



European Food Safety Authority

ADOPTED MINUTES OF THE VIITH PLENARY MEETING OF THE PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

(12-13/07/2004)

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PARTICIPANTS

Donald M. Broom, Stefano Cinotti, Michael Gunn, Joerg Hartung, Per Have, Xavier Manteca, David B. Morton, Michel Pépin, Dirk U. Pfeiffer, Ronald J. Roberts, James Michael Sharp, Georgios Theodoropoulos, Philippe Vannier, Marina Verga, Martin Wierup.

EFSA: Jordi Ferrés and Jordi Serratosa, (Scientific co-ordination AHAW panel). Silvie Mateljan and Cecilia Lloyd (EFSA Administrative support).

European Commission: Sabine Osaer and Rex Horgan (SANCO).

1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT 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 specific meeting.

Apologies were announced for Harry Blokhuis, Ilaria Capua, José M. Sánchez-Vizcaino, and Alejandro Schudel.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE VI PLENARY MEETING

The minutes of the 6th Plenary Meeting were unanimously adopted after some editorial changes and will be published at the following web site: <http://www.efsa.eu.int>

4. NEW MEMBERS OF THE AHAW PANEL

The Secretariat announced that after the selection process two new members have been appointed, Dr. Marion Wooldridge and Prof. Bo Algers. The new members will join next Plenary meeting in September.

5. SCIENTIFIC OPINIONS FOR POSSIBLE ADOPTION

5.1. Welfare aspects of the Castration of Piglets

The Chairman of the working group presented the scientific opinion and the scientific report. After the discussion of the documents, amendments were proposed and accepted. The AHAW Panel approved the scientific report and the scientific opinion was adopted unanimously. The report will be published on the Internet as soon as all editorial changes and appropriate format and translations of the summary of the opinion has been finalised by the EFSA secretariat.

5.2. Risk of transmission of MAP via bovine semen.

The Chairman of the working group presented the methodology and the main outcomes of the scientific report and the scientific opinion. It was decided that a new meeting should take place in August, including members of the working group and members from the Panel. Members of the Panel were requested to send their comments on the report and opinion, before the end of July to EFSA secretariat. The scientific report and scientific opinion could be presented for possible adoption at the next plenary meeting in September.

5.3. Microclimate inside Transport vehicles .

The Chairman of the Working Group presented the main outcomes of the scientific report and scientific opinion on Microclimate and Transport.

Panel members were requested to send their comments on the report and opinion to EFSA secretariat, before the 27 August. In absence of comments or amendments the document could be adopted by written procedure, otherwise they should be considered for possible adoption at the next plenary meeting.

6. PENDING TASKS

6.1. Questionnaire on the Report of the European Workshop on the interface between Risk Assessment (RA) and Risk Management (RM).

The questionnaire was discussed. Members of the Panel agreed on the main replies of the questionnaire. Some experts will send written remarks before 26th July and the final draft will be forwarded to the Scientific Committee for their consideration.

6.2. Guidelines on how to proceed for the future mandates

The document presented by the EFSA secretariat was welcomed but due to the lack of time will be discussed at the next meeting.

6.3. Meeting EFSA/DG Dev/AIDCO/DG SANCO

This item will be discussed at the next meeting because of lack of time.

7. PENDING MANDATES

7.1. Vaccines for the control of *Salmonella* in poultry

M. Pépin described the composition of the Working Group, the terms of reference and the state of play of the draft opinion.

Some members proposed amendments on aspects of animal health and welfare. Comments and amendments should be sent to EFSA secretariat and M. Pépin, before 31st July. Those proposals will be forwarded to the working group for consideration during the last meeting scheduled on 18th of August in Brussels. The final draft will be adopted by the BIOHAZ Panel.

7.2. Laying Hens.

The scientific coordinator, on behalf of the Chairman, explained the current situation of the draft scientific report done by the Working Group on Laying Hens. The next meeting is foreseen on 27th August, in Lelystad (NL), in order to draft the final scientific opinion.

In relation with this and the Salmonella mandate, the AHAW panel agreed that the chairman should send a letter addressed to the chairman of the Scientific Committee in order to state the panel position on the current working procedures on mandates which need an integrated multidisciplinary approach.

7.3. Avian Influenza

Prof. D. Broom explained the state of play of this opinion. A subgroup will meet on 23rd August and the whole working group on Avian Influenza will meet on the 24th August in Brussels.

7.4. Welfare of Rabbits

The Chairman of the working group explained that the working group will meet for the first time on 14th July in Parma.

7.5. Rift Valley fever

The chairman of the working group informed that the first meeting will take place on the 16th August.

7.6. Animal welfare and health aspects of different space allowances and floor types for weaners and rearing pigs

The chairman explained that the selection of working group members is not yet finalised and the first meeting will take place probably at the last week of September.

8. MISCELLANEOUS

8.1. Management board statement on Animal welfare

The Panel members welcomed the statement adopted by the management board as published on the Internet. (http://www.efsa.eu.int/mboard/mb_meetings/479_en.html).

8.2. Self-mandates .

EFSA secretariat will forward to all members a draft document containing all the background for the currently proposed self-mandates. The panel members were requested to draft the precise terms of reference. The final document will be discussed at the next plenary and the priorities should be confirmed.

8.3. Report and opinion on Stunning and killing methods

EFSA secretariat informed that the Stunning report and opinion have been published on Internet. (http://www.efsa.eu.int/science/ahaw/ahaw_opinions/495_en.html)

8.4. Next plenary meeting 14th and 15th September

The Panel members accepted to start next meeting in Brussels on 14 September at 9.00 am and ending the 15 September on 15.00 pm.

Parma, 13th July 2004