

Minutes of the Scientific Steering Committee Meeting of 7-8 November 2002

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

The chairman, Prof. G. Pascal, welcomed the participants. He apologised for the absence of Profs. K. Jones and Staffan Skerfving (for both 7 and 8 November) and Prof. P. Le Neindre (for 7 November) and Profs. J. Fink-Gremmels, T. Hardy and I. White (for 8 November). The list of participants is attached as **Annex 1**.

Declarations of interest: No declarations of interest were made 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 12-13 September 2002.

The minutes of the meeting of 12-13 September 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).

b. Integration of food- and non-food issues in scientific advice related to consumer protection. Following Mr.Carsin's presentation, the SSC members highlighted that the formation of the SSC, in 1997 brought together, in a single committee independent high quality scientific expertise covering a broad range of public health/consumer health issues.

This Commission decision was a very positive and innovative development for ensuring continuing improvements in the level of consumer protection within the EU.

The SSC has regularly demonstrated the value of its integrated approach to public/consumer health. Particular contributions in this regard have been:

- I. A continual improvement in the consistency of advice in the use and interpretation of hazard information. This is increasingly important for public trust in risk assessments.
- II. Providing an overview on issues that span both food and non-food risks. E.g. multiple sources of exposure to both chemicals and biological agents (including micro-organisms).
- III. Developing a more harmonised approach for dealing with emerging (new) issues that may have broad potential impacts.

The SSC expressed its concern that the establishment of the European Food Safety Authority, as currently described, will lead to the complete segregation of scientific advice on foods from that of non-food issues. In the view of the SSC it is essential that the current integrated framework for the provision of independent scientific advice in public health/consumer health issues is not just maintained but developed further.

The basis for good risk management is the co-operative and integrating risk assessment of all and multiple exposure pathways to toxic substances as well as microbiological agents, and the corresponding technologies concerned. This quantitative comparison of risks requires multidisciplinary transectoral scientific evaluation assuring that the integrated approach to risk assessments across all the

domains that impact on public/consumers health, started through the SSC, is not only retained but also extended.

Mr. Carsin proposed that a representative of the EFSA task force would be invited at the meeting of 5-6 December 2002. This would be an opportunity to further discuss and clarify the above issues, possibly resulting in a number of suggestions and recommendations to Commission Services and EFSA.

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**.
- During the discussions and exchanges of ideas that took place following each report, the following concerns were expressed:
 - The current Scientific Committees involved in food- and feed safety need guidance on the transfer of dossiers from the current Scientific Committees involved in food- and feed-related matters, to the Panels and Committee of EFSA;
 - The absence of reliable human exposure data continues to jeopardise the preparation and adoption of certain opinions, for example on the safety of detergents;
 - Opinions are sometimes commented on by (members of) other scientific bodies or international institutions (e.g., WHO); there is a need for guidelines on how a Scientific Committee should proceed in such case;
 - Opinions are sometimes challenged by the industry, which may claim that the opinion is contradictory to its own scientific evidence or ask for additional supporting data to be provided. Also here there is a need for guidelines on how a Scientific Committee should proceed in such case;
 - Requests for an opinion often relate to the safety of one given substance; it is not excluded that the opinion concludes that the substance poses a risk, but that the risk posed by alternatives to the substance (including the consequences of the removal/withdrawal of a product) pose an equal or higher risk. Guidance is needed on whether a Scientific Committee in such cases can broaden the mandate and elaborate on the risk posed by the possible alternatives.

b. Harmonisation of risk assessment methods:

- Progress report on Task Force activities;

Prof. J. Bridges, W. Klein and P. Le Neindre provided an update on 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 have been submitted to the Task Force that, where appropriate, amended the draft report submitted to the SSC.

c. Emerging scientific issues

Following the SSC's request of last meeting, Dr.A.Boenke of the Research Directorate General provided an account of the research that is currently ongoing in the field of mycotoxins at the level of the EU and/or of Member States. This account was made available to all members at the meeting.

