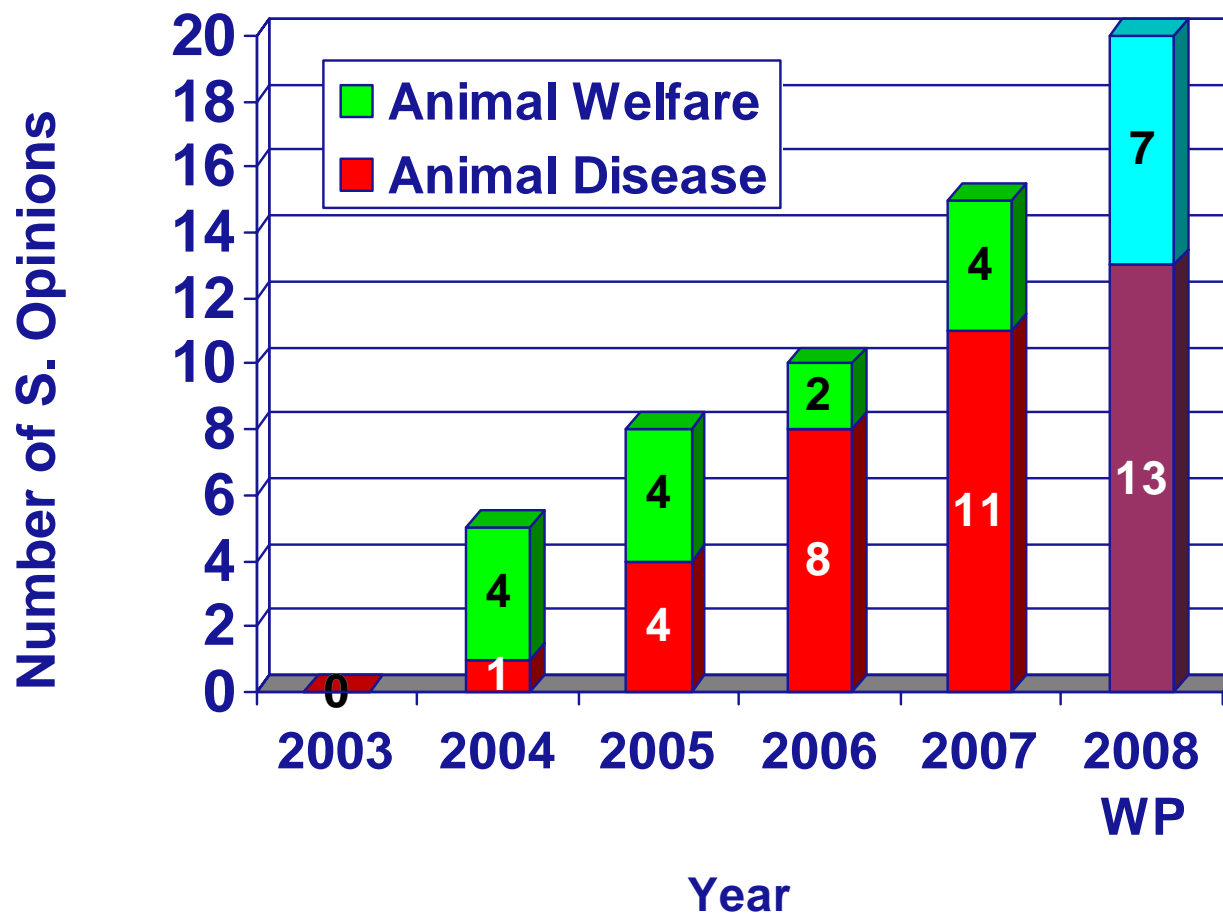


1/25/2008

Management Board January 2008

Scientific Opinions adopted 2003-2007 and 2008 WP:

