

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS BIOCONTAM UNIT

MINUTES OF THE 1st MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON “the request for scientific and technical assistance to examine the data collected by the Member States in the framework of the 2-years compulsory intensified surveillance in case of atypical scrapie”

WEB-conference meeting, 11 December 2020

(Agreed on 17 December 2020)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Pietro Stella (Chair)
Mark Arnold
Angel Ortiz Pelaez
Giuseppe Ru
Marion Simmons
Alberto Vidal Diaz

■ Hearing Experts¹:

Not Applicable

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Fabien Schneegans (DG-SANTE G-4)

■ EFSA:

BIOCONTAM Unit: Katrin Bote, Angel Ortiz Pelaez.

TRANSFORMATION SERVICES (TS): Francesca Generali, Marco Conterbia, both for point 6 of the agenda

■ Others:

Not Applicable

¹ As defined in Article 17 of the Decision of the Executive Director concerning the selection of members of the Scientific Committee, the Scientific Panels, and the selection of external experts to assist EFSA with its scientific work:
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/expertselection.pdf>.



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence² and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management³, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting.

Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

4. Scientific topic for discussion

4.1. Scientific Opinion on the request for scientific and technical assistance to examine the data collected by the Member States in the framework of the 2-years compulsory intensified surveillance in case of atypical scrapie⁴

After introductory presentations, the chair led the discussion of the background of the mandate and the term of reference. The representative of the EC added information on the background of the mandate. A brainstorming session about the approaches and methodology to address the ToR and the review of the data provided by the EC followed. Descriptive and analytical methods will be applied after assessing the data needs and availability. A number of actions were agreed to start the population of the draft opinion and to explore the analyses of the data.

5. Any Other Business

The Chair thanked the participants and closed the meeting.

6. Next meeting

It was agreed to have the 2nd meeting provisionally as a full-day web meeting on Thursday 28 January 2021. The format will be reviewed once the first batch of task is delivered mid-January. The date of the 3rd meeting will be fixed during the second meeting.

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

⁴ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00662>