



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH & CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

**SUMMARY RECORD OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE FOOD CHAIN AND ANIMAL HEALTH
HELD ON 15 JULY 2008 IN BRUSSELS
(Section Biological Safety of the Food Chain)**

Chairmen: Eric Pondelet & Willem Daelman

SECTION A Information and/or discussion

1. Guidelines on the registration of national guides to good practice

The Commission explained the objective of the proposed guidelines and reminded the Member States of its duty to make lists of these guides accessible to the public. It indicated that the draft guidelines were discussed in-depth during different working groups. A consensus was noted on the proposed guidelines that will be published on the Commission website.

2. Guide to good practice : Proposal from the European Natural Sausage Casings Association (ENSCA)

In accordance with the guidelines for the development of Community guides to good practice, the Commission consulted the Member States on the request sent by ENSCA and put emphasis, in particular, on the scope, the overview of the content and structure of the proposed guide and the type of food businesses that would be covered. It also insisted on the representativeness of the association in this sector. The Member States supported the development of the proposed guide.

SECTION B Draft presented for an opinion

3. Draft Regulation amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 (SANCO/42/2008)
4. Draft Regulation amending Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 (SANCO/43/2008)
5. Draft Regulation amending Annexes I, II and III to Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 (SANCO/44/2008)
6. Draft Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 2074/2005 as regards TVB-N limits (SANCO/1729/2008)



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7. Draft Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 2076/2005 as regards a transitional period for imports of fish oil (SANCO/1730/2008)

The Commission explained again the inter-connectedness of these proposals and proceeded to introduce them in themes.

Some MS indicated that they had still some concerns. In particular, FI, SK and ES were still of the opinion that more emphasis should be made in the proposals to the implementation by food business operators of effective monitoring procedures based on the HACCP principles when deciding to use clean water. As regards identification marking, ES indicated its wish to discuss other specific provisions that should also be clarified. With regard to the use of slaughterhouse staff, DE considered that a reference to an examination should be added.

Document SANCO/43/2008 was adopted at the qualified majority. The other documents received a unanimous vote in favour.

8. Draft Commission Decision amending Commission Decision 2007/453/EC establishing the BSE status of Member States or third countries or regions thereof according to their BSE risk (SANCO/2139/2008)

Commission Decision 2007/453/EC establishes the BSE status of Member States, third countries or regions thereof, according to their BSE risk. During the OIE General Session in May 2008, a Resolution was adopted relating to the BSE status of the Member States, EFTA countries and third countries. The current proposal will amend Commission Decision 2007/453/EC to take into account the OIE Resolution. The proposal will be presented for a vote at the SCoFCAH meeting in September 2008.

Miscellaneous / Divers

The Italian authorities made an extensive report on the recent incident concerning Italian cheese that was reported in the Italian press and notified by Italy to the Commission under the rapid alert system. They explained all the ramifications between different Italian companies where unfit cheese were recycled into the food chain for human consumption. Companies in other Member States and in a third country were also supplying cheese to the incriminated Italian establishments.

(signed)
Eric Pondelet
Acting Director