

## Minutes of the Scientific Steering Committee Meeting of 12-13 September 2002

### **1. Welcome, apologies, introductory remarks and declaration of interest.**

The chairman Prof.G.Pascal welcomed the participants. He apologised Profs. P.Puigdomenech and A.Osterhaus (for both 12 and 13 September) and Profs. T.Hardy, I.White, K.Jones, J.Bridges and A.Knaap (for 13 September). The list of participants is attached as **Annex 1**.

Declarations of interest: No declarations of interest were for this meeting.

### **2. Approval of the agenda**

The agenda was approved without changes. It is attached as **Annex 2**.

### **3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 27-28 June 2002.**

The minutes of the meeting of 27-28 June 2002 were adopted without changes.

### **4. Procedural matters:**

- a. Mr. B.Carsin, Director of the Scientific Opinions Directorate of the Health & Consumer Protection Directorate General, informed the SSC about the current state of advancement and planning of the establishment of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). He also briefly explained how the Directorate General would be re-organised once the EFSA would have become fully operational. As this was unlikely to be the case before end 2002, he invited the SSC members to pro-actively plan a number of plenary sessions in 2003.
- b. The current mandate of the Scientific Committees expires on 11 September 2003. The SSC agreed upon the following possible meeting dates in 2003: 16-17 January, 6-7 March and 10-11 April, plus, should it be necessary: 22-23 May and 3-4 July. 11-12 September and 23-24 October are possible meeting dates should the mandate of the SSC be further prolonged.
- c. Integration of food- and non-food issues in scientific advice related to consumer protection. Following Mr.Carsin's presentation, the SSC reiterated its concern already expressed in several previous meetings that, with the establishment of EFSA resulting in food- and non-food-related scientific advisory systems being housed in different structures, there was a high risk of losing an holistic view on consumer protection. Moreover, many food-related issues cannot be assessed independently from other essential aspects such as exposure via the environment, exposure via cosmetic and medicinal products, etc. Mr. Carsin informed the SSC that a reflection on how in the future these aspects will be integrated was ongoing and that the SSC will be informed accordingly.

### **5. Multidisciplinary matters:**

#### **a. Reports of the Chairpersons of the 8 Scientific Committees**

- The chairpersons reported on the work of their respective Scientific Committees, whilst emphasising on matters that are of a multidisciplinary nature and/or require co-ordination. Information on the activities of the various Scientific Committees is attached as **Annex 3**.
- Prof.A.Knaap informed the SSC on an exercise currently being set up by WHO, aiming at quantifying the residual risk from food contaminants. It is expected that this exercise would also contribute to an increased harmonisation of risk

assessments in other areas such as food additives and veterinary drug residues. Prof.Knaap invited the SSC members to provide her with names of experts and scientists that could contribute to this exercise.

- Prof Loewer signalled that the Scientific Committee for Medical Devices and Medicinal Products did not have a meeting since the last SSC and briefly elaborated on on-going work of this Committee related to safety of medical devices.

**b. Harmonisation of risk assessment methods:**

**- Progress report on Task Force activities;**

Profs.J.Bridges, W.Klein and P.Le Neindre provided a detailed overview of the current state of advancement of the various reports under preparation in the framework of the SSC's Task Force on the Harmonisation of risk assessment methods. The planning for the finalisation of the various reports was presented. It is expected that most reports will be ready for adoption before the end of 2002 (SSC meeting of 5-6 December 2002).

**- Report on the feedback received on the public consultations;**

Prof. Le Neindre briefed the SSC on the comments and contributions to the preliminary report *Scientific Quality of Life Criteria in risk benefit assessment*, received as a result of the public consultation via internet. They will be submitted to the Task Force, and where appropriate, the draft report will be amended before its submission to the SSC for final discussion and adoption.

**c. Emerging scientific issues**

At the previous meeting, the issues of (1) Multi-vaccination during childhood and (2) Increasing incidence of mycotoxins had been raised.

