Chair: K. Van Dyck.

All Member States were represented.

Croatia attended the meeting as an observer.

1. Updated version of European Natural Sausage Casings Association (ENSCA) Community Guide to good practice for Hygiene and the application of the Hazard analysis and critical control points (HACCP) principles in the production of natural sausage casings

ENSCA guide on casings updated.

There were two editorial changes in the core of the guide and three modifications to Annex V ‘Applicable EU legislation’:

- introduction of the Regulation on the provision of food information to consumers,
- and introduction of the Animal By-Products Regulation and its implementing rules regarding the use of intestines for artistic activities.

No reaction from the Member States. The updated guide will be published on the SANCO website.

2. Request for information from the Commission on bilateral agreements concluded with third countries regarding export of processed animal protein derived from non-ruminants

Member States were asked to inform the Commission of the state of play in respect of any written agreements concluded with third countries regarding export of processed animal protein derived from non-ruminants. This information, which is compulsory according to Annex IV to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001, will allow the Commission to have an overview of the situation.

The Commission presented for a vote revision 2 of the draft Commission Implementing Regulation implementing Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards approval of the amended national scrapie control programme for Denmark. Revision 1 of this text had already been presented at the Standing Committee of 18 January 2012. Rev. 2 includes adjustments to the presentation of the text, as required by the Legal Service in the framework of the Inter Service Consultation which took place between 26 January and 9 February 2012.

Vote: Unanimously in favour.

4. Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Annexes I and IV to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 as regards prohibitions concerning animal feeding of processed animal protein derived from non-ruminant animals (Doc. SANCO/10843/2011 rev.6) (subject to the regulatory procedure with scrutiny; legal basis: Regulation (EC) No 999/2001, Article 23 §1) (see item 9 of the SCoFCAH of 17 October 2011)

The Commission presented the sixth revision of the draft Regulation amending the feed ban provisions as regards the possibility to use processed animal proteins derived from non-ruminants in pig and poultry feed on the one hand, and in aquafeed on the other hand. This new revision is unchanged as regards the main substance but introduces a new structure in order to make the text easier to read. All delegations were asked by the Chair to express their views on the text as it is (whole package including in the same text provisions regarding pig/poultry feed and aquafeed) but also on the possibility of keeping only the provisions for aquafeed in the text at this stage (‘two-step approach’). Following this “tour de table”, it appeared that the aquafeed option was the preferred one. The Commission announced that the technical discussions would continue during the next TSE working group planned for 14 March 2012.


The Commission presented the amendments as compared to the previous draft, in particular the limitation of the scope to sprouts and seeds intended for sprout production and an additional paragraph under Article 5 (traceability requirements at import). Further clarifications were requested by some Member States. The Commission
provided clarification where possible. Further discussion would take place in the working group meeting on 9 March 2012.


The Commission presented the amendments made as compared to the previous draft and provided clarifications on certain issues raised by some Member States. Further discussion would take place in the working group meeting on 9 March 2012.


The Commission presented the amendments made as compared to the previous draft, in particular the limitation of the scope to sprouts, the maintenance of the existing criterion on Salmonella in sprouted seeds, the increase of sample size for the STEC (Salmonella and pathogenic Escherichia coli) criterion and the changes in the sampling rules for sprouting. Further clarifications were requested by Member States on the reasons for increasing the sample size for the VTEC (Verotoxigenic E. coli) criterion, the 3 kg for pregermination. The Commission provided clarification. Further discussion would take place in the working group meeting on 9 March 2012.

8. Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation establishing a model certificate for import of sprouts and seeds intended for sprouts production (Doc. SANCO/10064/2012) (subject to the examination procedure; legal basis: Art. 48(2) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004) (see item 8 of the SCoFCAH of 18 January 2012)

In general, there was support for the establishment of a certificate accompanying consignments of imported seeds intended for the production of sprouted seeds and sprouts with no specific controls at the border inspection posts. The certificate is to be signed by the competent authorities of third countries exporting seeds or sprouts. A specific working group meeting was planned for 9 March 2012.

9. Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation concerning the use of lactic acid to reduce microbiological surface contamination from bovine carcases (Doc. SANCO/11970/2011 rev.3) (subject to the regulatory
procedure with scrutiny; legal basis: Regulation (EC) No 853/2004, Article 3(2) (see item 7 of the SCoFCAH of 18 January 2012)

The Commission presented the revised draft with the amendments made as compared to the previous text. Some clarifications were requested by some Member States. A large number of Member States supported the proposal.

Any other business:

Greece requested clarification on measures in case of finding Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium in poultry flocks, taking into account the microbiological criterion applicable to fresh poultry meat. The Commission explained that there is flexibility for the competent authorities who request food business operators to meet this criterion, taking into account the prevalence in the country.