

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE 62ND PLENARY MEETING OF
THE SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS
HELD IN PARMA ON 19-20 JANUARY 2011**

AGENDA:

- 1. OPENING, APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**
- 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- 4. NEW REQUESTS TO EFSA/BIOHAZ**
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 - 4.2 AN ASSESSMENT OF EPIDEMIOLOGICAL DATA IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH HAZARD TO THE PRESENCE OF PARASITES IN WILD CAUGHT FISH FROM CERTAIN FISHING GROUNDS IN THE BALTIC SEA**
- 5. DRAFT OPINIONS FOR POSSIBLE ADOPTION**
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- 6. PROGRESS REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING MANDATES**
 - 6.1 PUBLIC HEALTH HAZARDS TO BE COVERED BY INSPECTION OF MEAT**
 - 6.2 EVALUATION OF TSE TESTS**
 - 6.3 AN UPDATE OF THE RECENT KNOWLEDGE ON THE OCCURRENCE AND CONTROL OF FOOD-BORNE VIRUSES**
 - 6.4 NOROVIRUSES IN OYSTERS: METHODS, LIMITS AND CONTROL OPTIONS**
 - 6.5 *CAMPYLOBACTER* IN BROILER MEAT PRODUCTION: CONTROL OPTIONS AND PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES AND/OR TARGETS AT DIFFERENT STAGES OF THE FOOD CHAIN**
 - 6.6 RISK BASED CONTROL OF BIOGENIC AMINE FORMATION IN FERMENTED FOODS**

- 6.7 QUANTITATIVE ESTIMATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACT OF SETTING A NEW TARGET FOR THE REDUCTION OF *SALMONELLA* IN BROILERS (*GALLUS GALLUS*)
- 6.8 RESISTANCE CAUSED BY BACTERIAL STRAINS PRODUCING EXTENDED-SPECTRUM B-LACTAMASES AND/OR AMPC B-LACTAMASES IN FOOD AND FOOD PRODUCING ANIMALS
- 6.9 ESTIMATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACT OF SETTING A NEW TARGET FOR THE REDUCTION OF *SALMONELLA* IN TURKEYS
- 6.10 REQUEST FOR AN EVALUATION OF A NEW PROCESSING METHOD ACCORDING TO THE ANIMAL BY-PRODUCT REGULATION FOR FISHERY PRODUCTS
- 6.11 POSSIBLE USE OF CASINGS FOR MANUFACTURING SAUSAGES MADE FROM THE INTESTINES OF THE BOVINE ANIMALS
- 6.12 MANDATE ON HATCHERY WASTE (CHANGES OF CATEGORISATION OF PARTICULAR ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS FROM CATEGORY 2 TO CATEGORY 3)
- 6.13 MANDATE ON PROPOSED PRODUCTION METHOD FOR SMOKED “SKIN-ON” SHEEP MEAT
- 7. FEED BACK FROM THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE AND FROM OTHER WGS
- 8. STANDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA:
 - 8.1 EMERGING RISKS
 - 8.2 FEEDBACK FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION
 - 8.3 BIOHAZ NETWORKS
- 9. BRAINSTORMING ON POSSIBLE SELFTASKING ISSUES
- 10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS
- 11. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

PARTICIPANTS

Panel Members:

Olivier Andreoletti, Herbert Budka (Vice-Chair), Sava Buncic, John D Collins (apologies), John Griffin, Arie Havelaar, Tine Hald (apologies), James Hope, Günter Klein, James McLauchlin, Christine Müller-Graf, Christophe Nguyen-The, Birgit Noerrung (Vice-Chair), Luisa Peixe, Miguel Prieto Maradona, Antonia Ricci, John Sofos (apologies), John Threlfall, Ivar Vågsholm, Emmanuel Vanopdenbosch.

EFSA:

Marta Hugas, Ernesto Liebana, Fulvio Barizzzone, Michaela Hempen, Renata Leuschner, Winy Messens, Pablo Romero-Barrios, Pietro Stella, Luis Vivas Alegre (Scientific staff), and Bianca Bottoni (Administrative staff).

European Commission (EC):

DG Health and Consumers: Sabine Osaer.