Regarding multi-vaccination during childhood, the SSC considered that the minutes of the meeting of 27-28 June 2002 appropriately reflected its concern and that no further scientific clarifications were needed.

The reported apparently increasing incidence of mycotoxins was regarded by the Committee as an extremely complex and multidisciplinary issue, touching a large variety of scientific fields such as animal husbandry, crop farming, plant protection, animal health, human health, animal welfare, food and feed storage, etc. An effectively increasing incidence of mycotoxins would be a reason for real concern indeed and in the past several Scientific Committees have addressed the issue, be it only indirectly and independently from each other. More precisely the Scientific Committees for Plants, for Food and for Animal Health and Animal Welfare have paid some attention to the issue in the framework of opinions that, however, were not strictly related to the subject. The SSC therefore recommended that an inventory be made of the new evidence, field data, perspectives and research results that became available since the adoption of these opinions. On the basis of such inventory, it could be assessed whether a revision of these opinions and/or the preparation of an overall multidisciplinary report and opinion on the subject are justified.

The SSC invited the Commission's Research Directorate General DG-RTD to provide an inventory of the research, if existing, that is currently ongoing in this field at the level of the EU and/or of Member States.

**d. Antimicrobial resistance: Azoles**

The Secretariat proposed to introduce an editorial update in the report and opinion on Azole resistance adopted at previous meeting. The update was accepted and the re-edited opinion is attached as **Annex 4**.

**6. Multidisciplinary matters relating to TSE/BSE**

**6.1. Report on the TSE/BSE *ad-hoc* group meetings of 25 July and 5 September 2002**

All items addressed at that meeting are further reported on under point 6.2. hereafter.

**6.2. Reports on specific issues:**

**a. Geographical BSE Risk (GBR)**

- 3 draft final reports and 3 draft opinions were presented and discussed on the following countries: Israel, Malta and Slovenia. Following discussion, opinions were adopted for all countries. They are attached as **annexes 5, 6 and 7**.
- So far, the SSC has been monitoring with regular intervals the evolution of the BSE epidemic, especially in the framework of its opinions on the UK Date Based Export Scheme. In 2001, the BSE rapid testing programme was implemented in all member states and surveillance data are now becoming available on a routine basis, not only for the UK, but also for all Member States. The SSC recommends that Commission Services consider the possibility of inviting it to prepare an updated opinion on the evolution of the BSE epidemic in the UK, as well as an evaluation of the evolution of the BSE incidence in the other EU countries.
- The question was raised if in the light of recent epidemiological data (rolling 12 months incidence above 100 cases per 1.000.000 adult cattle) the GBR assessment has to be updated. This value currently forms the threshold between GBR III and GBR IV countries. The threshold of 100 had been fixed at a time when BSE surveillance was predominantly passive, i.e., before a systematic active surveillance with the rapid BSE tests was applied in all Member States. The SSC considered that its TSE/BSE *ad hoc* Group should evaluate whether there was a need/justification for updating the GBR opinions with respect to the BSE incidence level that forms the threshold between GBR III and GBR IV, in the light of the current improved surveillance systems.

**b. Update of the SSC opinion on the safety of gelatine.**

The SSC discussed the draft-updated opinion on the safety of gelatin derived from bovine bones. The update is based on recent research carried out in the Netherlands, in the USA and at the Institute for Animal Health (IAH-UK) and was finalized by the TSE/BSE *ad hoc* Group at its meeting of 5 September. The draft opinion was amended and adopted. It is attached as **Annex 8**.

**c. Update of the SSC opinion on the safety of phosphates from bones.**

As results of currently ongoing research on TSE infectivity clearance during the production of phosphates from bones were expected to become available in the coming months, the discussion of the draft opinion and report was postponed.