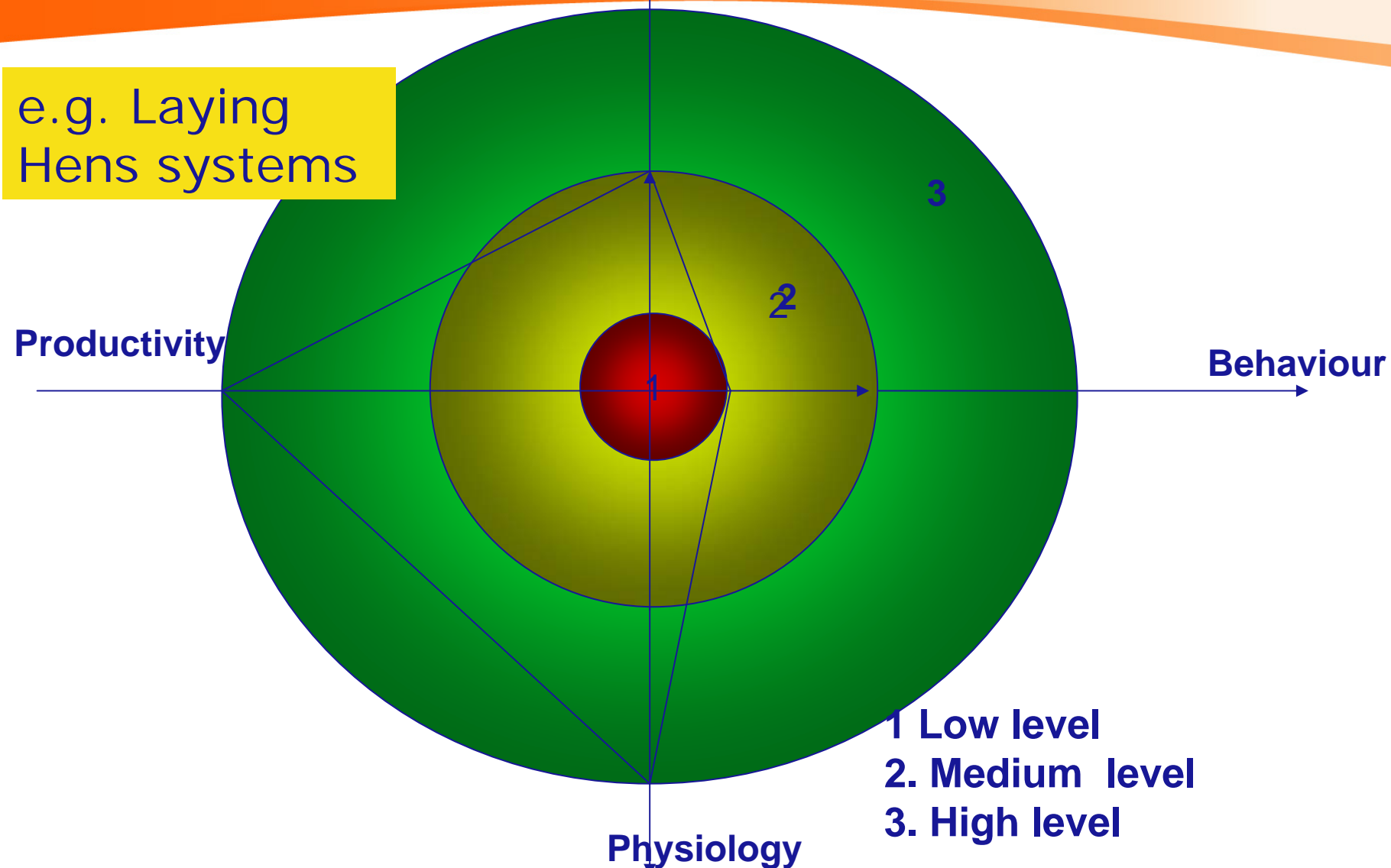
Animal disease & Animal Welfare



Scientific opinions (2003-07)-(2008-09)

| | 2003-07 Adopted | 2008-09 On going | WP 08 SANCO | TOTAL |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| A.diseases incl. zoonosis | 20 | 4 | (9) | 24 + (9) |
| Food producing animals | 14 | 2 | (6) | 16 + (6) |
| Companion animals | 3 | - | (1) | 3 + (1) |
| Wild animals | 3 | 2 | (2) | 5 + (2) |
| Animal Welfare | 15 | 6 | (3) | 21+ (3) |
| Food producing animals | 12 | 6 | (3) | 18 + (3) |
| Laboratory animals & pets | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| Wild animals | 2 | - | - | 2 |
| Self-mandates/guidelines | 3 | 1 | / | 4 |
| Total | 38 | 11 | (12) | 49+(12) |

Breadth of the Mandates and related tasks



Approach on Animal Disease mandates

| Opinions | Hazard Ident. | Risk Pathways | Qual RA | Semi Qua RA | Quant RA | Stakeholder |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------|-------------|----------|-------------|
| MAP/ticks/RVF/FMD/AI | X | X | X | | | |
| PRRS/IBR | X | X | X | X | | |
| AI Migrat/zoo | X | X | X | | | (X) |
| Dairy prod. | X | X | X | (X) | (X) | |
| Brucel.Diagnost. | X | X | X | | SCA | (X) |
| Vac AI/ND/BT | X | X | X | | | (X) |
| Tubercul. Deer | X | X | X | | SCA | |
| BT Vect/V. | X | X | X | X | SCA | (X) |

Approach on Animal Welfare mandates

| Opinions | Hazard Ident. | Risk Pathways | Qual RA | Semi/ Quant RA | Food Safety BIOHAZ /CONTAM | Stake- holders |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Transport/ Stunning 1 | X | | (x) | | | ---- |
| Microclimate | X | | | | | ---- |
| Piglet castration | X | | (x) | | (X) | ---- |
| Lay hens/Pig W | X | (X) | (x) | | (X) | ---- |
| Rabbit W. | X | X | (X) | | | ---- |
| Lab animals | X | | (x) | | | X |
| Stunning 2 | X | x | x | | (X) | ---- |
| Calves Welfare | X | x | x | | (X) | (X) |

Approach on Animal Welfare mandates

| Opinions | Hazard Ident. | Risk Pathways | Qual RA | Semi Q/ RA | Food Safety | Stakeholders |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| Pig Welfare (3) | X | X | X | (x) | (X) | ---- |
| Fish Welfare (5) | X | X | X | (x) | (X) | X |
| Dairy cows | X | X | X | (x) | (X) | X |
| Seals | X | X | X | (x) | | X |

Rules of procedure:

Set of measures to improve efficiency

Risk question

Risk pathway

Data

Risk assessment

(Risk assessment)

Conclusions / Recommendations

/ Recommendations for Future research

Scientific Report
(Ad hoc WG)



