

# **Summary report of the meeting of the Scientific Committee on Veterinary Measures relating to public health held on 20 July 1998 in Brussels (approved at the meeting on 28 September 1998)**

## **List of Participants**

### **MEMBERS**

Prof. A. Osterhaus (chairperson), Prof. J-L. Jouve (second vice-chairperson), Prof. A. Johnston, Prof. O. Kaaden, Prof. A. Mantis, Prof. E. Nurmi, Prof. E. Quinto Fernandez, Dr. J. Schlundt, Dr. I. Vagsholm, Prof. F. Van Knapen

### **APOLOGIES**

Prof. R. Gilbert (first vice-chairperson), Prof. V. Caporale, Prof. J. Fink-Gremmels, Prof. A. Macri, Prof. D. Vuitton, Prof. P. Willeberg

### **ABSENT**

None

### **COMMISSION**

Mr. R. Vanhoorde (DG XXIV), Mr. B. Verleysen (DG XXIV), Mr. H. Winter (DG VI/BII-2)

## **1. Declarations of interest**

No declarations of specific interest, which might be considered prejudicial to the independence of the members, were made.

## **2. Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was adopted.

## **3. Adoption of the minutes of the meeting of 22 June 1998**

The minutes were adopted.

## **4. Discussion and possible adoption of a scientific opinion concerning the 9th code of Federal Regulations Part 304, et al. Pathogen reduction; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems; Final rule**

The Committee continued its discussion on the draft report in the light of the explanations given by the US delegation at the last plenary. The report, as amended during the meeting, was adopted unanimously.

## **5. Discussion and possible adoption of a scientific opinion concerning the use of antimicrobial treatments of poultry carcasses, the various methods of carcass rinsing including trisodium monophosphates (TSP), organic acids and hyperchlorinated water**

The rapporteur presented a comprehensive draft report which was subsequently discussed in detail. A number of suggestions for technical clarifications and/or editorial improvements were made.

It was stressed that the current exercise is confined to those treatments involving the use of one single physical, chemical or biological agent which appear feasible under commercial conditions. It was explained that it had not been possible to address techniques based on the combination of several treatments or agents in the current exercise.

In principle, the Committee agreed with the draft report as it was amended during the meeting. However, in order to avoid any misunderstanding, the rapporteur was asked to incorporate the amendments in a final draft with a view to its formal adoption at the next plenary.

The Committee asked the secretariat to send acknowledgements to the external experts for their valuable contribution to the draft report.

## **6. Feed-back by the chairman on subjects discussed in the SSC which are of interest to the Committee**

The chairman informed the Committee about ongoing discussions in the SSC. As regards BSE/TSE related working groups, information was given on maternal transmission, semen and embryos, BSE in sheep, fallen stock, recycling of animal waste, organic fertilisers, gelatine, tallow, MBM, human exposure risk, geographical risk, sourcing, modelling and monitoring.

Reference was also made to the progress made on multidisciplinary questions concerning genetically modified organisms and antimicrobial resistance.

## **7. Feed-back by members of the Committee having attended working group meetings of other Scientific Committees**

One member reported on the discussion in the multidisciplinary working group dealing with the TSE/BSE related question on fallen stock and recycling of poultry, pig and fish waste.

A first draft report will be prepared for the next working group meeting which is scheduled for the beginning of September.

## **8. Progress report on the request for a scientific opinion concerning cooling of carcasses during transport**

The chairman informed the Committee that the additional expert to the working group, suggested by the Committee at its last plenary meeting, has accepted to attend the next working group meeting on 22 July.

## **9. Progress report on the request for a scientific opinion concerning the use of Bovine Somatotropin**

In absence of the rapporteur, the secretariat informed the Committee that the planning for the next meeting of the working group depends on the progress made in the other group which is concentrating on animal health and animal welfare aspects.

The next working group meeting is provisionally fixed for 2 October.

## **10. Progress report on the request for a scientific opinion on the evaluation of microbiological criteria and temperatures for storage and transport of products of animal origin intended for human consumption:**

**- partim microbiological criteria;**

- **partim temperatures for storage and transport;**

There has been no working group since the last plenary.

The next working group meeting is scheduled for 29 September.

## **11. Progress report on the request for a scientific opinion concerning the prevalence and methods of control of cysticercosis**

The rapporteur informed the Committee about his contacts with other members of the working group. He promised to provide the secretariat with full address details of the working group members in view of the organisation of a working group meeting.

## **12. Progress report on the request for a scientific opinion concerning the revision of ante- and post- mortem inspection procedures for an alternative inspection system for the slaughter of pigs**

The rapporteur updated the Committee on the progress made in the working group on the revision of inspection procedures. Only few members have provided comments to the orientation paper produced by the rapporteur. A revised version has been prepared and will be circulated to the members of the working group.

A draft report will be prepared in the light of the orientation paper. .

## **13. Information on the state of progress on the creation of the multidisciplinary steering group on antimicrobial resistance**

The secretariat informed Committee that the first meeting of this multidisciplinary group took place on 15 July and that the distribution of tasks and a timetable had been agreed. The next meeting is scheduled for 11 September.

## **14. Progress report on the multidisciplinary working group on:**

- a) recycling of pig, poultry and fish waste (in collaboration with the Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare and with experts of the SSCÂ's ad hoc group on TSE);
- b) fallen stock (in collaboration with the Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare and with experts of the SSCÂ's ad hoc group on TSE); (secretariat).

Cfr. point 7.

## **15. Miscellaneous**

- As regards the acknowledgements of experts (especially external experts to the Committee) who have contributed to a draft report, it was decided that their names should be mentioned in the draft report submitted to the plenary. However, considering the fact that the plenary can substantially amend draft reports and the possibility that external experts might not agree with the final report as adopted by the Committee, it was decided not to mention the names of members of working groups. The secretariat will express acknowledgements of their input when sending the final opinion to external experts.

- The next plenary is scheduled for 28 September.

- The first vice-chairperson was asked to replace the chairman at the next SSC meeting on 24-25 September.