**d. Quantitative assessment of the risk of tallow, gelatine and dicalcium phosphate.**

This opinion will assess the quantitative effect on the residual BSE infectivity in products such as tallow, milk-replacers, gelatine and animal bone-derived phosphates,

of the removal of certain types of tissues (specified risk materials), the exclusive use of certain tissues (e.g., bones only; adipose tissues only; mixtures of offals/by-products) and various production conditions (e.g., sterilisation, alkaline treatment, degreasing; filtration; systems for the removal of specified risk materials; ...)

A working group (WG) and the TSE/BSE *ad hoc* Group prepared a basic report which is currently limited to methodological aspects and the listing of the (ranges of) values to be taken by the basic input variables. The report was submitted to a number of stakeholders in the sector with the request to provide additional field data and comments on the proposed risk scenarios. As a result, substantial field data and comments were obtained. The resulting updated report was presented to the SSC.

The SSC had an exchange of ideas on the proposed methodology and adopted it. The Committee considered that the risk calculations using the proposed input values could now start. The SSC also recommended that, in parallel, the methodology and typical input values could also be submitted for consultation via Internet to the wider scientific and industrial world.

**e. Safety of the alkaline hydrolysis process for waste disposal.**

An opinion on the subject was adopted on 16 May 2002. Subsequently, comments, additional analysis data, a risk assessment as well as a number of proposals for the safe recycling or disposal of the residues were submitted to the SSC secretariat by the company. These were analysed by the rapporteurs and the TSE/BSE *ad hoc* Group (at its meeting of 5 September 2002) and an updated report and draft opinion were prepared for discussion and possible adoption by the SSC. As usual, the Secretariat had sent before the meeting by e-mail a copy of the draft to all SSC members. At the meeting, several SSC members provided the secretariat with their written comments on the draft. It appeared from these that the document was not ready for adoption, but needed further work on the following aspects: safety with regard of TSE infectivity of burning biogas obtained by anaerobic degradation of substances that may not be entirely free of TSE infectivity; the possible presence of dioxins and other toxic substances in the effluent of the alkaline hydrolysis process and the precision of the analysis methods used. The SSC therefore decided not to further discuss the report, but to send it back to the TSE/BSE *ad hoc* Group for further revision. The SSC recommended also that the draft be submitted for comments to expert(s) in the field of dioxins, expert(s) in the field of anaerobic digestion and expert(s) in the field of the safety aspects of burning (bio-)gasses.

**f. BSE risk of the bovine autonomic nervous system.**

The Secretariat informed the SSC that no progress had been made since last meeting.

**g. Feeding wild fishmeal to farmed fish; intra-species recycling of fish;**

Prof. Silano introduced the scientific report and draft opinion prepared by the TSE/BSE *ad hoc* Group at its meeting of 5 September. Prof. Le Neindre subsequently informed the SSC that the Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare (SC-AHAW) was currently preparing a general framework opinion on Fish waste in aquaculture. This opinion will include a chapter on TSE risks. In order to avoid overlaps and possible contradictions or inconsistencies between opinions, the SSC concluded that it was preferable that the SC-AHAW would be responsible for an overall opinion on fish waste, covering also the TSE-related mandate given to the SSC.

The SC-AHAW was invited to use and, where appropriate, integrate the TSE/BSE *ad hoc* Group's document. Whereas the overall opinion would thus fall under the responsibility of the SC-AHAW, it was agreed that the chapter/section related to TSEs would be co-adopted by the SSC.

**h. Potential risks arising from the use of small incinerators**

On behalf of Prof. Bridges, rapporteur, the Secretariat informed the SSC that a draft report and opinion were expected to be available for discussion at the next meeting.

**i. Conditions under which (1) safe burial and (2) safe burning can be achieved**

On behalf of Prof. Bridges, rapporteur, the Secretariat informed the SSC that a draft report and opinion were expected to be available for discussion at the next meeting.