Transversal WG

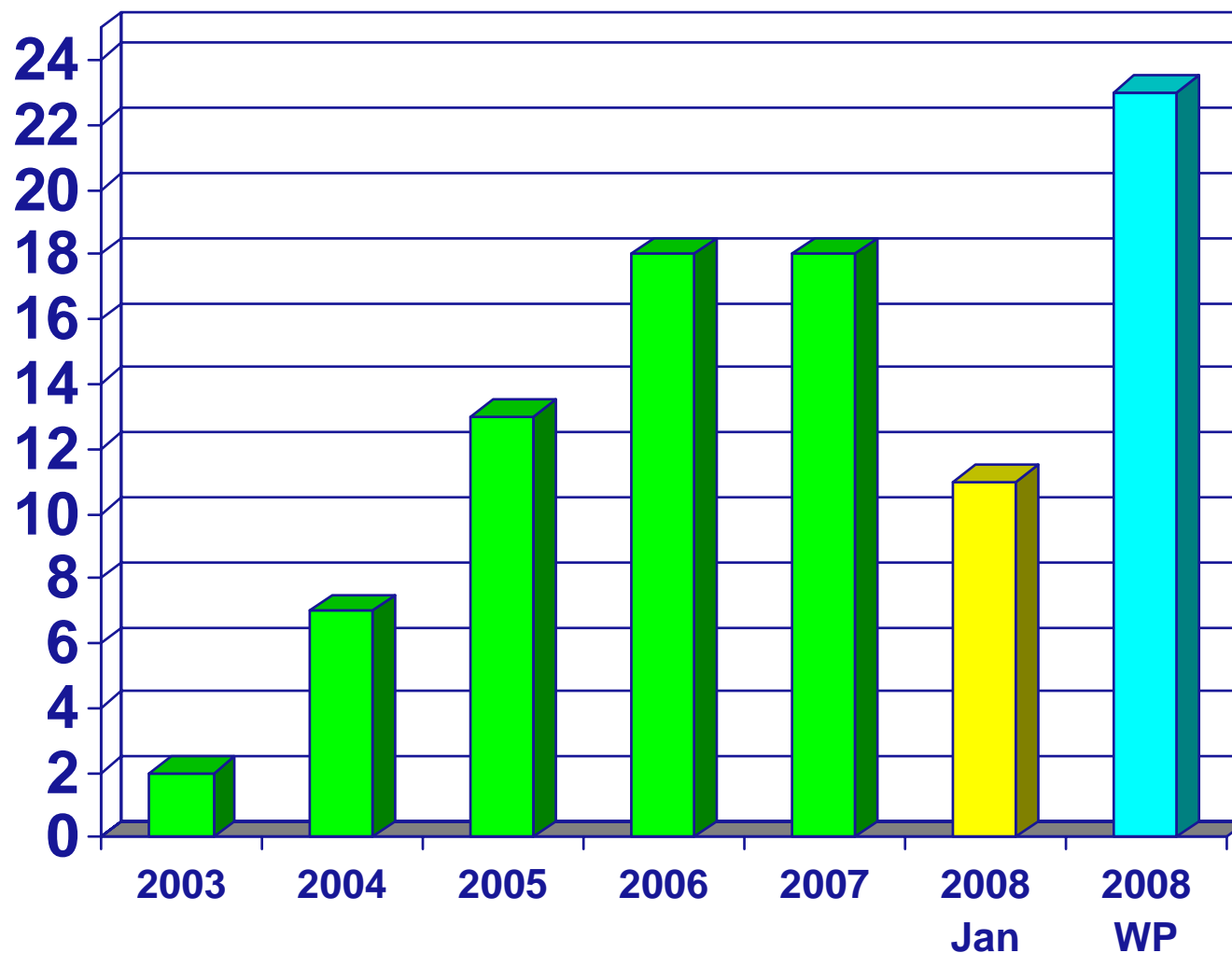


Scientific Opinion
AHAW Panel

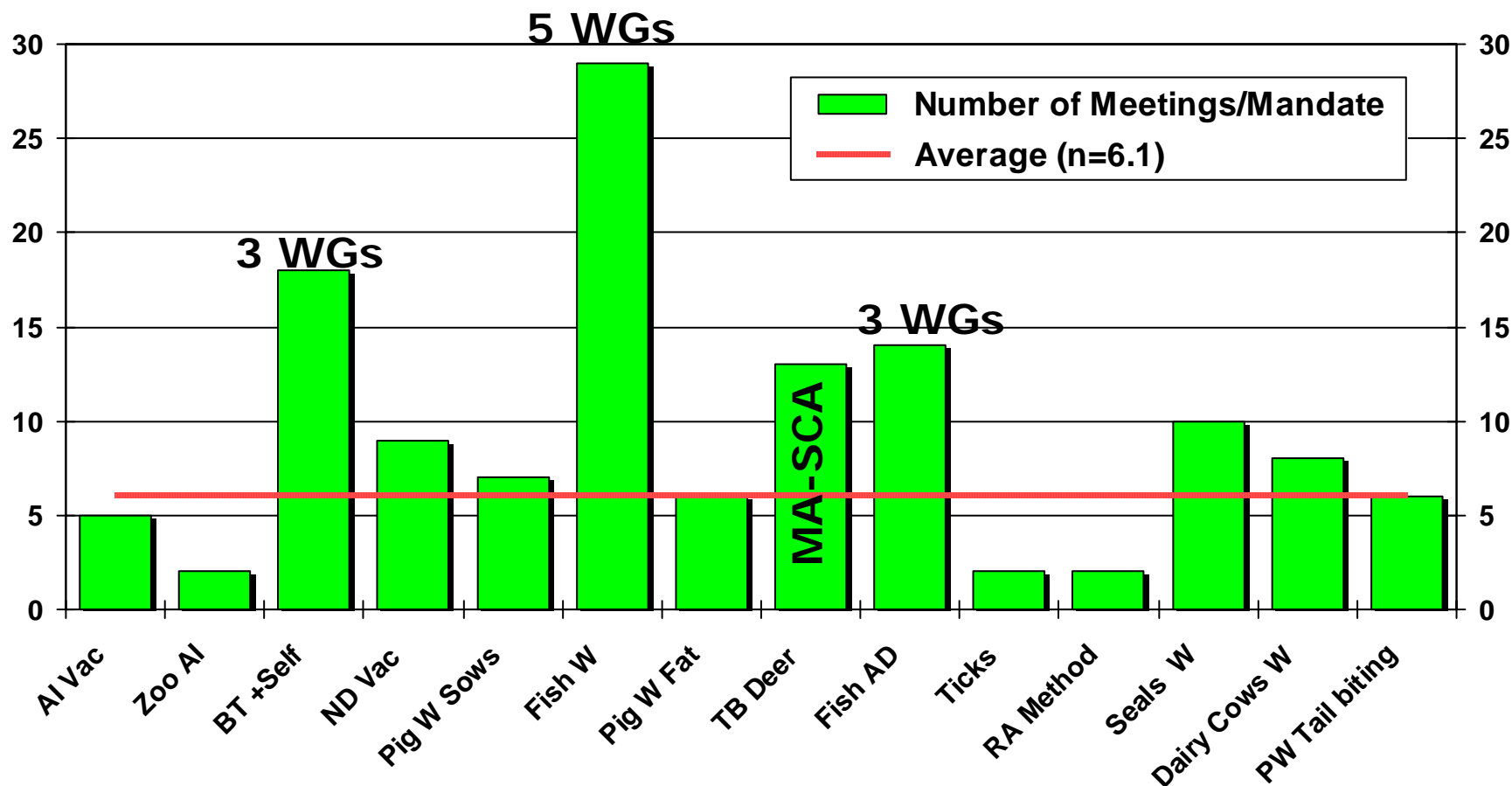
Set of measures to improve efficiency

1. Chairmanship of WG decided by the Panel
2. Examination of question Kick of meeting with RM
3. Selection of ad hoc candidates (DG RTD, Projects, scientific papers) according the specific area of