



Summary Record of the 115th SCAN Plenary Meeting, Brussels, 24 April 1998 (approved at the 116th meeting on 04-05 June 1998)

1. Welcome, apologies

See presence list attached.

2. Declarations of interests

No specific interests which might be prejudicial to the independence of the members in relation to items under discussion were declared.

3. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

4. Approval of the summary record of the 114th meeting

The report was approved subject to some small amendments in points 6.2, 9.1 and 9.2.

5. Information on the improvement of the wording of the internal rules of procedure

With reference to the note of 20 March on this subject, the secretariat clarified the improvement of the wording of point 16. The Committee agreed with the amendments made.

At the request of the Committee the secretariat explained that the adoption of opinions by means of a written procedure (point 8.2) should be seen as an exceptional tool which will only be applied in urgent cases. It was stated that this procedure it is not aimed to overrule minority views.

The secretariat suggested that further discussions on the internal rules of procedure be referred to the next plenary.

6. Feed-back by the chairman on subjects discussed in the SSC and having an interest for scan

The chairman informed the Committee about the discussions in the SSC on antimicrobial resistance. He explained that the SSC has created a steering group with the aim of co-ordinating the work on this comprehensive and multi-disciplinary issue. It was stressed that the exercise should cover all aspects of the problem and that consequently a wide range of expertise is needed. A document providing background information and a draft mandate were distributed.

The Committee was asked to collect data and reports issued by national and international scientific bodies (e.g. WHO, UK House of Lords, SWAN II, ...) on antimicrobial resistance. It was also invited to communicate its possible comments, suggestions and recommendations on the issue. Attention was drawn to the apparent overlap between this overall exercise on antimicrobial resistance and the question on the Swedish request for a general ban on antibiotics, coccidiostats and other medicinal substances and growth promoters as feed additives (deadline 31 December 1998). It

was decided that the chairperson should address this aspect at the next SSC meeting.

Furthermore, the Committee was asked to appoint an expert who should, on behalf of the SCAN, participate in the ad hoc steering group. Following a long discussion and a secret vote the Committee decided on the member who should participate on behalf of SCAN in the steering group. It was agreed that, whenever necessary, this representative could be assisted by a small working group of SCAN. Furthermore he is asked to provide a regular feedback to the Committee.

7. Feed-back by members of scan having attended working group meetings of other scientific committees

Several members reported on their participation in the following multi-disciplinary working groups:

- genetically modified organisms (Scientific Committee on Plants),
- tallow, gelatine, meat and bone meal, aminoacids and polypeptides (BSE/TSE Working group of the SSC),
- BST (Scientific Committee on Veterinary Measures relating to Public Health).

8. Discussion and possible adoption of a scientific opinion concerning:

8.1. Question 87 on the re-evaluation of the safety of use of nitroimidazoles as feed additives (ronidazole, ipronidazole & dimetridazole).

The chairman informed that the draft report is in an advanced stage but that, because of the absence of the rapporteur at the working group meeting on 23 April and at the plenary, the subject needed to be postponed until the next SCAN meeting. The chairman will contact the rapporteur with a view to the finalisation of the draft report before the next plenary.

8.2. Question 91 on the re-evaluation of the safety of use of quinoxaline-n-dioxides (carbadox, olaquinox)

The rapporteur presented the draft report and several members expressed their disagreement with certain aspects of it. With the aim of improving progress on this issue it was agreed that members should address their comments to the rapporteur with a copy to the secretariat. The rapporteur is asked to include the comments received in the draft report and to communicate the amended version to the secretariat with a view to its circulation (together with the comments received) before the next plenary.

9. Discussion of draft scientific opinions concerning:

9.1 Question 85 on the safety of use the micro-organism additives listed in notice 96/263 (O.J. N° C263, 11.9.96, p.3) following Article 5 of Council Directive 93/113/EC (O.J. N° L334, 31.12.93, p.17)

The rapporteur informed the Committee about the progress made. It was decided that the draft report will be finalised in a last working group meeting which is scheduled for 03 June 1998 in view of a discussion and possible adoption at the next plenary.

9.2 Question 86 on the safety of use enzyme additives listed in notice 96/263 (O.J. N° C263, 11.9.96, p.3) following Article 5 of Council Directive 93/113/EC (O.J. N° L334, 31.12.93, p.17)

The rapporteur announced that a draft report is available and that it will be circulated to all members for possible comments. The next working group meeting is scheduled for 09 July.

9.3 Question 70 on the use of formaldehyde as preservative-agent for feed

The chairman announced that the former rapporteur on this question agreed to provide assistance on the finalisation of the draft report. The secretariat is asked to contact the members of the working group on their availability for a meeting.

9.4 Question 89 on the use of diclazuril as feed additive for to rabbits

Although the members of the working group have only received the dossier recently, the rapporteur announced that substantial work has already been done. As a working group meeting is at this stage not considered necessary it was decided to circulate the existing documents between the members of the working group.

10. Progress reports and planning of working group meetings on :

10.1 Question 93 on the Danish safeguard clause concerning the ban of virginiamycin in animal feed (urgent question)

No further information being expected from Denmark it is was decided to discuss the issue in a working group meeting planned for 03 June (starting at 8h30)

10.2 Question 94 on the Swedish request for a general ban on antibiotics, coccidiostats and other medicinal substances and growth promoters as feed additives (urgent question, the Commission has to act before the end of 1998)

As already mentioned under point 6, the chairman will address the question at the SSC on how this question should be handled in the context of the overall examination of antimicrobial resistance. Furthermore, the secretariat was asked to clarify this problem between the Commission services involved.

10.3 Request from Denmark to review the question of tylosin as feed additive

The Committee considered that this question has already been addressed and asked that the Danish authorities be provided with a copy of the report concerning the Finnish case. From the Commission side it was confirmed that the latter has already been done.

10.4 Question 63 on the use of virginiamycin in the feedingstuffs for sows and gilts (urgent question, opinion needed before June 1998)

Several members have provided their contribution. The other members of the working group were invited to do this as soon as possible.

10.5 Question 95 concerning the use of narasin as antibiotic feed additive in feed for pigs

The rapporteur announced that a draft document is circulating between the members of the working group.

11. Other points

None

Annex I: Attendance

Members:

Dr. Georges BORIES,
Dr. Niels AGERGAARD,
Dr. Louis Aimé AUMAITRE,
Prof. Dr. Carlo BERETTA,
Dr. Joaquim BRUFAU,
Dr. Andrew CHESSON,
Prof. Gerhard FLACHOWSKY,

Dr. Anders FRANKLIN,
Prof. Dr. Jürgen GROPP,
Prof. Jean-François GUILLOT,
Prof. A. V. KOVATSIK ,
Prof. Dr. Josef LEIBETSEDER,
Prof. Gianfranco PIVA,
Dr. David Michael PUGH,
Dr. Atte VON WRIGHT,
Dr. Pieter WESTER.

Apologies for absence:

Prof. Arturo ANADÓN, Prof. Tito H. FERNANDES

Absent:

None

For the Commission:

DGXXIV:

Mr. R. Vanhooorde , Mrs. A Duysens

DGVI

Mrs D. André , Mrs I. Demade

DG III

Mrs. G. Gallhoff, Mrs. A. Batalha