



**MINUTES OF THE XVITH PLENARY MEETING OF THE PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH
AND WELFARE**
(12-13TH OCTOBER 2005)

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PARTICIPANTS

Donald M. Broom, Michael Gunn, Joerg Hartung, David B. Morton, James Michael Sharp, Georgios Theodoropoulos, Philippe Vannier, Martin Wierup, Per Have, Bo Algers, Marina Verga, Dirk U. Pfeiffer, Xavier Manteca,

EFSA: H. Deluyker and Pia Makela (Scientific Expert Services) N. Sanchez (Administrative support) and S. Correia, M. Pittman and J. Serratosa (Scientific co-ordination AHAW panel).

European Commission: S. Osaer, (DG SANCO)

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, Alejandro Schudel, Sanchez Vizcaino, I. Capua, Michel Pépin, Ronald J. Roberts, Marion Wooldridge, Stefano Cinotti and Harry Blokhuis.

The chairman of the AHAW Panel noted that 2/3 quorum required by article 10 of the rules of procedures of the scientific Panels was not met. However since it was not possible to reach a final adoption in this meeting, it was agreed to maintain the discussion and that any formal decision would be submitted to the Panel by written procedure. EFSA secretariat recorded the position of the Panel members on each point of the discussion, which will be sent for possible agreement of the absent Panel members.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE XIV PLENARY MEETING

The minutes of the 15th Plenary Meeting held in Parma on 13-14th September, were unanimously adopted by written procedure on 5th October 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. Laboratory animals

As previously agreed at the last Plenary, Panel members sent comments to EFSA which have been taken into account by the Chairman and the Working group members in the revision of the Scientific Report and Opinion. The comments received by the Stakeholders also have been taken into consideration. The chairman of the working group presented the Report and the Opinion, and the proposed Conclusions and Recommendations were thoroughly discussed.

5.2. IBR:

The chairman presented, in a very detailed way, the main structure of the scientific report and risk assessment followed. After a fruitful discussion, some comments and unsolved questions led to the need for a further meeting (16th November) with the working group members and some panel members in order to try to sort out all the pending tasks. The Opinion will possibly be ready to be presented in the next plenary meeting in December for possible adoption.

6. STATE OF PLAY OF THE SCIENTIFIC OPINIONS AND REPORTS

6.1. Other opinions

6.1.1. Foot and Mouth Disease:

Hubert Deluyker presented the state of play of FMD scientific report on behalf of the chairperson of the WG. A preparatory meeting with members of the Panel and WG should be held in November. It was explained that according to the current planning it will be submitted for possible adoption by the plenary meeting in December.

6.1.2. Dairy By-products:

A transversal meeting will be held in Uppsala next 10th of November. It will be submitted for possible adoption at the plenary meeting in December.

6.1.3. Stunning:

A meeting took place in Brussels last 11th October and the next will take place on the 8th November.

6.1.4. Calves Welfare:

The state of play of the mandate was reported (three meetings held). The update of the previous scientific report is well underway. 2 further meetings are scheduled for 7 November and 22 December. Final draft envisaged for submission to plenary by

January 2006. BIOHAZ panel will then based on AHAW opinion provide their part on food safety aspects to be adopted by April 2006.

6.1.5. Brucellosis

Next meeting will take place on 9 of December.

6.1.6. Captive birds:

The selection of experts has been finalised and the first meeting will be held on 10 November.

6.1.7. *Trichinella*:

Panel members were requested to revise the final version of chapter 4.3.2 and 6.1 of the draft on the scientific opinion as proposed by the BIOHAZ panel for possible contributions. The panel members will be asked to send their comments to the Biohazards panel secretariat.

6.1.8. *Salmonella* in Pigs:

After the next meeting to be held on the 8/9th November, the revised Scientific Report and Opinion will be circulated to panel members for comments or amendments.

7. MISCELLANEOUS

7.1. Plenary meetings

The next plenary meeting will be held in Parma on the 14-15th December. The Panel members accepted to start the XVII plenary meeting on the 14th December from 9.00 am to 18.00 pm- and on 15th December from 9.00 am to 13.00 pm.

EFSA secretariat proposed a new agenda for the plenary meetings in 2006 and the agreed dates were: 13- 14 February; 28-29 March; 26-27 April and 7-8 June.

The meetings should start at 9.00 am and finish at 19.00 pm on the first day and from 9.00 am to 13.00 pm in the second meeting day.

7.2. Report on revision of Zoonoses data collection

Pia Makela presented the report on the needs to the revision of the Community Reports on Zoonoses and data collection. Panel members were invited to send to EFSA their written comments by first week of November at the latest.

7.3. Stakeholder meetings

It was agreed that the recent experience on having meetings with stakeholders has been a very successful exercise which has some positive aspects for the scientific opinion. However, due to the huge increase of work and demanding of human resources for both experts and EFSA, the panel considered that a procedure with general and basic rules should be established by EFSA in order to reach some harmonization and to be used as a reference for the establishing future work programmes and deadlines.

7.4. Animal health crisis –

Philippe Vannier stated that, in his opinion, in an animal health crisis situation, or safety food related crisis, there should be an established standard procedure for coordination with the Commission.

7.5. Publications of opinions outside EFSA journal –

The discussion of this point was postponed for the next meeting due to lack of time.