

Summary record of the meeting held on 8 December 1999 in Brussels adopted 21 March 2000

List of Participants

MEMBERS

Dr. R. Ahl, Dr. D. Alexander, Prof. D. Broom, Dr. F. Garrido-Abellan (Chairman), Dr. M. Gunn, Prof. Dr. J. Hartung, Prof. P. Jensen, Dr. P. Le Neindre, Prof. Dr. V. Moennig, Prof. G. Panina, Prof. A-L. Parodi, Prof. Dr. J. van Oirschot, Dr. E. Vanopdenbosch, Prof. M. Verga,

COMMISSION

Dr. J. Moynagh, Dr. G. Morosetti

APOLOGIES

Prof. S. Alexandersen, Prof. J. Badiola Diez, Dr. R. Dantzer, Dr. D. Morton

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted as proposed.

2. Adoption of the record of the meeting of 13 October 1999

The minutes of the meeting were adopted with a few minor amendments.

3. Declarations of interest

No member reported any conflicts of interest relating to the items under discussion.

4. Report from the Sub-Committee on Animal Welfare (Dr. Le Neindre)

Dr. Le Neindre reported on the activities of the Sub-committee on Animal Welfare. The Sub-committee plenary was held on 22 November 1999; the draft reports on the following questions were on the agenda:.

4.1. *The welfare of broiler chickens*

The draft document is at his final stage. The final missing chapter on socio-economic aspects has been prepared. The group is now discussing this new chapter as well as the conclusions and recommendations. There will be one more meeting before presenting the document to the Sub-committee for approval.

4.2. *Ventilation standards for animal transport vehicles*

The document was completed and revised by circulating it among the Subcommittee members and by the rapporteur. The document was then submitted to the Sub-committee and approved with a slightly changed title to better reflect the contents. It is presented at this Plenary.

5. Report from the Sub-Committee on Animal Health (Dr. Ahl)

Dr. Ahl reported on the activities of the Sub-committee on Animal Health.

The meeting of the Subcommittee on Animal Health was held on 24 November 1999. The following draft reports were discussed:

5.1. Eradication of Bacterial Kidney Disease

After detailed examination and discussion the Sub-committee approved the report with some amendments, it is presented at this SCAHAW Plenary.

5.2. Attempts to estimate the infective period for bluetongue in cattle

This report prepared in collaboration with the Experts of the OIE Reference Laboratory of Pirbright was also discussed, amended and approved at the Sub-committee meeting. It is presented at this SCAHAW Plenary.

5.3. Inactivation of viruses in blood

A draft document was further discussed at the meeting of the Sub-committee. The document is being finalised.

5.4. Possible Links between Crohn's disease in man and paratuberculosis in animals

The latest draft is being updated with a view to having a document ready for the next meeting of the Sub-committee.

6. Discussion and possible adoption by the Committee of a report on Bacterial Kidney Disease (Rapporteur Prof. Parodi)

The rapporteur made a detailed presentation of this report addressing in particular the problems related to the eradication and the diagnosis of this systemic infection of salmonids. The Committee expressed a positive opinion on the contents, discussed and commented on many questions raised by this report such as the preventive measures, sampling methods to identify infected zones, the problems related to the treatment and possible implications of breeding for resistant strains.

The Committee adopted unanimously the report with minor amendments and modifications.

7. Discussion and possible adoption by the Committee of a report on Standards for the Physical Environment (Air Quality) in Animal Transport Vehicles. (Rapporteur Prof. Hartung)

The rapporteur explained in detail the contents of the report dealing with the requirement for the microclimate on long distance animal transport vehicles. In this respect, temperature ranges and other requirements for the safety of requested animal species and types were given, taking into account all the different variables influencing the conditions in a transporter. A more appropriate title was agreed by the Committee "Standards for the microclimate inside Animal Transport Vehicles". The report was adopted unanimously with some modifications.

8. Discussion and possible adoption by the Committee of a report on The Infective Period for Bluetongue (Rapporteur: Dr. Alexandersen)

In the absence of Dr. Alexandersen, Dr. van Oirschot presented the report to the Committee. The members discussed this document dealing with proposals to determine the infective period for this disease and thereby determine a safe quarantine period which would not involve the use of diagnostic tests. It was adopted unanimously with minor modifications.

9. Miscellaneous

9.1 Participation of members of the Committee to the meetings of the SSC ad hoc group on Risk assessment .

The chairman referred to the previous discussion about the participation of members at the SSC working group on methods of risk assessment and the practical difficulties connected with the organisation of these meetings. He reported having addressed the question at the last SSC Plenary, putting forward the written statement of the SCAHAW. The SSC and SCAHAW secretariats have already met to exchange their views on the question and the chairman expressed his optimism that an adequate solution would be found

Dr. Ahl, representing the SCAHAW at the mentioned working group in the afternoon, agreed on the future need of finding common terminology within this WG, taking more into account the point of view of the SCAHAW.

9.2 Planning of SCHAW meetings for the year 2000

The Secretariat distributed a proposal for possible SCAHAW meeting dates for the year 2000.

The meeting closed at 17.00h