1. OPENING AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The meeting started at 9:00. Given the absence of the Panel Chair (Prof John D. Collins), the Plenary was jointly chaired by Prof Herbert Budka and Dr Birgit Noerrung. The Vice-Chairs welcomed everyone. Apologies were received from J.D. Collins, J. Sofos, and T. Hald.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Declarations of Interests, EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of interest (ADoI) and the Specific Declaration of interest (SDoI) filled in by the experts invited to the present meeting. No conflicts of interests related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the beginning of this meeting.

4. NEW REQUESTS TO EFSA/BIOHAZ

4.1. EVALUATION OF THE SAFETY AND EFFICACY OF LACTIC ACID FOR THE REMOVAL OF MICROBIAL SURFACE CONTAMINATION OF BEEF CARCASSES, CUTS AND TRIMMINGS

A new mandate submitted by the EC was received in EFSA and allocated to the BIOHAZ, and CEF Panels. The terms of reference were discussed in detail. B.

Noerrung was appointed as Chair person. The full dossier was received on 19/01/2011, therefore the deadline for adoption would be 19/07/2011.

4.2. AN ASSESSMENT OF EPIDEMIOLOGICAL DATA IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH HAZARD TO THE PRESENCE OF PARASITES IN WILD CAUGHT FISH FROM CERTAIN FISHING GROUNDS IN THE BALTIC SEA

A new mandate submitted by the EC was received in EFSA and allocated to the BIOHAZ Panel. The terms of reference were discussed in detail. J. McLauchlin was appointed as Chair person. The full documentation has not yet been received. A deadline for adoption is in negotiation with the EC.

5. DRAFT OPINIONS FOR POSSIBLE ADOPTIONS

5.1. THE CAPACITY OF OLEOCHEMICAL PROCESSES TO INACTIVATE POSSIBLE RISKS LINKED TO TRANSMISSIBLE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHIES IN ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS NOT INTENDED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

The Draft Opinion was presented to the Panel by the Chairman of the Working Group, and after a thorough discussion it was adopted by the Panel on the 20th January 2011.

6. PROGRESS REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING MANDATES

6.1. PUBLIC HEALTH HAZARDS TO BE COVERED BY INSPECTION OF MEAT

- (a) **Swine:** The BIOHAZ, CONTAM and AHAW panels and three other EFSA units are involved in the reply to the mandate received. The BIOHAZ “ad hoc” WG dealing with the inspection of Swine had the last meeting on 3 December 2010 in Copenhagen. The next WG meeting is scheduled for 2nd February. The current deadline for the opinion on inspection of Swine is June 2011.
- (b) **Poultry:** The establishment of a new WG on meat inspection of poultry has now started. Tine Hald was appointed as the Chair of the WG. The current deadline for the opinion on meat inspection of poultry is June 2012.

6.2. EVALUATION OF TSE TESTS

No new meetings of the WG have been held since the last plenary meeting of the BIOHAZ Panel.

6.3. AN UPDATE OF THE PRESENT KNOWLEDGE ON THE OCCURRENCE AND CONTROL OF FOOD-BORNE VIRUSES

The last meeting of the WG took place in Paris on 9/12/2010. The next meeting is foreseen on 11 February 2011 in Brussels. The WG Chair gave an overall picture of the approach used and progress within this mandate. The deadline for adoption of the opinion is December 2011.

6.4. NOROVIRUSES IN OYSTERS: METHODS, LIMITS AND CONTROL OPTIONS

The last WG meeting took place on 8 November 2010 in Paris. The next meeting is foreseen on 10 February 2011 in Brussels. The WG Chair gave an overall picture of the approach used and progress with this mandate. The deadline for this mandate is December 2011.

6.5. *CAMPYLOBACTER* IN BROILER MEAT PRODUCTION: CONTROL OPTIONS AND PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES AND/OR TARGETS AT DIFFERENT STAGES OF THE FOOD CHAIN

The working group last met on 20th December 2010 via web-conference. The next WG meeting is scheduled for 27/28 January 2011. The current deadline for adoption of this opinion is March 2011.