6. Multidisciplinary matters relating to TSE/BSE

6.1. Report on the TSE/BSE *ad-hoc* group meetings of 10 October 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)

- The SSC adopted an amendment of the opinion on the Geographical Risk of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy of 11 January 2002 (**Annex 4**). The update concerns the amendment of the list of BSE risk countries. According to the methodology all GBR III countries may pose a risk to other countries if the latter imported either live cattle or meat and bone meal from them. Consequently, 7 Third Countries have been added to this list (Bulgaria, Croatia, Israel, Latvia, Malta, San Marino and Turkey).
- The SSC further adopted one opinion on the geographical BSE risk (GBR) of New Zealand (**Annex 5**). New Zealand continues to be considered as a "GBR I" country, meaning that presence of one or more cattle clinically or pre-clinically infected with the BSE agent is highly unlikely.

b. Update of the SSC opinion on the safety of phosphates from bones.

The secretariat informed the SSC that the results of the ongoing research on TSE infectivity clearance during the production of phosphates from bones were now expected to become available in December 2002. The discussion of the draft opinion and report was therefore postponed to the SSC meeting of 16-17 January 2003.

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

At the SSC previous meeting the methodology and input parameters to be used for quantitatively assessing the residual BSE risk in tallow, gelatine and dicalcium phosphate, had been discussed and adopted. The application of the method, however, requires extensive computing capacity and appropriate software and cannot be done as part of the "homework" of the members of a Working Group. The Secretariat informed the SSC that it had proposed to the Health and Consumer Directorate General that this work be contracted out and that it had launched the corresponding administrative procedure.

d. Safety of the alkaline hydrolysis process for waste disposal.

An opinion was initially adopted on 16 May 2002. Subsequently, comments, substantial additional data including analytical results, 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 in June 2002. These were analysed by the rapporteurs and the TSE/BSE *ad hoc* Group (at its meeting of 5 September 2002). A draft-amended opinion and report were discussed at the SSC meeting of 12-13 September 2002. As a follow-up to this discussion, the Secretariat invited the Company that requested an opinion on the process to provide additional information on:

- 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 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 Secretariat in addition submitted the draft report an opinion for comments to an external expert in the field of dioxins and an expert in the field of anaerobic digestion and burning (bio-)gasses. A feed-back was received from the expert in dioxins.

On the basis of additional information provided by the company and of the advise of the consulted expert, a new update of the report and opinion was prepared and submitted to the SSC. Following discussion and further amendments, the SSC adopted the opinion attached as **Annex 6**.

e. BSE risk of the bovine autonomic nervous system.

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

f. 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.

g. 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.

h. Necrophagous birds as possible transmitters of TSE/BSE.

The report and draft opinion prepared by the TSE/BSE *ad hoc* Group were discussed, amended and adopted (see **Annex 7**).

i. Chronic Wasting Disease.

The Working Group preparing a scientific report on the issue met for the first time on 7 October 2002. A report is currently being finalised. It will be discussed by the TSE/BSE *ad hoc* Group at its meeting of 21 November and 9 January 2003 and a submission to the SSC is then expected for 16-17 January 2003.

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

On 10 May 2002, the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany requested the European Commission to elicit the opinion of the Scientific Steering Committee on a report of 25 April 2002 prepared by the Federal Institute for Consumer Health Protection and Veterinary Medicine (BgVV), which evaluates the possible risks related to harvesting cheek meat and more specifically lists the critical hygiene points in harvesting of bovine heads and cheek meat of cattle.

At their respective meetings in September 2002, the TSE/BSE *ad hoc* Group and the SSC were informed about a recent outcome of the ongoing UK research into the pathogenesis of BSE in cattle showing very low levels of infectivity in bovine tonsil.

In the light of these new data, the TSE/BSE *ad hoc* Group updated the report that served as the basis for the SSC opinion of 10-11 January 2002 on TSE Infectivity distribution in ruminant tissues. This report reflects the state of knowledge in this field as in December 2001.

Taking into account the above, the SSC updated its opinion of 10-11 January 2002 on TSE Infectivity distribution in ruminant tissues. The update is attached as **Annex 8**.

k. Actualisation of the existing Geographical BSE Risk methodology to small ruminants, by taking into account factors that may be unique to sheep.