knowledge as set up in the initial table of contents for the SO.
4. < 40 % panel members in the ad hoc WG
5. Review of the final draft opinion
 - by at least 2 members of the Panel not involved in the WG
 - Critical comments from all Panel Members to the plenary meeting

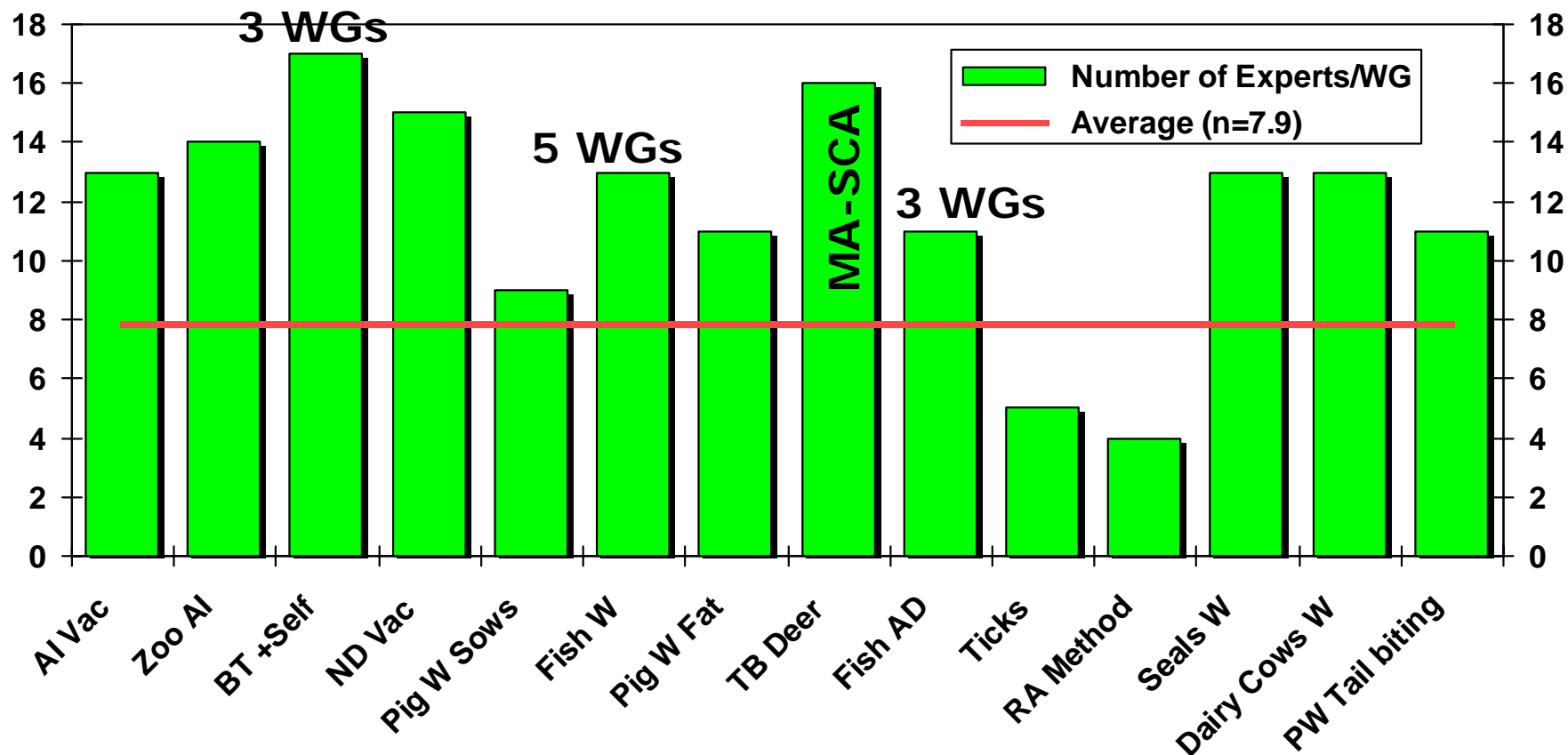
Number of « Ad hoc » Working Groups/Year (2003-08)



