

Draft agenda of the Scientific Steering Committee Meeting of 10-11 April 2003

1. Welcome, apologies, introductory remarks, declaration of interest.
2. Approval of the agenda
3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 6-7 March 2003.
4. Procedural matters
 - a. Update on EFSA and the current transitional stage.
 - b. Maintenance of SSC opinions on internet.
5. Multidisciplinary matters:
 - a. Co-ordination: Reports of the Chairmen of the 8 Scientific Committees;
 - b. Harmonisation of risk assessment methods: final discussion of the reports on:
 - Setting Scientific Criteria for the Assessment of Quality of Life.
 - Overall overview report on harmonising risk assessment approaches.
 - c. Harmonisation of risk assessment methods: final report and opinion.
 - d. 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 20 February 2003
 - 6.2. Reports on specific multidisciplinary matters relating to TSE/BSE:
 - a. Geographical BSE Risk: the GBR of certain countries.
 - b. Quantitative assessment of the risk of tallow, gelatine and dicalcium phosphate;
 - c. BSE cases born after the reinforced feed ban in the UK (BARBs)
 - d. BSE-related culling in cattle.
 - e. Organophosphates and BSE
 - f. Alternative methods for the treatment of animal by-products: frame for process evaluations;
 - g. Alternative methods for the treatment of animal by-products: alkaline hydrolysis
 - h. Alternative methods for the treatment of animal by-products
 - Brookes gasification system (Valley Industrial Supplies)
 - Bio-reducer (Westron / Reading Agriculture Consultants)
 - Bio-diesel production (Saria Bio-industries)
 - Tallow combustion in a thermal boiler (EFPRA)
 - High pressure hydrolysis biogas process (ATZ-EVUS)
 - High pressure high temperature hydrolysis (Biosphere Refinery Corporation)
 - i. Safety of tallow derivatives.
 - j. TSE testing: information
 - k. Developments in the field of TSEs, possibly requiring attention from the EFSA.
 - l. Summary overview of 1997-2003 opinions and reports:
 - General overview report
 - GBR Overview report
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.

10. Adoption of the meeting minutes.