SUMMARY REPORT OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE FOOD CHAIN AND ANIMAL HEALTH
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 10 APRIL 2014
(Section Biological Safety of the Food Chain)

Chairman: Mr. Koen Van Dyck

25 Member States were present. Cyprus, Malta and Portugal absent and not represented.

A.01 Request of permission to publish a study on Salmonella attribution in the EU.
Member States were given until end April to raise concerns, if any, on the use of data forwarded by Member States to EFSA.

A.02 EFSA request on a shift to reporting in xml format for the Union summary report on zoonoses.
EFSA presented alternative format to report surveillance data in order to streamline reporting within EFSA.

Member States concerned about possible additional burden when using other format. Comments requested in writing.

A.03 EFSA request on the submission of sample based data Union summary report on zoonoses.
EFSA seeks agreement of the Member States to provide more detailed monitoring data allowing EFSA to provide more robust in-depth analysis and trends.

Member States concerned about possible additional burden if reporting more detailed data.
A.04  Discussion and possible endorsement of technical specifications in relation to the master list and the lists of EU approved food establishments and certain other specified food establishments. (See point A03 of the SCFCAH of 13/2/2014.)

The use of TRACES will allow full transparency of the updated list of approved food establishments in EU. The listing is currently based on national lists.

Consensus on the document and proposed listing categories.

A.05  Presentation and discussion of the guideline on composite products.

No mayor concerns from Member States. Possible endorsement in May/June.

A.06  Discussion on "melting ice temperature". Proposal by the Commission.

The Commission presented its view on the temperature of melting ice based on CODEX. Several Member States requested evaluation from EFSA of adequate temperature requirements for transport and storage of fishery products and in particular pre-packed fishery products.

A.07  Presentation of the guidelines for the prudent use of antimicrobials in veterinary medicine.

As deliverable of the Commission Action plan, a guideline for the prudent use of antimicrobials in veterinary medicine has been prepared based on good examples in certain Member States. The guidance includes national strategies, targeted approach for the prevention / reduction of the need to use antibiotics, correct use of antibiotics, considerations before using antibiotics and CIAs, use of medicated feed, sales of antibiotics.

General satisfaction expressed by Member States on the document. Written comments requested by 2nd May 2014.

C.01  Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Annexes III of Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the processing of feet of farmed animals for human consumption. (See point c.01 of the SCFCAH of 13/2/2014)

The draft allows feet from young ruminants to be transported to other establishments for further processing into food (currently only allowed in slaughterhouses). In addition conditions for the use of calf stomachs for the production of rennet (for cheese making) is clarified.

No major problems in the draft. Extension to stomachs of young ruminants and not limited only to calves. Vote in May.
C.02 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 2074/2005 as regards model documents for food chain information and lists of approved food establishments. Constructive discussion. Some points to be clarified.

M.01 Hygiene Package.
Updated on timing of the review Hygiene Package provided by the Commission.

M.02 Norwegian Hepatitis A outbreak.
Norway informed MS on the ongoing investigation on Hepatitis A outbreak. Despite coordinated efforts from EFSA, ECDC, affected MSs and the EC (HAV-Trace working group), the ongoing trace back investigation has not yet identified a likely source of contamination.

M.03 Data Warehouse (database).
EFSA presented under AOB two points on a data warehouse (database) that could be used for reporting and analysis and a project on a technical support for the collection of data on molecular testing in food, feed and animal isolates of food borne pathogens. Further discussion during a future SCFCAH meeting.