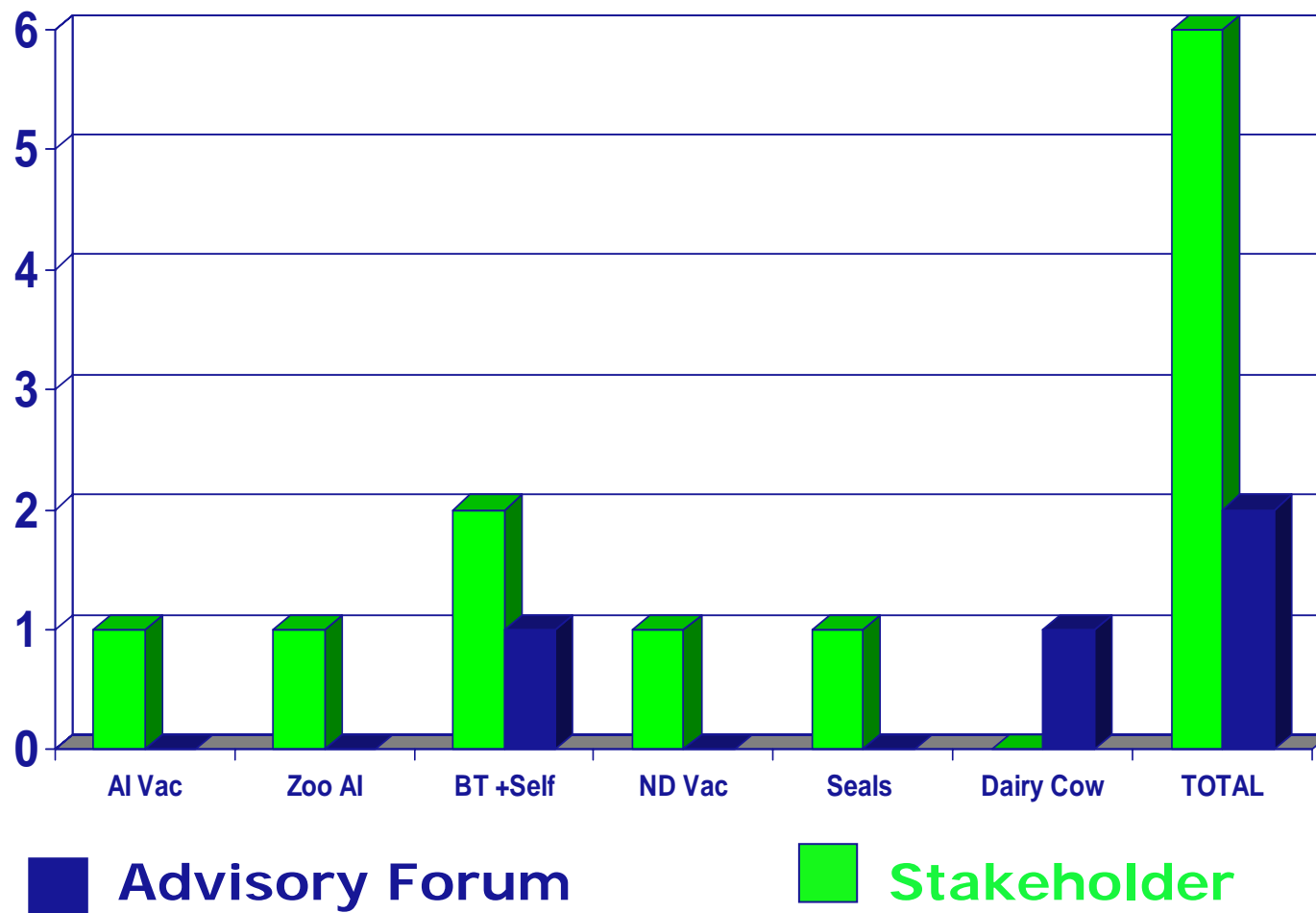
Number of WG meeting/mandate in 2007*



Number of experts /WG in 2007

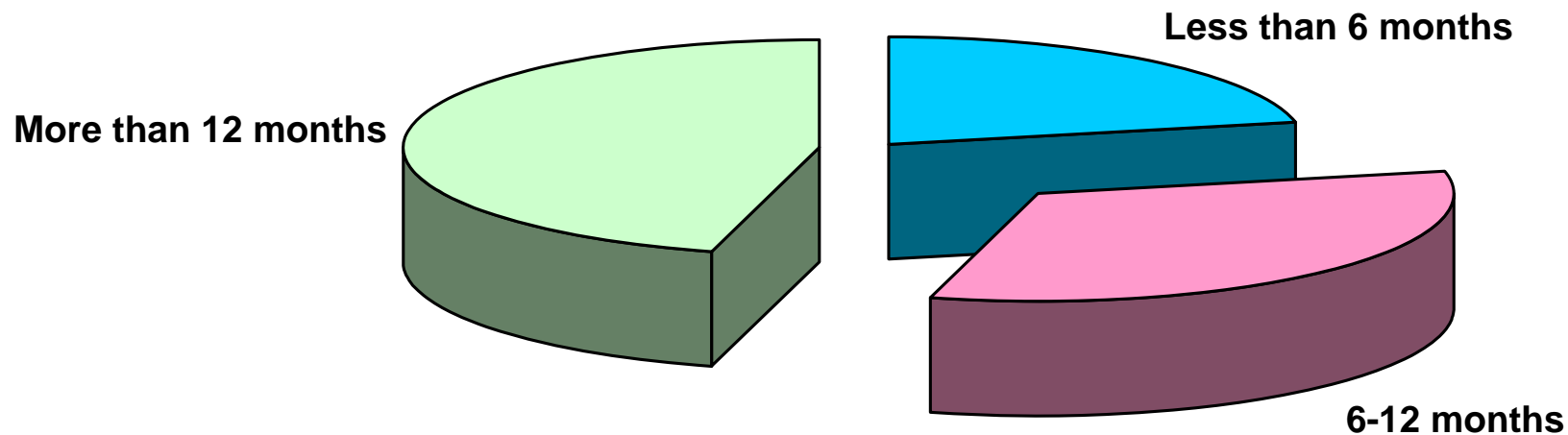


