Chairman: K. Van Dyck

All Member States were represented.

1. **Presentation of FVO report on fact-finding missions related to the application of the hygiene package in small capacity establishments**

   The outcome of the fact-finding mission series was presented, including the conclusions and the recommendations that would be made to all Member States in the FVO overview report. Some Member States asked for clarification of certain findings and Denmark commented on notification requirements for national measures. These were discussed in more detail in conjunction with agenda item 2.

2. **Presentation of COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT on the understanding of certain provisions on flexibility provided in the Hygiene Package — Frequently Asked Questions — Guidelines for food business operators (SANCO/11141/2009)**


   The Commission staff working document on the understanding of certain provisions on flexibility provided in the Hygiene Package was presented. No specific questions concerning this document were raised.

3. **Presentation of COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT on the understanding of certain provisions on flexibility provided in the Hygiene Package — Guidelines for the competent authorities (SANCO/11142/2009)**


   The Commission staff working document on the understanding of certain provisions on flexibility provided in the Hygiene Package was presented. The Commission was asked to clarify certain additional questions, mainly concerning the notification obligation and the relevant notification procedure. The notification procedure was intended to ensure transparency towards other Member States when the flexibility of the hygiene legislation was used.

4. **Presentation of non-paper on pooling of samples in the frame of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005 on microbiological criteria for foodstuffs**

   The Member States had requested the Commission to clarify the interpretation of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005 on microbiological criteria for foodstuffs
as regards pooling of samples when testing against the criteria. The Commission presented a non-paper intended to clarify the legal provisions as well as the ISO requirements. It requested the delegations to wait until the ISO working group recommendation relating to the issue was published in 2011 before making the non-paper public.

5. Request to use data from baseline surveys on Salmonella and Campylobacter within the EU research project ‘BASELINE’

The request was presented. Several Member States requested further clarification on the confidentiality and use of the data. It was also unclear whether data from all Member States would be used or only from four of them. If from all Member States, the consortium would be invited to give clarification at the next Committee meeting. If from only a few, any issues could be cleared up through bilateral contacts.

5A. Discussion on guidance document developed by the European Dairy Association (EDA) and Eucolait, in cooperation with the European Association for Processed Cheese Producers, Assifonte, for the use of cheese as raw material in the manufacture of food products

Item removed from the agenda.

5B. Discussion on guidance document developed by the European Association for Processed Cheese Producers, Assifonte, concerning ‘Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) Guidelines for Processed Cheese’

Amelie De Grahl from the European Association for Processed Cheese Producers presented a proposal for an EU guide on Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) for cheese. Volunteers were needed for evaluation. Four Member States expressed their interest.

5C. Use of survey data from EU Reference Laboratory on viral and microbiological contamination of bivalve molluscs

David Lees, Director of the EU Reference Laboratory, Weymouth, asked Member States to provide official data on classification of production areas for molluscs.

6. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 as regards a Union target for the reduction of the prevalence of certain Salmonella serotypes in laying hens of Gallus gallus (SANCO/10627/2010) (subject to the regulatory procedure with scrutiny; legal basis: Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003, Article 4(1)) (see item 14, 20 October 2010 meeting of the SCFCAH)

The Commission explained that due to the ongoing internal discussions the draft would not be presented for a vote as indicated on the Agenda. No comments were made by the Member States.

The draft Regulation regarding the replacement of a biological test with a chemical test (LC/MS — liquid chromatography mass spectrometry) was approved, with one Member State abstaining. The test was to apply from July 2011. Member States and non-member countries were authorised to use the bio test until 31 December 2014.

**Vote:** Qualified majority in favour.


The Regulation lays down the duties of members of the network and the procedure for transmission of the different types of notifications. These implementing measures specify, in particular, the specific conditions and procedures applicable to the transmission of notifications and supplementary information. In addition the role of the Commission as manager of the network is detailed.

The final version of the document taking account of comments received from the Member States at the Standing Committee meeting of 20 October was presented.

**Vote:** Favourable opinion by unanimity.

7B. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Commission Decision 2010/89/EU as regards the prolongation of transitional measures and the list of certain establishments for meat, fishery products and cold stores in Romania subjected to transitional measures concerning the application of certain structural requirements (SANCO/12757/2010) (subject to the right of scrutiny of the European Parliament; legal basis: Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council)

In all 40 establishments in the meat, fishery and cold store sector were on a list of establishments for which derogations from structural requirements were possible. The draft Regulation proposed to authorise Romania to maintain its transitional measures until 31 December 2011.

**Vote:** Favourable opinion by unanimity.


The purpose of the draft is to lay down detailed rules on a *Salmonella* criterion in fresh poultry meat. The Commission presented revision 8 of the draft Regulation with changes proposed on the basis of the discussions in the working group for
microbiological criteria. The biggest change was deletion of Campylobacter as a
process hygiene criterion. The Member States asked questions concerning positive
findings and consequences for products on the market as well as sampling in primary
production. In all 25 Member States expressed support for the proposal as it stood. The
technical vote would take place after the internal Commission procedures had been
finalised in 2011.

No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the
requirements applicable to frozen food of animal origin intended for human
consumption (SANCO/1489/2007) (subject to the regulatory procedure with
scrutiny; legal basis: Regulation (EC) No 853/2004) (see item 11, 20 October 2010
meeting of the SCFCAH)

The purpose of the draft is to introduce certain requirements applicable to frozen food
of animal origin intended for human consumption. The version presented required the
date of production and the date of freezing to be provided for all food of animal origin
and appeared to have the support of most of the Member States.

10. Exchange of views on a draft Commission Regulation laying down implementing
measures regarding the application of traceability requirements in respect of
food of animal origin under Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European
Parliament and of the Council (SANCO/1490/2007) (subject to the right of
(see item 12, 20 October 2010 meeting of the SCFCAH)

The purpose of the draft is to lay down implementing provisions regarding the
application of traceability requirements in respect of food of animal origin. The new
revision of the draft Regulation was presented by the Commission and received
support from all Member States.

Any other business:

• Germany requested information on the state of play and possible resources on the
control of Campylobacter in poultry. The Commission referred to the EFSA
opinion scheduled for March 2011, potentially followed by a cost/benefit analysis
and the CamCon research project.

• Germany raised a question on casings. The Commission informed the meeting
about the idea to introduce public health rules for imported casings. An internal
discussion was needed. A project would be presented to the Member States.