



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

sante.ddg2.g.5(2017)2334638

**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 29 MARCH 2017
(Section Biological Safety of the Food Chain)**

CIRCABC Link: <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/43853781-ec40-4d8a-ae67-f6b893a654fb>

A.01 Presentation and exchange of views of the Committee of the revised version of Guidance on cheese as a raw material in the manufacture of food products (version of April 2013), issued by the European Dairy Association (EDA) and the European Association of the Dairy Trade. (EUCOLAIT).

The revised version of this guide was presented by the European Dairy Association. It will assist food business operators in deciding whether a cheese material is suitable for further food processing, directly or pending further treatment, or must be disposed of in accordance with the animal by-products legislation. Many comments were made at the meeting, namely on: sampling, consistency with the current EU regulation, the scope of the guide (as it included retail level), and laboratory returns. Member States were invited to provide comments by 1 June 2017 for consideration by the professional organisations.

A.02 Presentation and exchange of views of the Committee of the revised version of the European Guide for the hygienic manufacture of processed cheese (version of April 2013) issued by ASSIFONTE (Association of European producers of processed cheese and the natural platform and roundtable for the professional people within this industry).

The revised version of this guide was presented by the European Dairy Association (EDA). It aims at providing practical information for processed cheese manufacturers and assisting them in proper implementation of the hygiene legislation. Member States were invited to provide comments by 1 June 2017 for consideration by European Dairy Association.

A.03 Presentation by EFSA (European Food Safety Authority) on the Opinion on hazard analysis approaches for certain small retail establishments in view of the application of their food safety management systems.

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) presented its opinion on a simplified approach to food safety management in small retail businesses such as grocery shops, butchers, and bakeries.

Link: <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/press/news/170302>

A.04 Presentation and possible endorsement of technical specifications for a harmonised format for the listing of establishments in accordance with Annex IV to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001.

The purpose is to agree on technical specifications on how to list establishments which use animal proteins in feed to ease operators and control authorities reading of such lists. Member States' lists will be published by the Commission and provide transparency to all about which establishments are allowed to use certain animal proteins. A flexible approach was offered to and endorsed by Member States which should submit their lists to the Commission by 1 November 2017 for publication thereafter by 1 December 2017.

A.05 Presentation and possible endorsement of the revised "Guidelines for the validation of new methods for the detection of trichinella larvae in meat samples".

Further to previous discussions on these guidelines, the revised version was presented and endorsed.

A.06 Follow-up to the Chief Veterinary Officers' meeting of 24 March 2017 in relation to food fraud in Brazil.

At the request of the CVOs following the CVO meeting of 24 March, Member States discussed the harmonised approach towards the reinforced checks to be carried out on imports of meat and meat products originating from Brazil. A full consensus was reached to apply 100% physical checks and 20% microbiological checks on all consignments presented at the EU border inspection posts coming from Brazil. However, Member States are free to test for other hazards, depending on their risk assessment. These agreed conclusions were put down in a written document which has been circulated to Member States. The French Delegation asked that the following statement be added to the meeting minutes:

"La délégation française estime, au vu des fortes incertitudes qui demeurent sur la crédibilité du système de certification sanitaire officielle brésilien, que les contrôles renforcés à l'importation dans l'UE de viandes du Brésil devraient être complétés par une décision conservatoire de suspension immédiate des importations originaires des trois Etats fédérés dont les services d'inspection et de certification sanitaires ont été mis en cause par la police brésilienne."

A.07 Presentation and exchange of views on the use of Listex™ P100 for the reduction of *Listeria monocytogenes* on certain ready-to eat products of animal origin.

Discussion of this point was postponed.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005 as regards *Campylobacter* in broiler carcasses.

The Commission presented a revised version of the draft Commission Regulation for the introduction of a *Campylobacter* process hygiene criterion for broiler carcasses and summarised the feedback received from stakeholders on this draft. The draft was supported by a qualified majority of Member States. During the meeting, the United Kingdom made the following declaration:

“Whilst a proposal to tackle campylobacter contamination in chicken is welcomed we do not think that this goes far enough in addressing what is a major public health issue across the European Union and it does not take account of the progress already made in a number of Member States. We also think a crucial element is missing in the submission of data from food business operators to the Competent Authority. Such a provision would enable member States to monitor their industries’ progress against the levels set out in this proposal. We would hope that this data submission would be a priority for the Commission when it comes to the review of the official control legislation.”

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Annex VII to Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the establishment of the European Union Reference Laboratory for foodborne viruses.

The Commission presented a draft proposal as regards the establishment of a European Union Reference Laboratory for foodborne viruses.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Annex VIII to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the approval of Slovenia's national control programme for classical scrapie.

The Commission presented the draft text for the approval of Slovenia's national control programme for classical scrapie.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

C.01 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation extending the special guarantees concerning Salmonella spp. laid down in Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council to meat derived from broilers (Gallus gallus) intended for Denmark.

After a brief introduction by the Commission, Member States congratulated Denmark for the efforts invested in the fight against Salmonella. The draft will be subject to further discussions in the Committee.

C.02 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Annexes I and III to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards a surveillance programme for chronic wasting disease in cervids in Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden and repealing Commission Decision 2007/182/EC.

The Commission presented the state-of-play on this issue, indicating that further clarification was requested from the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). Some Member States expressed their difficulties in reaching the target for sampling. The draft will be discussed again in the next Committee meeting.

C.03 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Annex III of Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 on temperature conditions during storage and transport.

The Commission summarised the discussion held in a Working Group on this subject. Some Member States expressed their worries that this derogation would become the rule. Others were supportive. The draft will be amended to reflect those discussions and will be resubmitted to the Committee.

C.04 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation (EU) on the use of Listex™ P100 for the reduction of Listeria monocytogenes on certain ready-to-eat products of animal origin.

This point was withdrawn from the agenda.

C.05 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin.

This point was withdrawn from the agenda.

C.06 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down specific rules for the organisation of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption.

This point was withdrawn from the agenda.

C.07 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Annex III to Commission Regulation (EC) No 2074/2005 as regards paralytic shellfish poison (PSP) detection method.

This point was withdrawn from the agenda.

M.01 Specified Risk Materials in small ruminants.

The United Kingdom requested clarification from the Commission on its intention with regard to the document tabled in previous Committee meetings concerning specified risk materials in small ruminants. It also invited Member States' views on whether to split the draft or not. The Commission recalled the lack of qualified majority in support of this text, checked on two occasions, and indicated that there was thus no reason to maintain this draft on the Committee's agenda.

M.02 Update of the situation on Tetrodotoxins in the Netherlands.

At the request of Belgium, the Commission explained that the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) opinion on Tetrodotoxins (TTX) is expected in the coming days. After publication, the opinion will be discussed in the dedicated working group on bivalve molluscs probably in May/June.

M.03 Superchilling.

The Commission informed the Committee that a reply had been sent to the Italian Authorities, following their request for clarification of the interpretation of the practice of superchilling, underlining that this practice is not allowed under current EU rules on temperature transport. A copy of this letter will be sent to all Chief Veterinary Officers (CVOs) in the Member States in order to ensure a harmonised approach at the Border Inspection Posts (BIPs).