

# Summary Record of the Meeting Held on 17 November 1997 in Brussels

## MEMBERS

Dr. R. Ahl, Chairman, Dr. D. Alexander, Prof. S. Alexandersen, Prof. J. Badiola Diez , Prof. D. Broom, Dr. R. Dantzer, Prof. Dr. A. Dijkhuizen, Dr. F. Garrido-Abellan, Dr. M. Gunn, Prof. Dr. J. Hartung , Prof. P. Jensen, Prof. Dr. V. Moennig, Dr. D. Morton , Dr. P. Le Neindre , Prof. G. Panina, Prof. Dr. J. van Oirschot, Dr. E. Vanopdenbosch, Prof. M. Verga

## COMMISSION

- Mr. B. Carsin, Director, Scientific Opinions on Health Matters, DG XXIV
- Mr. J. Moynagh, Secretary to the Committee
- Mrs. Valerie Brown, Secretariat
- Mr C. Deckart, Mr J. Kreysa

## APOLOGIES

Prof. A-L. Parodi

### 1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as proposed

### 2. Introduction from the Commission

Mr Carsin congratulated and welcomed the members to the first meeting of the Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare. He explained that the main objective of the meeting was to elect the office holders in order to allow the Committee to commence its work. He described the background to the establishment of the new scientific committees. In particular he emphasised the heavy work load for the members and also the need for as good an attendance at meetings as possible.

The Commission also expanded on the possible rules of procedure for the Committee. These would as far as possible be harmonised between the various committees. A draft would be prepared by the Commission in the next few days and would be circulated to all members. This would allow a detailed discussion on this topic at the next meeting of the Committee.

The Commission also explained current and possible future arrangements as regards payment of expenses and allowances to the members of the Committee. Members requested that they be supplied with an explanatory document as soon as one was available.

### 3. Election of officers

By 10 votes to 8, it was decided that the term of office should be for one year only with the possibility of re-election after that time.

## Chairman

Three members accepted nominations for the position of Chairmen, Dr Garrido-Abellan, Dr Le Neindre and Prof. Parodi. Prof. Parodi though he could not attend had previously sent a fax to the secretariat informing them that he was prepared to be a candidate for the Chairmanship of the Committee.

Following an election, by secret ballot, Dr Garrido-Abellan achieved the necessary majority of all the members composing the Committee and was declared elected as Chairman.

#### **Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Animal Welfare.**

Two members accepted nominations for the position of Chairmen, Prof. Broom and Dr Le Neindre.

Following an election, by secret ballot, neither candidate achieved the necessary majority of all the members composing the Sub-Committee. Therefore a second round was necessary. Following this, which was also by secret ballot, Dr Le Neindre achieved the necessary majority of all the members composing the Sub-Committee and was declared elected as Chairman.

#### **Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Animal Health.**

Dr Ahl accepted nominations for the position of Chairman of the Sub-Committee. There being no other candidates, Dr Ahl was elected unanimously by a show of hands.

#### **Vice Chairmen of the Committee on Animal Health and Welfare .**

Dr Ahl and Dr Le Neindre were both accepted unanimously, by show of hands, as vice chairmen of the Committee.

#### **Priority of Vice Chairmen.**

On a proposal of Dr Dykhuizen, which was accepted unanimously by show of hands, Dr Le Neindre, chairman of the Animal Welfare Sub-Committee, was selected as first Vice chairman of the Committee.

Dr Garrido then took the Chair.

### **4. Discussion and adoption of Internal Rules of Procedure .**

Reference was made to the information received from the Commission on this item earlier in the meeting. It was noted that there was a considerable amount of work to be done by the Committee in the future. The reduction in the number of members compared to the previous Scientific Veterinary Committee (particularly in the animal welfare area) meant that the work load on each member would be greater. The rules of procedure will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting of the Committee.

### **5. Review and follow up of questions put to the Committee.**

The Committee were provided with Document 171197/10 which set out the questions before the Committee.

Following a brief discussion on the most important questions, it was decided to ask members of the Committee to investigate the possible membership of working groups as follows;

- Dr Ahl : Emergency vaccination for Foot and mouth disease,
- Dr Alexandersen : Developments in Research and Diagnostic procedures for Swine Vesicular disease
- Dr Vanopdenbosch : Criteria for Eradication programmes for Scrapie
- Prof. Badiola : Possible links between Johnes disease and Crohns disease.

The actual establishment of the groups was deferred to a future occasion.

## 6. Miscellaneous

There were no further points.