SUMMARY REPORT OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 08 JULY 2014
(Section Biological Safety of the Food Chain)

A.01 State of play of iron oxide irradiated.

Recent European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) advice on irradiated iron oxide was discussed. Member States welcomed the actions of the Commission informing producers that irradiated iron oxide may not be used for food purposes. Member States supported the idea of having a pragmatic but harmonised approach towards products already on the market. It should take into account that irradiated iron oxide is allowed for pharmaceuticals and cosmetics and that the EFSA advice did not identify a serious risk. Member States were asked to give their views by end July in order to come to a coordinated approach towards products already on the market.

A.02 Information of the Committee as regards the procedure to be followed for the Union financial contribution towards the discriminatory testing of historical BSE cases.

This procedure consists of amending the programmes already submitted for the eradication and monitoring of BSE for 2015 in order to include these tests. Concerned Member States were already informed via the relevant contact points and invited to submit amended programmes.

A.03 Presentation by EFSA of the “Scientific Opinion of the BIOHAZ Panel on the risk posed by pathogens in food of non-animal origin. Part2 (Salmonella and Norovirus in berries)”.

EFSA presented the second part of the opinion on the risk posed by pathogens in food of non-animal origin (Salmonella and Norovirus in berries).

A.04 Information of the Committee on the Union financial contribution for the monitoring of AMR in 2015.

The Commission informed the Committee that a financial decision laying down, among other things, the Union's financial contribution for the monitoring of
Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in 2015 should be voted in September. This financial decision should set the contribution at about 1.4 M€ globally. More details on the level of contribution per Member State and the eligible costs will be provided to the Committee before the vote in September.

A.05  **FVO Project on High Pressure Processing.**

The Food and Veterinary Office (FVO) presented to the Committee a project on High Pressure Processing (HPP). It includes a desk study, with a questionnaire addressed to the Member States, two fact-finding missions and a report. The objective (to provide/obtain an overview of the use of HPP by the food industry in the EU and of the Food Business Operators' and Competent Authorities' controls to guarantee/ensure that this use does not pose a food safety risk, in order to serve as a basis for further consideration of the need for specific EU legislation and in the development of specific guidance), the procedure to be followed, the questionnaire and the timing were presented. The questionnaire will be sent to the Member States before the end of July and answers awaited for mid-September.

A.06  **Presentation by FVO/G4 of a draft report as regard an audit on fish and fishery products carried out in Nicaragua.**

Member States were asked if this illegal practice is also used on board EU vessels. Member States were asked to report any findings/information by 15 September.

B.01  **Exchange of views and possible opinion 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 (see point C.01 of the SCFCAH of 13 May 2014).**

There was no vote during the Committee. More discussion is needed on the level of detail regarding the use of medication during the fattening period prior to slaughter, as defined in the legislation in force.

**Vote postponed**

C.01  **Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2007/453/EC as regards the BSE status of Bulgaria, China, Estonia, Croatia, Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Portugal, Romania and Slovakia.**

This draft Decision aims to amend the Annex to Commission Decision 2007/453/EC in order to bring it into line with the last OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health) Resolution adopted in May 2014 at the OIE General Session, which has updated the BSE status of certain Member States. However, due to the recently reported BSE case
aged less than 11 years old, the OIE has suspended the Romanian negligible status adopted in May 2014. This draft Decision will be voted on in September.

M.01 Scrapie
Following a question by a Member State, the Commission clarified that the text voted at the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health (SCFCAH) in February and amending several provisions related to scrapie, should normally be adopted by the Commission in September.

M.02 Mechanically Separated Meat (MSM)
State of play on the ongoing discussion was provided.

M.03 State of play Hygiene Package
The Commission informed the Committee that the Hygiene Package is still under discussion.

M.04 Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)
State of play of AMR action plan was provided.

M.05 Paan leaves export ban Bangladesh
Member States were informed that the Commission will propose by written procedure to extend the current ban on imports of paan leaves from Bangladesh until mid-2015. The ban was imposed due to the numerous Salmonella positive results found in imported paan leaves. The prolongation is based on the fact that the self-ban put in place by Bangladesh was not effectively and properly enforced. Since the adoption of the Decision, 9 cases were reported in RASFF of attempts to illegally import paan leaves from Bangladesh. In addition, as a follow-up to the Food and Veterinary Office (FVO) mission in 2013 Bangladesh submitted their response, which did not address properly all recommendations made by the FVO.