

Draft agenda of the Scientific Steering Committee Meeting of 7-8 November 2002

1. Welcome, apologies, introductory remarks, declaration of interest.
2. Approval of the agenda
3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 12-13 September 2002
4. Procedural matters (if any)
5. Multidisciplinary matters:
  - a. Co-ordination: Reports of the Chairmen of the 8 Scientific Committees;
  - b. Harmonisation of risk assessment methods:
    - Progress report on Task Force activities;
    - Report on the feedback received on the public consultations;
  - c. Emerging scientific issues.
6. Multidisciplinary matters relating to TSE/BSE
  - 6.1. Report by the chairman of the TSE/BSE *ad-hoc* group meeting of 10 October 2002
  - 6.2. Reports on specific multidisciplinary matters relating to TSE/BSE:
    - a. Geographical BSE Risk: the GBR of certain countries.
    - b. Update of the SSC opinion on the safety of di- and tricalcium phosphate from bones;
    - c. Quantitative assessment of the risk of tallow, gelatine and dicalcium phosphate;
    - d. Safety of the alkaline hydrolysis process for waste disposal;
    - e. BSE risk of the bovine autonomic nervous system;
    - f. Potential risks arising from the use of small incinerators;
    - g. Conditions under which (1) safe burial and (2) safe burning can be achieved;
    - h. Necrophagous birds as possible transmitters of TSE/BSE.
    - i. Chronic Wasting Disease.
    - j. The risks of contamination of bovine skulls/heads and of cheek meat
- TSEs in small ruminants:
  - k. Adaptation of the Geographical BSE Risk methodology to small ruminants;
- Rapid tests:
  - l. information.
- Editorial updates:
  - m. Opinion on sheep casings
  - n. Opinion on gelatine
7. Information on the follow-up given to the opinions adopted at previous SSC meetings.
8. Information by the Commission services on other matters related to consumer health.
9. Any other business.