**j. Necrophagous birds as possible transmitters of TSE/BSE.**

A report and draft opinion were available for discussion and adoption. However, as Prof.P.Puigdomenech had expressed his wish to participate in the discussions, the SSC decided to postpone the discussion until its next meeting.

**k. Chronic Wasting Disease.**

The Secretariat informed the SSC that the TSE/BSE *ad hoc* Group has installed a Working Group to prepare a scientific report on the issue. The Working Group will meet for the first time on 7 October 2002.

**l. The risks of contamination of bovine skulls/heads and of cheek meat**

The Secretariat provided the following state of affairs:

The TSE/BSE *ad hoc* Group has appointed, at its meeting of 5 July 2002, a rapporteur to amend, if necessary and in the light of a report provided by the German Authorities, the SSC opinion of January 2002 on BSE infectivity distribution in ruminant tissues and on the safety of ruminant heads. The further discussion and possible finalisation by the TSE/BSE *ad hoc* Group of an amended report and opinion was planned for the meetings of 5 September (*ad hoc* Group) and 12-13 September (SSC).

However, end August, the SSC secretariat was informed of new results of the UK "Cattle BSE attack rate study". This study researches the BSE infectivity in bovine tissues by direct transmission to other bovines. The new results show that tonsil tissues of 10-month old bovines, exposed via oral route to the BSE agent, can contain low levels of BSE infectivity. It is as yet unclear whether it concerns residual infectivity resulting from the exposure, or infectivity resulting from the disease pathogenesis.

Upon receiving this information, the Secretariat decided that it was preferable to postpone the finalisation of the possible update of the January 2002 opinion, until the full details of these new results of the cattle BSE attack rate study would be available. It was expected that this would be before 10 October, when the TSE/BSE *ad hoc* Group will have its next meeting.

**m. Outline of the GBR report (draft)**

Prof. Silano presented a table of contents on a general report on the GBR exercise. The SSC agreed with it and asked the GBR Peer Group to prepare a draft report.

**n. Intestine and casings;**

Until now the SSC had postponed its conclusions regarding sheep casings until further data and risk assessments would have become available. Recently the following documents became available: the Report of the UK Food Standards Agency's core stakeholder group on BSE and sheep (May 2002), an assessment of the risk of exposure to the BSE agent through the use of natural sausage casings (June 2002), a risk assessment of the use of sheep natural casings and legs of lamb (July 2002) as well as various comments on these reports. The documents were discussed by the TSE/BSE *ad hoc* Group and a report was presented to the SSC. On the basis of this report as well as of the available new information, the SSC concluded that, following the processing of the intestine of a sheep with BSE into casings, some residual infectivity may remain present, which may pose a risk should the presence of BSE in sheep become probable or proven. However, at present there is no evidence that BSE is present in small ruminants under field conditions and no indications pointing at an increased likelihood of such being the case. The complete text with the SSC's conclusions is attached as **Annex 9**.

**o. Adaptation of the Geographical BSE Risk methodology to small ruminants.**

Professor Silano informed the SSC that the TSE/BSE *ad hoc* Group had established a Working Group to explore the various aspects of a possible adaptation of the existing Geographical BSE Risk in cattle methodology to small ruminants ("GBR-S") and to conceive a method if such was possible. The Working Group met for a first time on 4 September. Prof.Silano provided an account of the WG's meeting, which was presented and discussed by the SSC. It was agreed that the WG would finalise its report and that the SSC would then further discuss the scientific feasibility of assessing the geographical risk of BSE being present in sheep, should the presence of BSE in sheep under field conditions become evident or probable.

**p. Experimental transmission of BSE by blood transfusion**

On 16 September 2000, Houston *et al*<sup>1</sup> reported in *The Lancet* on the experimental sheep-to-sheep transmission of the BSE agent by blood transfusion. At its meeting of 26-27 October 2000, the SSC adopted an opinion the Implications of the paper. On September 2002, Hunter *et al*<sup>2</sup> reported in The Journal of General Virology on the follow up of the previous experiment. The TSE/BSE *ad hoc* Group evaluated the new publication at its meetings of 25 July and 5 September 2002 and submitted a report to the SSC. Following discussion, the SSC adopted the opinion attached as **Annex 10**.