The SSC has at several occasions addressed the question whether BSE is present or not in small ruminants under field conditions and it has produced a number of opinions related to this subject. Recent SSC opinions address the distribution of TSE infectivity in small ruminant tissues, advice a strategy to investigate the possible presence of BSE in sheep and suggest means for safe sourcing of small ruminants should BSE in small ruminants become probable or evident under field conditions, based on genotyping, breeding, rapid TSE testing, flock certification and elimination of specified risk materials.

At the request of Commission Services, the SSC now extended the existing method for Geographical BSE risk analysis (in cattle) to small ruminants, by taking into account factors that may be unique to small ruminants. The corresponding opinion is provided in **Annex 9**. It links assumptions and recommendations from earlier opinions with the relevant elements of the SSC's methodological approach for assessing the geographical BSE risk in cattle, into a proposal for a coherent methodology for assessing the geographical BSE risk in small ruminants, in case BSE in small ruminants would become probable or evident under field conditions.

l. Draft opinion on a programme for the evaluation of rapid post mortem tests to detect TSE in sheep.

The SSC discussed and adopted an opinion on a programme for the evaluation of rapid post mortem tests to detect TSEs in small ruminants (**Annex 10**). This opinion will serve as a protocol to evaluate already approved rapid post mortem tests and tests being currently under evaluation on tissues of small ruminants (sheep/goats).

m. Editorial update of the opinion of 12-13 September 2002 on sheep casings

The Secretariat informed the SSC about an editorial modification that was introduced in the opinion adopted by the SSC on 12-13 September. The modification concerns the list of available literature and does not affect the opinion as such.

n. Editorial update of the SSC opinion 12-13 September 2002 on the safety of gelatine.

Following an introduction provided by the Secretariat, it appeared that the scope of proposed update was not purely editorial, but might require some in-depth discussions. This item was therefore postponed to the next meeting.

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

No additional information on the follow-up given to SSC opinions had become available since last meeting.

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 8 November 2002, at 12h00

Annex 1: List of participants in the SSC meeting on 7-8 November 2002.

List of presence

Members of the SSC:

- Ing. Georges Bories
- Prof. James Bridges
- Prof. Johanna Fink-Gremmels (7 November only)
- Prof. Anthony R. Hardy (7 November only)
- Prof. Werner Klein
- Dr Ada Knaap
- Dr Ib Knudsen
- Dr Pierre Le Neindre (not present 7 November)
- Prof. Johannes Löwer
- Prof. Albert Osterhaus
- Prof. Gérard Pascal
- Prof. Pere Puigdomenech (not present morning of 7 November)
- Prof. Vittorio Silano
- Dr Ian White (7 November only)

Apologies for absence:

- Dr Keith Jones
- Prof. Staffan Skerfving

Participants from the Commission:

DG SANCO: B. Carsin, C. Berlingieri, P. Vossen, M. Goll, B. Goossens, J. Ordeig Vila, G. Morrison, S Delle Chiaie, M-N. Costa, M. Granero Rosell, A. Sanabria, A. Van Elst, J. Serratos, K. Van Dyck, K. Sander-Vornhagen, N. Kollmorgen (Stagiaire)

EFSA: A. Stimpson

DG RTD: E. Sacher, A. Boenke.

DG TRADE: D. Pineda

JRC: W. Philipp

Annex 2: agenda of the Scientific Steering Committee Meeting of 7-8 November 2002.

1. Welcome, apologies, introductory remarks, declaration of interest.
 2. Approval of the agenda
 3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 12-13 September 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.
 6. Multidisciplinary matters relating to TSE/BSE
 - 6.1. Report by the chairman of the TSE/BSE *ad-hoc* group meetings of 10 October 2002
 - 6.2. Reports on specific multidisciplinary matters relating to TSE/BSE:
 - a. Geographical BSE Risk: the GBR of certain countries.
 - b. Update of the SSC opinion on the safety of di- and tricalcium phosphate from bones;
 - c. Quantitative assessment of the risk of tallow, gelatine and dicalcium phosphate;
 - d. Safety of the alkaline hydrolysis process for waste disposal;
 - e. BSE risk of the bovine autonomic nervous system;
 - f. Potential risks arising from the use of small incinerators;
 - g. Conditions under which (1) safe burial and (2) safe burning can be achieved (progress report)
 - h. Necrophagous birds as possible transmitters of TSE/BSE.
 - i. Chronic Wasting Disease.
 - j. The risks of contamination of bovine skulls/heads and of cheek meat
- TSEs in small ruminants:
- k. Actualisation of the existing Geographical BSE Risk methodology to small ruminants, by taking into account factors that may be unique to sheep (progress report);
- Rapid tests:
- l. Draft opinion on a programme for the evaluation of rapid post mortem tests to detect TSE in sheep
- Editorial updates:
- m. Opinion on sheep casings
 - n. Opinion on gelatine
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.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON FOOD (SCF)

