

Draft agenda of the Scientific Steering Committee Meeting of 4-5 April 2002

1. Welcome, apologies, introductory remarks, declaration of interest.
 2. Approval of the agenda
 3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 21-22 February 2001
 4. Procedural matters (if any)
 5. Multidisciplinary matters:
 - a. Co-ordination: Reports of the Chairmen of the 8 Scientific Committees;
 - b. Harmonisation of risk assessment methods:
 - Progress report on Task Force activities;
 - Risk assessment of food borne bacterial pathogens (Report, for adoption)
 - c. Emerging scientific issues (reports, if any);
 - d. Antimicrobial resistance (progress report on azole and on Triclosan resistance)
 - e. Primate research facilities in Europe (Opinion, for adoption)
 6. Multidisciplinary matters relating to TSE/BSE
 - 6.1. Report by the chairman of the TSE/BSE *ad-hoc* group meeting of 21 March 2002
 - 6.2. Reports on specific multidisciplinary matters relating to TSE/BSE:
 - a. Geographical BSE Risk: Opinion on the GBR of certain countries (for adoption) and progress report.
 - b. The bovine vertebral column as a specified risk material (progress report);
 - c. Animal waste disposal (progress report; possible adoption)
 - d. Quantitative assessment of the risk of tallow and gelatine (progress report)
 - e. Safety of rennet derived from ruminants.
 - f. New questions.
 - BSE risk of the bovine autonomous nervous system;
 - Safety of bovine embryos;
 - Evaluation of the Bosque *et al* (2002) paper; is there a need to revise / amend existing SSC opinions?
- TSEs in small ruminants:
- g. Safe sourcing of small ruminant materials should BSE in small ruminants become probable: genotype, breeding, rapid TSE testing, flock certification and Specified Risk Materials (for opinion).
 - h. Protocol to investigate the possible presence of BSE in sheep (for opinion).
 - i. Actualisation of the existing Geographical BSE Risk methodology to small ruminants, by taking into account factors that may be unique to sheep (progress report)
- Rapid tests:
- j. Evaluation of rapid BSE tests (progress 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