**q. Rapid tests**

The Secretariat informed the SSC that 2 companies are currently organising their field trials according to the Opinion of 22 February 2002 (Opinion on the design of a field trial for the evaluation of new rapid BSE post mortem tests).

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<sup>1</sup> Houston, F., Foster, J.D., Chong, A., Hunter, N., Bostock, C.J., 2000. Transmission of BSE by blood transfusion in sheep. Research letter. *The Lancet*, **356**: 999-1000.

<sup>2</sup> Hunter, N., Foster, J., Chong, A., McCutcheon, S., Parnham, D., Eaton, S., MacKenzie, C., and Houston, F., 2002. Transmission of prion diseases by blood transfusion. *Journal of General Virology* (2002), 83: Published ahead of print (16 July 2002).

**7. Info on the follow-up given to the opinions adopted at previous SSC meetings.**

Since the last SSC meeting, which preceded the annual vacation period, no further follow-ups had been given by Commission Services to the SSC's opinions.

**8. Information by the Commission services on other matters related to consumer health.**

No information was provided by Commission Services.

**9. Any other business.**

No other business was discussed.

The meeting ended on Friday 13 September 2002, at 12h00

**Annex 1: List of participants in the SSC meeting on 12-13 September 2002.**

**List of presence**

**Members of the SSC:**

- Ing. Georges Bories
- Prof. James Bridges (12 September only)
- Prof. Johanna Fink-Gremmels (not present afternoon, 12 September)
- Prof. Anthony R. Hardy (12 September only)
- Dr Keith Jones (12 September only)
- Prof. Werner Klein
- Dr Ada Knaap (12 September only)
- Dr Ib Knudsen
- Dr Pierre Le Neindre
- Prof. Johannes Löwer
- Prof. Gérard Pascal
- Prof. Vittorio Silano
- Prof. Staffan Skerfving
- Dr Ian White (12 September only)

**Apologies for absence:**

- Prof. Albert Osterhaus
- Prof. Pere Puigdomenech

**Participants from the Commission:**

**DG SANCO:** B. Carsin, C. Berlingieri, P. Vossen, M. Goll, G. Morrison, A. Van Elst, H. Buchow, J. Maher, W. Maier.

**DG RTD:** J. Bray.

## Annex 2: agenda of the Scientific Steering Committee Meeting of 12-13 September 2002

1. Welcome, apologies, introductory remarks, declaration of interest.
  2. Approval of the agenda
  3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 27-28 June 2002
  4. Procedural matters (if any)
  5. Multidisciplinary matters:
    - a. Co-ordination: Reports of the Chairmen of the 8 Scientific Committees;
    - b. Harmonisation of risk assessment methods:
      - Progress report on Task Force activities;
      - Report on the feedback received on the public consultations;
    - c. Emerging scientific issues:
    - d. Azole antibiotic resistance (editorial update)
  6. Multidisciplinary matters relating to TSE/BSE
    - 6.1. Report by the chairman of the TSE/BSE *ad-hoc* group meetings of 25 July and 5 September 2002
    - 6.2. Reports on specific multidisciplinary matters relating to TSE/BSE:
      - a. Geographical BSE Risk: the GBR of certain countries (progress report and opinions).
      - b. Update of the SSC opinion on the safety of gelatine;
      - c. Update of the SSC opinion on the safety of di- and tricalcium phosphate from bones;
      - d. Quantitative assessment of the risk of tallow, gelatine and dicalcium phosphate including also the influence of vertebral column and threshold age for its removal);
      - e. Safety of the alkaline hydrolysis process for waste disposal (info; progress report);
      - f. BSE risk of the bovine autonomic nervous system (progress report);
      - g. Feeding wild fishmeal to farmed fish; intra-species recycling of fish;
      - h. Potential risks arising from the use of small incinerators (progress report)
      - i. Conditions under which (1) safe burial and (2) safe burning can be achieved (progress report)
      - j. Necrophagous birds as possible transmitters of TSE/BSE.
      - k. Chronic Wasting Disease.
      - l. The risks of contamination of bovine skulls/heads and of cheek meat
      - m. Outline of the GBR report (draft)
- TSEs in small ruminants:
- n. Intestine and casings;
  - o. Actualisation of the existing Geographical BSE Risk methodology to small ruminants, by taking into account factors that may be unique to sheep (progress report);
  - p. Experimental transmission of BSE by blood transfusion
- Rapid tests:
- q. Rapid tests (state of affairs)
7. Information on the follow-up given to the opinions adopted at previous SSC meetings.
  8. Information by the Commission services on other matters related to consumer health.
  9. Any other business.