This note reports the activities of the SCF in the last two plenary sessions

The Committee held its 133rd plenary session on 1/2/3 July. It dedicated a substantial part of this plenary to the urgent question of the recent findings regarding the presence of acrylamide in foods. It prepared and adopted an opinion on the subject. This opinion very much agrees with the positions of the WHO international consultation on the matter, held immediately before this plenary of the SCF.

The Committee also adopted at this plenary opinions on two flavouring compounds (quassin and pulegone). It also adopted a statement on the recent studies regarding the appearance of 2 alkyl cyclobutanones after irradiation of certain foods. The Committee also commented on the issue of a bioprotein in animal feed. A number of other issues were discussed but were either sent back for further elaboration by the Working Groups or had to be simply deferred to the following plenary because there was not enough time due to the urgent issue of acrylamide.

At its 134th plenary session, held on 24/25/26 September, the Committee adopted the following 9 opinions:

- The Committee adopted two additional upper levels of micronutrients: vitamin A, and iodine.
- A general view about the effects of increase uses of phytosterols (novel foods applications). The Committee makes some recommendations.
- Opinion on the postmarketing surveillance report by the company Unilever on their product (one type of phytosterol) authorised under the Novel Foods Regulation.
- Opinion on the food additive benzoic acid and its salts. The Committee has now considered a much wider database and has established a full Group ADI. This is an update of the earlier opinion of 1994.
- Opinion on benzyl alcohol as a carrier for flavourings. The SCF included it in the Group ADI for benzoic acid and its salts.
- Opinion of the additive E472c (citric acid esters of mono- and diglycerides) in baby food for special medical purposes. This additive is authorised at present in the relevant directives for only certain specific medical purposes.
- Three opinions containing evaluations of food contact materials. These lists contain now much more detailed information than in the past.

The next 135th SCF plenary meeting takes place on 1/2/3 December. Depending on the work of the several working groups meetings taking place up to this plenary, issues likely in the SCF agenda will be: the evaluation of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) as contaminants in food, the evaluation of furfural (flavouring), possibly a group evaluation within the programme of chemically defined flavourings, the upper level for zinc and, possibly, the ones for copper and vitamin D, an additional list of food contact materials, possible consideration of BADGE, a number of food additives.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL NUTRITION (SCAN)

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE FOR PLANTS (SCP)

The SCP adopted eight opinions at its Plenary meetings of 18 July and 23 September, seven of which relate to plant protection and one to GMOs. They are as follows:

- Opinion on the draft guidance document for the setting of an Acute Reference Dose (ARFD)
- Opinion on specific questions from the Commission concerning the evaluation of Indoxacarb in the context of Council Directive 91/414/EEC
- Opinion on specific questions from the Commission concerning the evaluation of Flusilazole in the context of Council Directive 91/414/EEC
- Opinion on additional questions from the Commission concerning the evaluation of Vinclozolin in the context of Council Directive 91/414/EEC
- Opinion on methods for the determination of the organic carbon adsorption coefficient (K_{oc}) for a plant protection product active substance in the context of Council Directive 91/414/EEC
- Opinion on the evaluation of mesotrione in the context of Council Directive 91/414/EEC concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market
Opinion on the draft guidance document on the setting of acceptable operator exposure levels (AOELs)
- Opinion on genetically modified high amylopectin potatoes notified by amylogene HB (notification C/SE/96/3501).

Work is ongoing in the Committee on the following dossiers:

- Focus surface scenario
- Uniform principles for the evaluation and authorisation of plant protection products containing micro-organisms
- Fenthion
- Draft guidance document for the environmental risk assessment of active substances used on rice in the EU for Annex 1 inclusion to Directive 91/414/EEC
- Draft guidance document on relevant metabolites
- Isoxaflutole
- Atrazine and simazine

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE VETERINARY MEASURES RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH

The last plenary meeting of the Scientific Committee on Veterinary Measures relating to Public Health took place on 18-19 September.

