

**MINUTES OF THE 28<sup>TH</sup> PLENARY MEETING OF THE EFSA SCIENTIFIC  
COMMITTEE HELD ON 19 DECEMBER 2007 IN BRUSSELS**

(Adopted by written procedure on 30 January 2008)

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**PARTICIPANTS**

*Scientific Committee (SC):*

Susan Barlow, Andrew Chesson, John D. Collins, Albert Flynn, Anthony Hardy, Ada Knaap, Pierre Le Neindre, Jan Schans, Josef Schlatter, Vittorio Silano (Chair), Staffan Skerfving, Philippe Vannier.

*European Food Safety Authority (EFSA):*

Herman Koëter (Deputy Executive Director, Director of Science)

*Secretariat of the Scientific Committee:*

David Carlander (Scientific Officer), Juliane Kleiner (Team Leader, Scientific Committee), Daniela Maurici (Scientific Officer)

*European Commission (EC):*

Michael Walsh (DG SANCO/Unit 03 – Science and Stakeholder relations), Kai-Uwe Sprenger (DG SANCO/Unit D1)<sup>1</sup>, Paivi Mannerkorpi (DG SANCO/Unit E4), Jean-Charles Cavitte (DG RTD/Unit E4)<sup>2</sup>

*Invited expert:*

Louis-Marie Houdebine, INRA, France

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<sup>1</sup> Present in the afternoon

<sup>2</sup> Present in the morning

## **1. OPENING, APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Erik Dybing, Claudia Fruijtier-Pölloth and Harry Kuiper (Chair of the GMO Panel).

## **2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda was adopted.

## **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **4. SCHEDULED ARTICLE 36 CALLS AND CONTRACT PROCUREMENT**

Herman Koëter presented the status of the Article 36 calls and the contract procurements for 2008. The Article 36 projects and the contract procurements (comprising 66 project proposals in total) for the year 2008 were presented to the Management Board members at their meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> December 2007. The Management Board agreed on the budget of 6.5 million Euro to be allocated to Article 36 projects and procurements in 2008.

The list of competent organisations designated by Member States to assist EFSA in its work (according to Art. 36 of EFSA's Founding Regulation<sup>3</sup>) has been updated in December 2007 to include organisations from Romania and Bulgaria. More organisations may be added next year.

## **5. DRAFT OPINION ON THE IMPLICATIONS OF ANIMAL CLONING ON FOOD SAFETY, ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE, AND THE ENVIRONMENT – ENDORSEMENT FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

The draft opinion on the implication of animal cloning on food safety, animal health and welfare and the environment was presented to the Scientific Committee. Some experts raised concerns about the limited database on the immune status of clones, but from the data available there is no indication that healthy clones have less functional immune systems than their conventional counterparts. The Scientific Committee endorsed the draft opinion for public consultation, subject to some amendments as agreed by the Scientific Committee during the meeting. The draft opinion will be published on the EFSA website for 6 weeks starting beginning of January 2008.

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<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/1178620777517/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_article\\_36\\_cooperation.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/1178620777517/efsa_locale-1178620753812_article_36_cooperation.htm)

**6. PROPOSAL FOR AMENDING THE MANDATE FOR THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF EXPERIMENTAL ANIMALS**

Due to time constraints, the adoption of the amended mandate for the welfare of experimental animals was postponed to the next Plenary meeting of the Scientific Committee in February 2008.

**7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.