6.6. RISK BASED CONTROL OF BIOGENIC AMINE FORMATION IN FERMENTED FOODS

The last WG meeting took place on 14 January 2011 (web conference). The next WG meeting is scheduled for 11 February in Vienna. The WG Chair gave an overview of the approach used. The current deadline for adoption of this opinion is December 2011.

6.7. QUANTITATIVE ESTIMATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACT OF SETTING A NEW TARGET FOR THE REDUCTION OF *SALMONELLA* IN BROILERS (*GALLUS GALLUS*)

The last WG meeting took place on 10th and 11th January in Brussels. . The next meeting will take place on 28th February via web conference. A WG member in representation of the WG Chair presented the opinion. The current deadline for this mandate is March 2011.

6.8. RESISTANCE CAUSED BY BACTERIAL STRAINS PRODUCING EXTENDED-SPECTRUM B-LACTAMASES AND/OR AMP^C B-LACTAMASES IN FOOD AND FOOD PRODUCING ANIMALS

The third WG meeting took place on 20 and 21st January in Parma. The following meeting will be on the 28th February 2011 as a teleconference. The deadline for this mandate is June 2011.

6.9. ESTIMATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACT OF SETTING A NEW TARGET FOR THE REDUCTION OF *SALMONELLA* IN TURKEYS

The first WG meeting took place in Parma on 21 January 2011. The next WG meeting is scheduled for May 2011. The deadline of the opinion is March 2012.

6.10. REQUEST FOR AN EVALUATION OF A NEW PROCESSING METHOD ACCORDING TO THE ANIMAL BY-PRODUCT REGULATION FOR FISHERY PRODUCTS

The last meeting of the WG took place on 23 November in Brussels. A request to perform an additional study has been sent to the applicant, results should be ready by

end of February 2011. The mandate is now under “stop-the clock” until the requested data will be available. The original deadline of the opinion is May 2011.

6.11. POSSIBLE USE OF CASINGS FOR MANUFACTURING SAUSAGES MADE FROM THE INTESTINES OF THE BOVINE ANIMALS

The last meeting of the WG took place on 13 January 2011 (web-conference). The draft opinion was discussed in detail by the BIOHAZ Panel. The deadline for this mandate has been extended to 31 March 2011.

6.12. REQUEST FOR A SCIENTIFIC OPINION ON HATCHERY WASTE (CONCERNING CHANGES OF CATEGORISATION OF PARTICULAR ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS FROM CATEGORY 2 TO CATEGORY 3)

The mandate has been allocated to both the EFSA Scientific Panels on Biological Hazards (BIOHAZ) and on Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW). The AHAW Panel will deal with the possible hazards that could be present in the material under consideration, while the BIOHAZ Panel will address the eventual inactivation of the identified hazards.

An *ad hoc* WG will be established in order to draft the related opinion. Dr. John Griffin has been appointed as WG Chairman.

6.13. MANDATE ON PROPOSED PRODUCTION METHOD FOR SMOKED “SKIN-ON” SHEEP MEAT

The first meeting of the WG will take place in the middle of February via web conference. The CONTAM Panel will be represented in the WG. The deadline for this mandate is April 2011.

7. FEED BACK FROM THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE AND FROM OTHER WGS

There was no SC meeting held since the last BIOHAZ Plenary meeting in December. The Panel was alerted of the publication of a public consultation Public consultation on: "Guidance on risk assessment concerning potential risks arising from applications of nano-science and nanotechnologies to food and feed" with the deadline of 25 February 2011

8. STANDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

8.1. EMERGING RISKS

A review document on *Clostridium difficile* prepared by the BIOHAZ secretariat was tabled for information and discussion.

8.2. FEEDBACK FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

The EC official provided feedback to the group on the risk management actions resulting from recently adopted opinions.

8.3. BIOHAZ NETWORKS

The annual reports of the Scientific Networks on MRA and BSE-TSE have been published on the EFSA Website.

9. BRAINSTORMING ON POSSIBLE SELFTASKING ISSUES

The paper “Prospective challenges facing the EFSA Biological Hazards Panel” (<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/207r.htm>) was tabled as the bases for discussion in this area. The Panel also agreed to proceed with the self-task for the annual reviewing the QPS opinion. The panel agreed to continue discussions at the next plenary meetings

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Nothing to report

11. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The meeting closed at 2:00 pm.