Summary report of the meeting of the Scientific Committee on Veterinary Measures relating to Public Health held on 29-30 April 1999 in Brussels (approved at the meeting on 11 June 1999)

List of Participants

MEMBERS

Prof. A. Osterhaus (chairperson), Prof. D. Vuitton (vice-chairperson), Prof. V. Caporale, Prof. J. Fink-Gremmels, Prof. A. Johnston, Prof. O. Kaaden, Prof. A. Macri, Prof. A. Mantis, Prof. E. Nurmi, Prof. E. Quinto Fernandez, Dr. J. Schlundt, Dr. I. Vagsholm, Prof. F. Van Knapen, Prof. P. Willeberg, Dr. P. Colin (additional expert)

APOLOGIES

Prof. R. Gilbert (vice-chairperson)

ABSENT

none

COMMISSION

Mr. R. Vanhoorde (DG XXIV), Mr. P. Wagstaffe (DG XXIV), Mr. B. Verleysen (DG XXIV), Mrs. R. Diez (DG XXIV), Mr. K. Madsen (DG XXIV), Mrs. J. Morosetti (DG XXIV), Mrs. S. Stefanidis (DG XXIV), Mr. J. Serratosa (DG VI), Mr. J. Perez-Lanzac (DG VI), Mr. P. Kairis (DG VI), Mrs. S. Salmela (DG VI), Mrs. A. Fabré (DG XII)

1. Declarations of interests

No declarations of interest were made.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted.

3. Adoption of the minutes of the meeting of 15-16 March 1999

The minutes were adopted.

4. Discussion and possible adoption of a scientific report on a complementary risk assessment on the use of hormones as growth promoters

The rapporteur gave an overview of the scientific debate in the various Working Group meetings and presented the draft report which had been endorsed by the members of the Working Group.

The Committee had a long and detailed discussion on the scientific reasoning developed in the main body of the report, as well as on the executive summary and on "the questions to the answers in the mandate". The discussion covered both general considerations, as well as characteristics of the individual compounds under consideration.

The Committee congratulated the rapporteur and the Working Group on the quality of the work. The report (including its executive summary and the "answers to the questions in the mandate"), as amended during the plenary, was adopted

by unanimity. The rapporteur was mandated to carry out final editorial work of the main report and for completion of the references.

5. Discussion on a draft report on the question concerning the revision of ante- and postmortem inspection procedures for an alternative inspection system for the slaughter of pigs

Postponed. The draft report will be submitted to the plenary in June for discussion and possible adoption.

- 6. Progress report on the request for a scientific opinion on the evaluation of microbiological criteria and temperatures for storage and transport of products of animal origin intended for human consumption:
- partim microbiological criteria

The draft report is at a final stage and will be submitted to the plenary in June for discussion and possible adoption.

7. Progress report on the request for a scientific opinion concerning the prevalence and methods of control of cysticercosis

Postponed.

8. Progress report on the Working Group on microbiological standards for listeria

The second working group meeting is scheduled for 04 June.

9. Progress report on the multidisciplinary Working Group on antimicrobial resistance

The secretariat informed the Committee about the first discussion in the Scientific Steering Committee (SSC) on the draft report prepared by the multi-disciplinary Working Group. It was explained that the SSC had in principle agreed on the scientific reasoning developed in the draft report but that a final restricted drafting group (including the chairperson and the two vice-chairpersons of the working group) is scheduled for 12 May with a view to present the report and its executive summary and recommendations at the next plenary of the SSC (27-28 May) for discussion and possible adoption.

- 10. Information to the Committee on possible new questions to the Committee
- cleaning and disinfection of knives in the meat industry
- review of the report of the Sc. VC. on "Trichinella-free areas"

(report of 1996).

- vibrio vulnificus and parahaemolyticus in molluscs.

Postponed

11. Feedback by members of the Committee participating in the SSC working group on the harmonisation of risk assessment procedures

Postponed

12. Feedback by the chairman on subjects discussed in the SSC which are of interest to the Committee

Postponed

13. Feedback by members of the Committee having attended working group meetings of other Scientific Committees

Postponed

14. Miscellaneous

Next meetings are scheduled for:

11 June 1999,

26 July1999,

24 September 1999,

08 November 1999,

17 December 1999.