Stakeholder and Advisory Forum meetings/ mandate in 2007

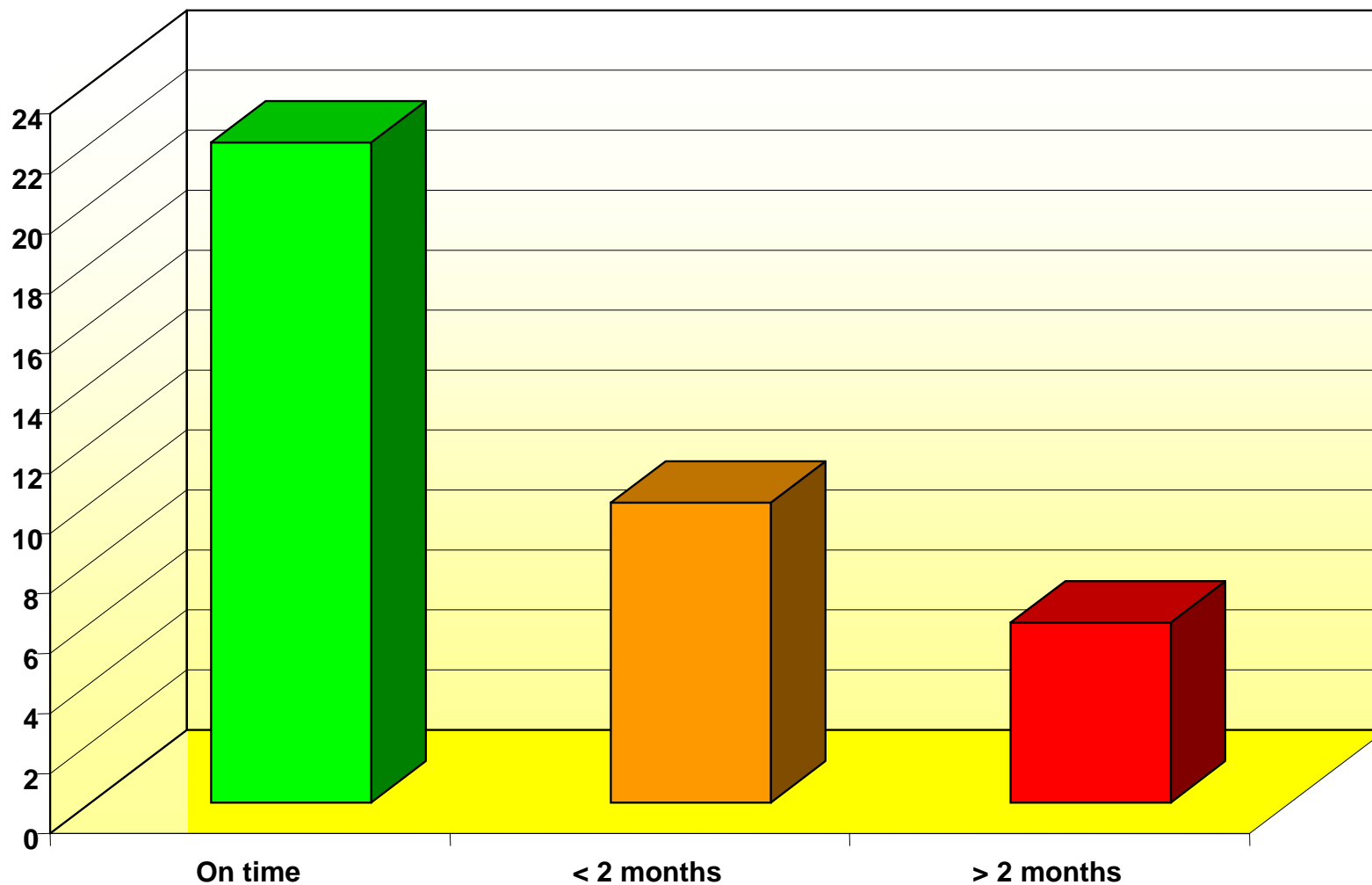


Time to deliver opinions (month)