A new mandate on “the risk for human health caused by the use of fluoroquinolones in animals” was presented to the Committee. The Committee agreed upon the request and set up a group of experts for this question.

The Committee has discussed other draft reports, particular those related to microbiological criteria for Salmonella and VTEC in food commodities, and it made suggestions to the documents presented. The Committee stressed the importance of the ongoing discussion on the “appropriateness of setting microbiological criteria” and a common approach for both of the documents under discussion.

The next SCVPH plenary is organised for 27-28 November.

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

The last plenary meeting of the Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare took place on October 23rd.

A Report on the Oral Vaccination of Foxes against rabies was adopted and a draft report on The Welfare of Non-Human Primates used in Research was briefly discussed and will be discussed in detail at the next plenary meeting scheduled for December 17th.

There is ongoing progress in a number of working groups considering the use of fish by-products in aquaculture, vaccines and diagnostic techniques for a number of List A OIE Diseases (Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Classical Swine Fever and Avian Influenza) and welfare aspects of stunning/killing methods. A further meeting is planned of a working group to consider the welfare during transport of various species not considered in the earlier SCAHAW Report of 11th March 2002.

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

Since the last SSC plenary meeting, 2 Working Group meetings of the Scientific Committee on Cosmetic Products and Non-Food Products have taken place. Although no particular items of a multi-disciplinary nature have been discussed, the committee formulated the following comments on the Proposal for a Regulation of the EP and of the Council on Detergents, doc. n° COM(2002), 485 final of 4 September 2002 :

- * The Objectives and Scope (article 1, page 12) should be enlarged to include **consumer health and safety protection**. More consideration for human risk assessment from intended and unintended exposures need to be addressed than found in the Explanatory Memorandum and in the Whereas. The proposal is insufficient for desirable consumer protection.
- * Allergenic perfume ingredients are addressed in the current proposal with reference to those identified as allergens in cosmetics. However, allergens other than those specified need to be considered and adequately addressed.
- * Partial ingredient labelling is proposed rather than full ingredient listing that would provide the necessary information to the consumer. The rationale and benefits for full disclosure are similar to those established for cosmetic products. Adequate disclosure would assist in the estimation of the global exposure of chemicals to the consumer, a step pivotal in risk assessment and management.
- * A precautionary sentence prompting users to use gloves in hand-washing application is necessary. Extensive literature and epidemiological studies have clearly demonstrated that houseworkers and cleaning personnel frequently have hand dermatitis that is aetiologically linked to detergent exposure. Although the associated dermatitis is usually irritant, detergent preparations may also contain sensitizers leading to allergic contact dermatitis. In a Danish study based on cleaning agents for industrial and household use registered in the Danish Product Register Data Base (PROBAS), 49 contact allergens in 16 different product types within washing and cleaning agents were identified.
- * Annex VIII-C would be more useful to health care professionals if it were quantitative.
- * To insert the Cosmetics Directive 76/768/EEC in 'Whereas n° 21.
- * Relevant impurities of all ingredients need to be incorporated in the risk assessment process for both environmental and human health evaluation.
- * Musks and other bio-accumulative substances deserve attention from the environmental point of view, e.g. by the SCTEE.

- * Potential endocrine disruptor properties of ingredients and impurities should be included in the dossiers.

As a separate issue it is known that Industry has undertaken in-house risk assessment of some detergent ingredients. However, after general review of these available documents, it is felt that these assessments are, at least in part, inadequate (methods not according to modern standards, including OECD

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE FOR ON TOXICITY, ECOTOXICITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT (CSTEE)

The Committee adopted the following opinions :