**Annex 3: Reports from the chairpersons of Scientific Committees on the major activities and milestones since the previous SSC meeting.**

Complete information at [http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/fs/sc/ssc/index\\_en.html](http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/fs/sc/ssc/index_en.html).

**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE VETERINARY MEASURES RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH**

There has been no SCVPH plenary meeting since last SSC meeting. Next SCVPH plenary meeting will take place on the 18th -19th September 2002.

**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE (SC-AHAW)**

The plenary meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> July was cancelled because of lack of opinions to adopt.

The Subcommittee on Animal Health (SCAH) held meetings on the 10<sup>th</sup> June and the 25<sup>th</sup> July, where the main task was the discussion for possible approval of the report concerning “Oral vaccination of foxes against rabies”. The SCAH will meet again on the 25<sup>th</sup> September where it is expected that the report will be approved and sent for final adoption to the next SCAHAW plenary on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October.

The Subcommittee on Animal welfare from 10<sup>th</sup> July was cancelled because the report on Primates was not ready for submission.

Five different working groups met since the last Steering Committee on 27-28<sup>th</sup> June.

1. Fish waste: Last meeting has been taking place in Brussels on 7<sup>th</sup> August, two more meetings have been scheduled in order to finish the scientific report by the working group (20<sup>th</sup> September and 24<sup>th</sup> October).
2. Welfare of non-human primates: Last meeting was held on the 29<sup>th</sup> July. The final report has been approved by the working group, and will be submitted next 24<sup>th</sup> September for possible approval to the Subcommittee on Animal Welfare.
3. Stunning methods: The group met for the second time on 28<sup>th</sup> August. Three additional meetings have been scheduled in order to finish the draft (30<sup>th</sup> September; 7-8<sup>th</sup> November and 2<sup>nd</sup> December).
4. Diagnostic group will meet on the 19<sup>th</sup> August for the second time, and two additional meetings have been scheduled (1<sup>st</sup> October and 4<sup>th</sup> November).
5. Vaccine group will meet on 3<sup>rd</sup> July and 2<sup>nd</sup> September. The following meetings have been scheduled 1<sup>st</sup> October, 5<sup>th</sup> November and 28<sup>th</sup> November.

A new group has been recently organised in order to deal with the mandate concerning the welfare on transport of species non-treated in the previous report. The species to be taken into consideration will be poultry, fish, rabbits, ostriches, exotic animals and cats and dogs. The first meeting it is expected to be held in Brussels in October.

**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE FOR COSMETICS AND NON-FOOD PRODUCTS (SC-CNFP)**

Since the last SSC plenary meeting of 27-28 June 2002, 4 Working Group meetings of the Scientific Committee on Cosmetic Products and Non-Food Products have taken place.

No particular items of a multi-disciplinary nature have been discussed.