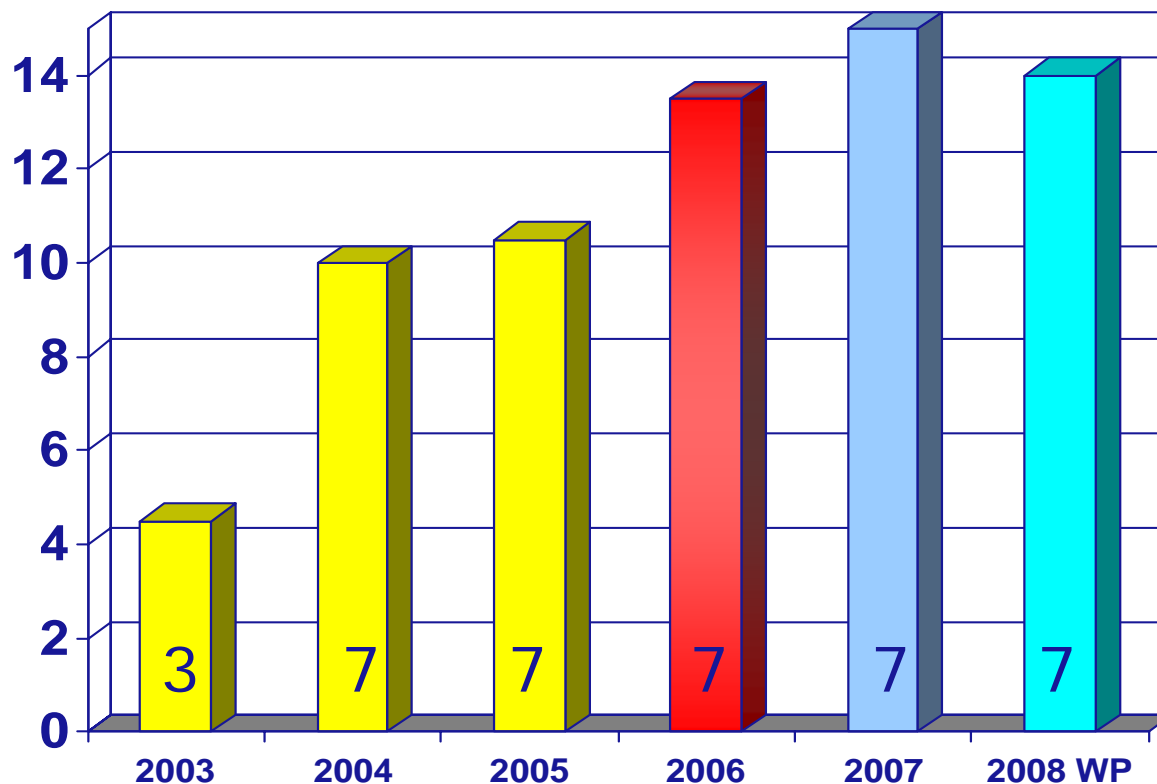
Mandate 2003-2007



Compliance with deadlines



Plenary meeting days 2003-2008



Plenary Meetings of 1/1,5/ 2 days

AHAW Interaction with other EU and International Institutions

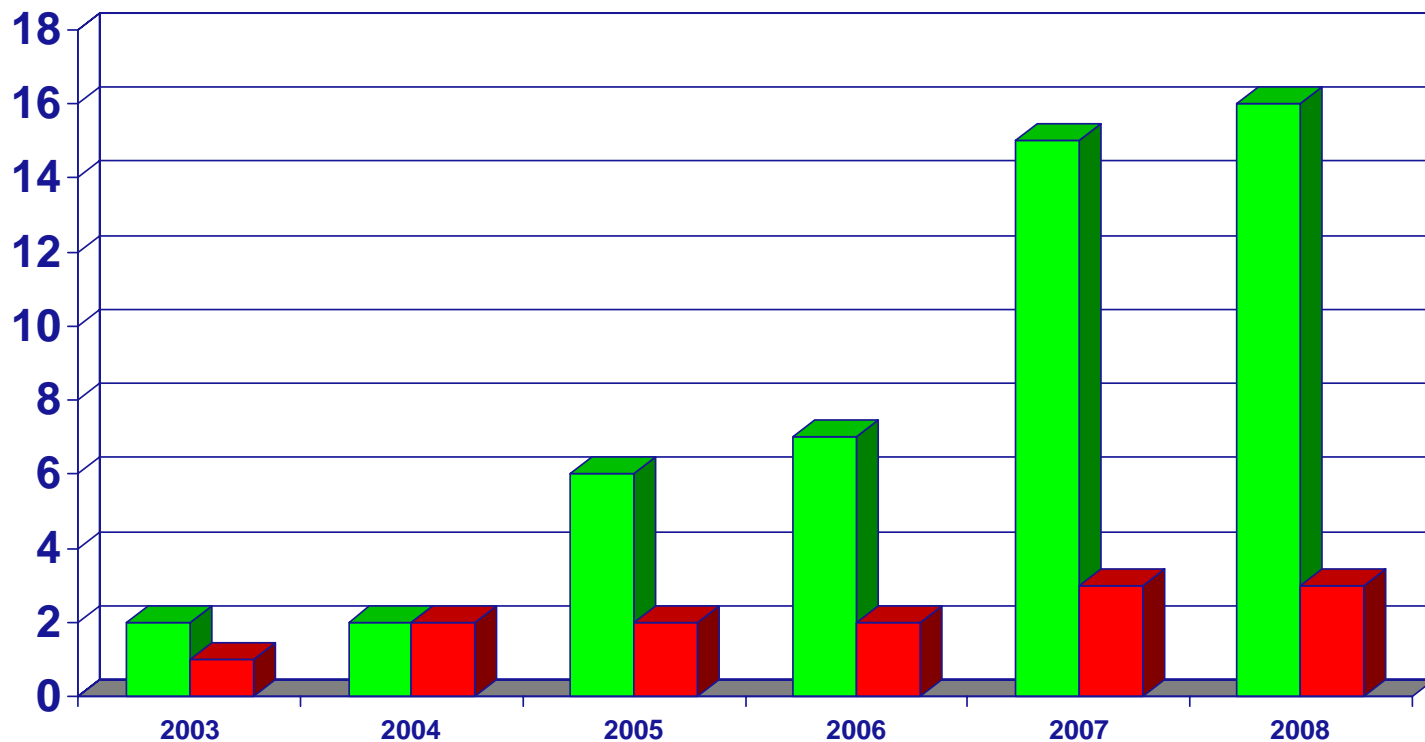
| | OIE | FAO | EMEA | ECDC |
|------|----------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|------|
| 2003 | 1 Panel member | / | / | / |
| 2004 | 1 Panel member | Experts on FMD/RVF/AI | / | / |
| 2005 | 1 Panel member | AI | Rabies | AI |
| 2006 | 1 P. Observer* | 1 Observer* Experts on AI/BT | AI/Rabies/ Echinoc | AI |
| 2007 | 1 P. Observer | 1 P. Observer BT/AI | BT/AI/ND/ Tick | AI |
| 2008 | 1 P. Observer | 1 P. Observer | CSF/AI/BT | AI |

