SUMMARY RECORD OF THE MEETING OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE FOOD CHAIN AND ANIMAL HEALTH
HELD ON 13 SEPTEMBER 2010 IN BRUSSELS
(Section: Biological Safety of the Food Chain)

Chairman: K. Van Dyck

All Member States were represented.

1. For possible endorsement: Request by Belgium to be recognised as a region presenting a negligible risk of *Trichinella* in domestic swine.

   In 2007 Belgium sent to the Commission and Member States an application for the official recognition of Belgium as a region presenting a negligible Trichinella risk in accordance with Article 3 (2) (b) (ii) of Regulation (EC) No 2075/2005. Several Member States and the Commission raised comments and asked for some additional information concerning the initial report. Belgium amended the draft initial report accordingly and on the basis of the improved document asked for the official recognition by this Committee. However, there are still some issues which should be clarified before the official recognition could be granted. Belgium agreed to deal with additional concerns raised by some Member States.

2. Position of the Member States on the Danish application on special guarantees for salmonella in poultry meat of *Gallus gallus*.

   The Commission presented a request from Denmark on applying special guarantees for Salmonella in poultry meat of *Gallus gallus* on its territory. A significant number of Member States supported the request, however majority was not reached. In addition, several Member States would only support the request if Denmark could guarantee that broilers from Salmonella-infected flocks would not be shipped to other Member States for slaughter. No further initiatives would be considered until Denmark provides this guarantee.


   The members of the Committee were provided with a new revision of the draft Regulation. The Commission explained the amendments introduced into the text. The first part of the document is to add certain flexibility to requirements on slaughter of farmed game at the farm while keeping current conditions for slaughter at the farm. The aim of the draft is to provide the competent authority with the possibility to authorise that correct slaughter and bleeding may be attested by the food business operator and
thus information relevant to this situation will become a part of the declaration accompanying slaughtered animals to the approved slaughterhouse.

Specific conditions are laid down for this possibility, including the appropriate training of the food business operator as regards animal welfare. The second part of the document is the amendment of requirements on wild game concerning head of animals susceptible to Trichinella for the production of game trophies and the declaration of trained person for the delivery of several slaughtered carcasses of wild game to the same game-handling establishment. Member States expressed their support to this version of the document.

As the majority of Member States had no questions regarding the draft Regulation, the slightly amended draft proposal was presented for the opinion of the Committee.

**Vote:** Favourable opinion by qualified majority (in favour: 309 votes, against: 36 votes).

Declaration of **Slovakia** — see Annex 1.


The draft is linked to the draft Regulation discussed under point 3 and amendment of provisions for farmed game. The draft aims to provide a new model of health certificate for animals slaughtered at the farm. Regular checks of slaughter activities of the food business operator are required. Member States expressed their agreement with the draft.

As the Member States had no questions regarding the draft Regulation, the draft proposal was presented for the opinion of the Committee.

**Vote:** Favourable opinion by qualified majority (in favour: 338 votes, against: 7 votes).

Declaration of **Slovakia** — see Annex 1.

4A. **Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Decision amending Commission Decision 2010/89/EU as regards the list of certain establishments for meat, fishery products, egg products and cold stores in Romania subjected to transitional measures concerning the application of certain structural requirements. (Doc. SANCO/12089/2010) (subject to the right of scrutiny of the European Parliament, legal basis: Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No 852/2004)**

According to Commission Decision 2009/852/EC, the specific structural requirements laid down in the hygiene Regulations do not apply to the milk processing establishments in Romania listed in Annex I until 31 December 2011. In July 2010 the Romanian Authorities officially informed the Commission that, in the light of ongoing structural improvements, the lists of establishments set out in the Annex to Commission Decision 2009/852/EC should be amended.

**Vote:** Favourable opinion by unanimity.

Commission Decision 2010/89/EU lays down transitional measures concerning the application of certain structural requirements laid down in the Hygiene Regulations to establishments for meat, egg products, fishery products and cold stores in Romania listed in Annexes I to IV to that Decision. In July 2010 the Romanian Authorities officially informed the Commission that, in the light of ongoing structural improvements, the lists of establishments set out in the Annex to Commission Decision 2010/89/EC should be amended.

Vote: Favourable opinion by unanimity.


The Commission representative presented for discussion the draft Regulation amending Regulation 2073/2005 on microbiological criteria for foodstuffs as regards a Salmonella criterion in fresh poultry meat. The contents of the draft were discussed at the Chief Veterinary Officers' (CVO) meeting and in Commission working groups. The discussion on the current Salmonella process hygiene criterion is still ongoing in the working group. Some Member States expressed their disappointment that the criterion covers only two serotypes of Salmonella and advocated extending it to other serotypes in a few years. One Member State wanted to postpone the application of Regulation to 2012. The legal basis of the Regulation was Regulations 2160/2003 Article 5(6) and 852/2004 Article 4(4).


The draft text was presented by the Commission. The objective was to bring the Annex to Decision 2007/453/EC into line with the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Resolution No 18 adopted in May 2010, which categorises India and Peru as having a negligible BSE risk and South Korea and Panama as having a controlled BSE risk. The text would be subject to a vote at the next Standing Committee meeting in October 2010.

Other business

- Information for Member States on the development of the Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) method for detecting Processed Animal Protein (PAP) in feed.

In view of the planned measure for amending feed ban provisions in the TSE Roadmap 2, the Commission updated the Member States on the state of play as regards the development by the European Union Reference Laboratory for Animal Protein (EU-RL AP) of the Polymerase Chain Reaction method for determining the species origin of Processed Animal Protein in feed. As the development of the method is now at a final stage, the Commission invited the Member States to contact the European Union Reference Laboratory in order to designate National Reference Laboratories (NRLs) for this matter (if they had not already done so) and to receive the primer and probe
sequences which are needed to be able to implement the method. The EU Reference Laboratory would organise training for the National Reference Laboratories, the proficiency and ring tests in 2011.
Annex 1

Explanation of the position of the Slovak Republic to the documents
(SANCO/10308/2010) and (SANCO/10309/2010)

SK voting position: against both these documents

The Slovak Republic does not agree with the Draft of Commission Regulation (ES) No ..../.. amending Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 as regards farmed and wild game meat, (SANCO 10308/2010) namely and particularly with the „delegation“ of tasks (attestation of the correct slaughter and bleeding by the food business operator) for which the official veterinarian is responsible, to the food business operator (FBO).

It concerns the reduction of hygiene requirements and according to our opinion the principles of the Regulation No 854/2004 are not followed and in spite of the fact, that slaughtering and bleeding is done by the FBO, attestation of the correct slaughtering and bleeding belongs to the veterinary matters.

This procedure is not consistent also with the slaughter of animal outside the slaughterhouse in emergency cases.

With regard to the fact, that the Draft of Commission Regulation (ES) No ..../.. amending Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 as regards farmed game (SANCO/10309/2010) is closely connected with the document SANCO/10308/2010, the Slovak Republic does not agree also with this document.

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