



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH & CONSUMER PROTECTION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Directorate C - Scientific Opinions

C2 - Management of scientific committees; scientific co-operation and networks

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE SCVPH PLENARY MEETING OF 19-20 SEPTEMBER 2001

(APPROVED ON 21 NOVEMBER 2001)

1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES, DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

The Chairman welcomed the members of the Committee.

For apologies and absences, see the attached list of presence.

No conflict of interests with the items proposed for discussion in the agenda were declared.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 20-21 JUNE 2001

The proposed minutes were adopted subject to a few editorial changes.

4. INFORMATION TO THE COMMITTEE ON POSSIBLE NEW QUESTIONS –

Three new mandates were presented and discussed by the Committee.

The mandates related to:

- Honey and its microbiological hazards;
- Salmonella;
- verotoxigenic E. coli (VTEC)

A lively discussion took place particularly on the two mandates for Salmonella and VTEC. The Committee felt that the mandates were too vast and that the task as given would not permit the Committee to reach the aim, particularly for Salmonella. The Committee suggested to better focus the question and to restrict the field of action. Consequently, the discussion led the Committee to propose an alternative wording to the Commission for both drafts.

The Committee agreed to establish three ad hoc working groups. With reference to Salmonella and VTEC, it was agreed to create two working groups including members of the SCVPH as well as of Scientific Committee on Food (SCF). The first working group is scheduled to be a joint working group and a date for the meeting was agreed.

Concerning honey, the Committee gave mandate to the rapporteur and secretariat together with the chair to set up the Working Group which will be presented at the next plenary. The group should include members of the SCVPH as well as external expertise.

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF A SCIENTIFIC OPINION CONCERNING :

5.1. Working Group on *Vibrio vulnificus* and *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* in molluscs.

The rapporteur presented the draft report, the members of the Committee commented upon. The discussion focused particularly on the conclusions and recommendations. A major debate was focused on the question of setting up criteria. The document was revised and updated accordingly and finally adopted unanimously subject to small editorial changes to be made by the rapporteur and the secretariat.

5.2. Working Group on the review of the report of the Scientific Veterinary Committee(Sc. V. C.) on “*Trichinella* free areas” (report of 1996) and reliability of *Trichinella* detection methods

The Chairman of the Committee, who chairs also the Working Group, briefed the Committee on the progress of the report since the last presentation (June 2001). The Committee welcomed the new approach of the document, however further improvements were suggested. Some members stressed a lack of the human clinical signs and related data, which would be relevant for the occurrence and the importance of the disease. A draft-revised version of the document is expected to be presented at the next plenary meeting for possible discussion and adoption.

6. PROGRESS REPORT OF THE:

6.1. Working Group on SRSV-NLVs

The draft report was introduced by the Chairman of the working group to the Committee. Amendments were suggested by members of the Committee. The next working group meeting is scheduled for beginning of October. A revised version will be presented at the next plenary meeting.

6.2. Criteria on methods for Salmonella detection

The Chairman of the group briefed the Committee about the outcome of the first working group meeting and the progress made. Several

documents were circulated within the group and proposed to be further discussed. The second working group meeting is scheduled for the following week.

7. FEED-BACK BY THE CHAIRMAN ON SUBJECTS DISCUSSED IN THE SSC WHICH ARE OF INTEREST TO THE COMMITTEE

None.

8. FEED-BACK BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE HAVING ATTENDED WORKING GROUP MEETINGS OF OTHER SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES

The SCVPH member of the current working group on “Harmonisation of Risk Assessment” set up by the Scientific Steering Committee (SSC), informed the Committee of the progress made and the set up of three separate working groups on Microbiological Risks, Toxicological Risk, Environmental Risk, clarifying issues left open by previous groups of the SSC.

9. MISCELLANEOUS

Proposed date for the plenary meeting of 2002. The proposal will be for discussion at the next plenary meeting. It was agreed to send an advanced copy via e-mail, immediately after the meeting. The Members of the SCVPH were invited to reply electronically, thus an overview would be available before the meeting if any problematic date (eg international meetings, conference etc).

The Secretariat announced the move of directorate C of DG SANCO to the Office location in Rue de Geneve 1. The meeting of the working groups of September will already take place at the new location.

A member of the SCVPH announced that one day meeting is planned to be held in Brussels, on 4th December, organised by the Belgian Food Authority on “Food Safety, under the Belgian Presidency. All related information will be circulated as soon as they will be available.

Annex I: Attendance

Members

Prof. J. Fink-Gremmels (chairman),
Prof. A. Johnston (I vice-chairman),
Prof. D. Vuitton (II vice-chairman),
Prof. J. Brugere-Picoux,
Dr. P. Colin,
Dr. P. Gerner-Smidt,
Prof. R. Fries,
Dr. H. Kruse,
Prof. A. Macr•,
Dr. R. Maijala,
Prof. C. Martinez Bordenave-Gassedat,
Dr. W. Pfau,
Dr. T. Roberts,
Prof. F. Smulders,
Dr. I. Vågsholm,
Prof. J. Van Hoof

Apologies

Prof. V. Caporale
Prof. A. Johnston (20 September afternoon)
Prof. R. Fries (19 September)
Prof. A. Mantis
Dr. W. Pfau (20 September afternoon)

Absent

None

COMMISSION

Mrs P. Makela (SANCO/D2),
Mrs C. Micmaker-Grandcolas (SANCO/D2),
Mrs R. Diez (SANCO/C2),
Mrs M. Marini (SANCO/C2),
Mr B. Verleysen (SANCO/C2).