- Opinion on risks to health from Chromium VI in cement. Opinion expressed at the 32th CSTEE plenary meeting Brussels, 27 June 2002.
- Opinion on the results of the risk assessment of Bisphenol A - Environmental part (CAS no: 80- 05- 7 EINECS no: 201-245- 8). Carried out in the framework of Council Regulation (EEC) 793/93 on the evaluation and control of the risks of existing substances. Opinion expressed at the 32nd CSTEE plenary meeting Brussels, 27 June 2002
- Opinion on the justification of a notification by the Netherlands to introduce national measures concerning wood treated with copper substances . Opinion expressed at the 33rd CSTEE plenary meeting, Brussels, 24 September 2002.
- Opinion on "Effects of electromagnetic fields on health". Opinion expressed at the 33rd CSTEE plenary meeting, Brussels, 24 September 2002.
- Opinion on 'Member State assessments of the risk to health and the environment from cadmium in fertilizers'. Opinion expressed at the 33rd CSTEE plenary meeting, Brussels, 24 September 2002.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE FOR ON MEDICINAL PRODUCTS AND MEDICAL DEVICES (SC-MPMD)

Opinion on Medical Devices containing DEHP plasticised PVC; neonates and other groups possibly at risk from DEHP toxicity. Adopted on 26 September 2002.

Opinion on Revision of the scientific opinion on the effects of xylitol and other polyols on caries development adopted by the Scientific Committee on Medicinal Products and Medical Devices on 2 June 1999. Adopted on 26 September 2002

Annex 4



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

UPDATE OF THE OPINION
ON THE GEOGRAPHICAL RISK OF
BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY (GBR)

ADOPTED BY
THE SCIENTIFIC STEERING COMMITTEE
AT ITS MEETING OF 7-8 NOVEMBER 2002

(DISTRIBUTED SEPARATELY)

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
NEW ZEALAND

ADOPTED BY THE SCIENTIFIC STEERING COMMITTEE
AT ITS MEETING OF 7-8 NOVEMBER 2002

(DISTRIBUTED SEPARATELY)

Annex 6



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

UPDATED OPINION AND REPORT ON :

A TREATMENT OF ANIMAL WASTE BY MEANS OF HIGH TEMPERATURE
(150°C, 3 HOURS) AND HIGH PRESSURE ALKALINE HYDROLYSIS.

INITIALLY ADOPTED BY THE SCIENTIFIC STEERING COMMITTEE

AT ITS MEETING OF 16 MAY 2002

AND REVISED AT ITS MEETING OF 7-8 NOVEMBER 2002

(DISTRIBUTED SEPARATELY)

Annex 7



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

OPINION on :

NECROPHAGOUS BIRDS AS POSSIBLE TRANSMITTERS OF TSE/BSE

ADOPTED BY THE SCIENTIFIC STEERING COMMITTEE

AT ITS MEETING OF 7-8 NOVEMBER 2002

(DISTRIBUTED SEPARATELY)

Annex 8



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

Update of the Opinion on

TSE INFECTIVITY DISTRIBUTION IN RUMINANT TISSUES

INITIALLY ADOPTED BY THE SCIENTIFIC STEERING COMMITTEE

AT ITS MEETING OF 10-11 JANUARY 2002

AND AMENDED AT ITS MEETING OF 7-8 NOVEMBER 2002

following the submission of (1) a risk assessment by the German Federal Ministry of Consumer Protection, food and Agriculture and (2) new scientific evidence regarding BSE infectivity distribution in tonsils

(DISTRIBUTED SEPARATELY)

Annex 9



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH & CONSUMER PROTECTION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Scientific Steering Committee

OPINION ON:

**THE GEOGRAPHICAL BSE RISK FOR SHEEP AND GOATS (GBR-S):
ADAPTATION OF THE CATTLE GBR METHODOLOGY TO SMALL RUMINANTS,
IN CASE BSE IN SMALL RUMINANTS WOULD BECOME PROBABLE OR
EVIDENT UNDER FIELD CONDITIONS.**

ADOPTED BY THE SCIENTIFIC STEERING COMMITTEE

AT ITS MEETING OF 7-8 NOVEMBER 2002

(DISTRIBUTED SEPARATELY)

Annex 10



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH & CONSUMER PROTECTION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Scientific Steering Committee

OPINION ON
A PROGRAMME FOR THE EVALUATION OF
RAPID *POST MORTEM* TESTS
TO DETECT TSE IN SMALL RUMINANTS

ADOPTED BY THE SCIENTIFIC STEERING COMMITTEE

AT ITS MEETING OF 7-8 NOVEMBER 2002

(DISTRIBUTED SEPARATELY)