**Annex 4**



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
HEALTH & CONSUMER PROTECTION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
Directorate C - Scientific Opinions  
**C1 - Follow-up and dissemination of scientific opinions**

**OPINION ON AZOLE ANTIMYCOTIC RESISTANCE:  
(RE-EDITED)**

**ADOPTED BY  
THE SCIENTIFIC STEERING COMMITTEE  
AT ITS MEETING OF 12-13 SEPTEMBER 2002**

**(DISTRIBUTED SEPARATELY)**

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**Annex 5**



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
HEALTH & CONSUMER PROTECTION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
Directorate C - Scientific Opinions  
**C1 - Follow-up and dissemination of scientific opinions**

**OPINION ON THE  
GEOGRAPHICAL RISK OF  
BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY (GBR) IN  
ISRAEL**

**ADOPTED BY THE SCIENTIFIC STEERING COMMITTEE  
AT ITS MEETING OF 12-13 SEPTEMBER 2002**

**(DISTRIBUTED SEPARATELY)**

**Annex 6**



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
HEALTH & CONSUMER PROTECTION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
Directorate C - Scientific Opinions  
**C1 - Follow-up and dissemination of scientific opinions**

**OPINION ON THE  
GEOGRAPHICAL RISK OF  
BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY (GBR) IN  
MALTA**

**ADOPTED BY THE SCIENTIFIC STEERING COMMITTEE  
AT ITS MEETING OF 12-13 SEPTEMBER 2002**

**(DISTRIBUTED SEPARATELY)**

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**Annex 7**



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
HEALTH & CONSUMER PROTECTION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
Directorate C - Scientific Opinions  
**C1 - Follow-up and dissemination of scientific opinions**

**OPINION ON THE  
GEOGRAPHICAL RISK OF  
BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY (GBR) IN  
SLOVENIA**

**ADOPTED BY THE SCIENTIFIC STEERING COMMITTEE  
AT ITS MEETING OF 12-13 SEPTEMBER 2002**

**(DISTRIBUTED SEPARATELY)**

**Annex 8**



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
HEALTH & CONSUMER PROTECTION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
Directorate C - Scientific Opinions  
C1 - Follow-up and dissemination of scientific opinions

**UPDATED OPINION ON  
THE SAFETY WITH REGARD TO TSE RISKS OF GELATINE  
DERIVED FROM RUMINANT BONES OR HIDES**

**ADOPTED BY  
THE SCIENTIFIC STEERING COMMITTEE  
AT ITS MEETING OF 12-13 SEPTEMBER 2002**

**(DISTRIBUTED SEPARATELY)**

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**Annex 9**



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
HEALTH & CONSUMER PROTECTION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
Directorate C - Scientific Opinions  
C1 - Follow-up and dissemination of scientific opinions

**COMPLEMENT TO THE SSC OPINION OF 4-5 APRIL 2002 ON SAFE  
SOURCING OF SMALL RUMINANT MATERIALS (WITH SPECIAL  
REFERENCE TO THE SAFETY WITH REGARD TO BSE RISKS OF SHEEP  
INTESTINES AND CASINGS.)**

**ADOPTED BY THE SCIENTIFIC STEERING COMMITTEE  
AT ITS MEETING OF 12-13 SEPTEMBER 2002**

**(DISTRIBUTED SEPARATELY)**

**Annex 10**



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
HEALTH & CONSUMER PROTECTION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Directorate C – Scientific Opinions  
**C1 - Follow-up and dissemination of scientific opinions**

**OPINION ON:**

**THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECENT PAPERS ON TRANSMISSION OF  
BSE BY BLOOD TRANSFUSION IN SHEEP (HOUSTON *ET AL*, 2000;  
HUNTER *ET AL*, 2002)**

**ADOPTED BY THE SCIENTIFIC STEERING COMMITTEE**

**AT ITS MEETING OF 12-13 SEPTEMBER 2002**

**(DISTRIBUTED SEPARATELY)**