* EFSA Agreement with OIE and FAO to accept one expert as observer to

AHAW Staff Jan 2008

after Christmas holidays





 **END/Interim/Aux/Trainees**  **Temporary Agents/CA**

- Organisation of the meetings –administrative
- Scientific preparation of the documents
 - Search of literature
 - Search of experts
 - Coordination of all scientific contributions
 - Drafting some scientific contributions
 - Link with Risk managers on the mandates (follow up)
 - Formatting of the opinion
 - Handling scientifically the possible discrepancies and preparing objective documents for the discussion
 - Minutes of ALL meetings
 - Publication in the web after review of the content and format
 - Communication to scientific fora of their EFSA work (papers)
 - Leadership in methodology (rules of procedures)

| | Scientific papers | Scientific posters | International Scientific events | |
|------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|------------|
| | | | Presentations | Attendance |
| 2004 | 2 | - | 12 | - |
| 2005 | 2 | - | 8 | 3 |
| 2006 | 2 | 1 | 16 | 14 |
| 2007 | 6 | 4 | 19 | 10 |
| 2008 | 1 (in press) | - | 2 | - |

Calls Art 36 AHAW Panel 2006-08

| | AD | AW |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| 2006 (Procurement) | | 1 (AW RA Guidelines developpment: basic info on expertise and Cent. of excellence) |
| 2007 Art 36 | 1 (Scientific review on AHS, CSF, ASF and Arthropods/vectors) | 1 (AW RA Guidelines on Stunning and Killing of food producing animals) |
| 2008 Art 36 | 2 -Tech Platform/Vac/Diag -Scientific update of AD including aquatic dis. | 1 (AW RA Guidelines on Transport of food producing animals) |

- ◆ **Workload** of the Panel is very HIGH
- ◆ **Consequences** : at mid term, high risk not to maintain motivation of the experts of the panel ⇒ exhausted
- ◆ Increase of work ⇒ Need to increase the accuracy of opinions ⇒ dialogue more stringent between DG SANCO and EFSA. (one out of 5-6 keys of the problem)
 - ↳ Real usefulness of the opinions, expectations of RM
 - ↳ Problem of Broadness of questions and Mandates
 - ↳ Feed back already done but can be improved

PERSONAL CONCLUSION: progress on last years

- Real **improvement** during the last year with the increase of the staff from the AHAW unit,
- Efficient **help** for the chairs of the WG and the experts,
- Increase of the **internal expertise** with the Scientific Co-operation and assistance Directorate,
- Importance to maintain a **good balance** between internal and external Expertise and to prevent any confusion between the both Directorates and their deliverables,
- Use of **art 36** to prepare the work of Panel
- How to improve **input from national agencies** when similar work was done at national level?

- ◆ In the **Welfare** field → Real progress and excellent dialogue between RM (DG SANCO) and EFSA → Major step to request welfare indicators → precise, measurable, clear expectation from the Commission.
- ◆ In the Welfare field : sometimes, difficulties to give absolute **objective** opinions → confusion between **ethical** considerations and **scientific approach** → extreme importance of a cross-bred expertise, collective expertise. Absolute need of a **multidisciplinary** approach.
- ◆ Often : **School of thinking** which prevents **contradictory** debate. Major hazard for credibility of Panel and EFSA.

- ◆ Experience from the AHAW Panel

Food chain is a "continuum" – Regulation bodies are often separated AW#AH#FS → Absolute need for risk assessors to consider all the factors which could have an influence on food safety → Strong interaction between factors of Production (including AW-AH-Quality of products ← farming conditions).

- ◆ **When Regulation bodies** totally separated → It has an impact on the work of the Panel. Need of a good interaction for regulation bodies including food safety.
- ◆ In the **Animal Health** field, Relationships RA/RM: more complicated, More complex : real expectation from the Commission ??

Need to clarify the role of EFSA in AH and in AH Crisis in agreement with the Commission: whereas will and potential from the Panel to help the RM to anticipate, to prevent major crisis. (in compliance with CAHP in regard to prevention).

Remind!! Emerging risk and Zoonosis : Major sources are live animals !

- ◆ **Self Mandate** on Blue Tongue = origin ? Major emerging risk and epidemiological feature: Major importance to understand
⇒ to prevent another crisis (Rift Valley Fever ?) – BT is now a major AH and economical crisis in E.U.
- ◆ Major **regret**: it was impossible for the experts and for myself to understand the rationale of the opposition of the commission on the self mandate = to improve for the future the role of EFSA in AH crisis (Goal for all the experts= to help the Commission)
- ◆ Hope for the future and **major step done at the last Plenary**. Good dialogue and exchanges with the Commission (AH Unit) on new mandates on BT and Tuberculosis in deers → solution agreed easily (with new questions raised for TB)

- ◆ **DG ENV (Seals) / DEV (FMD) → Good dialogue and articulation between RM/RA. Seals : good example of interaction in a positive climate for a very sensitive opinion!**
- ◆ **DG Research : Constant presence in the Panel. Very good dialogue → Good feedback on the interest of opinions.**
- ◆ **OIE/FAO/EMEA/ECDC: important collaboration as observers and members of WG (EMEA when vaccines or common topics: FAO and RFV or AI)**

THANKS

On behalf of the Panel and Personal thanks :

- 1/ to J. SERRATOSA and staff AH / AW Unit very busy with EFSA (time conflict with my job) – Thanks to the quality of the work done, quality of relationship, trust and real support of the staff = hard work for the staff.**
- 2/ to the executive director and the Management Board for the facilities offered to the experts and the increase of fees and indemnities : it was appreciated by the members of the Panel.**

THANK YOUR FOR YOUR ATTENTION