



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

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**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 04 JULY 2017
(Section Biological Safety of the Food Chain)**

CIRCABC Link: <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/7b1f6843-b814-4166-918a-a11b9a7d2d1d>

A.01 Request for permission of Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) publications including anonymised *L. monocytogenes* isolates from EU-wide baseline survey" (EFSA).

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) requested and received Member States' agreement to upload in a public repository the anonymised sequence data of the *Listeria monocytogenes* baseline survey isolates (with metadata on species, year, location (Europe) and source (human, food, environment)). No objections were raised to submit more information identifying the main categories of the food samples, i.e. soft and semi-soft cheeses, meat products or fishery products.

A.02 Presentation of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) Scientific Opinion on Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) cases born after the total feed ban.

The opinion indicates that feed-borne exposure is the most likely source of infection, but it was not possible to conclude that any of the cases had a spontaneous origin.

B.01 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 of 29 April 2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules, as regards the list of Union reference laboratories.

This draft Regulation deletes the EU reference laboratory on milk and milk products from the list of EU Reference laboratories.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion 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 as regard echinoderms harvested outside classified production areas .

The draft excludes echinoderms from the obligation to be harvested in classified production areas as they are not filter feeder animals and thus the risk of accumulation of micro-organisms related to faecal contamination is considered remote.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion 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 as regard echinoderms harvested outside classified production areas.

The draft fixes the rules for official controls applicable to echinoderms which are excluded from the obligation to be harvested in classified production areas.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.04 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 2074/2005 as regards paralytic shellfish poison (PSP) detection method AP 2017/1034.

For the detection of paralytic shellfish poison (PSP) in bivalve molluscs, the reference method is a biological method, i.e. a test using a live mouse. The Codex Alimentarius confirmed that the biological method cannot be used as reference method. This draft Regulation adapts the current EU rules to this international standard.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.05 Exchange of views and possible opinion 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 presented the feedback from stakeholders (all favourable reactions). A few Member States raised concerns on the complexity of the conditions, the difficulties to control and the risks of not maintaining a continuous decrease in temperature.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.06 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Decision 2007/453/EC as regards the BSE status of Poland, Northern Ireland and Scotland.

The title of this point in the agenda was replaced with the following:

Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending the Annex to Decision 2007/453/EC as regards the BSE status of Poland and certain regions of the United Kingdom.

The Decision aligns the EU rules on countries and regions with a negligible BSE risk with the amendments agreed at the meeting of the OIE World Assembly of Delegates on 23 May 2017.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

C.01 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission 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.

Consultations within the Commission on this draft text are finalised and the public consultation for stakeholders' feedback is open until 27 July 2017. It will be followed by a request for technical agreement of the Committee, most likely in October 2017, notification to SPS (Sanitary and Phytosanitary) and a final opinion of the Committee in January/February 2018.

M.01 Dual use of tanks on board certain freezer vessels.

Commission auditors discovered in certain non-EU countries that certain freezer vessels used tanks destined for storing tuna fish as a reservoir for diesel. Once the diesel is used for the engine, the tanks are filled with fishery products that may be exported to the EU. All countries exporting fishery products were informed of the unacceptability of this practice and requested to stop it immediately. The attention of Member States was drawn to this issue as control authorities.

M.02 Point of information from Norway on Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD).

Norway informed the Committee about the detection of a 6th CWD case in one of the regions where CWD had been found before. The detection occurred by the analysis of rectal lymphoid tissues at biopsy of a live reindeer.

M.03 Point of information on imports of crocodile meat.

In the margin of an audit in Zimbabwe, Commission inspectors happened to visit a farm in Zimbabwe allowed by certain Member States to export crocodile meat to them. The Commission summarised what was noticed on the spot and invited Member States to be vigilant on the control of such exotic meat, notably with regard to the risk of presence of parasites. The Commission took the opportunity of this case, for which import conditions are not harmonised, to invite Member States to reflect on the products that could be considered for further harmonisation in the context of the implementation of the new official control regulation. A questionnaire will be circulated to them in this regard.

