



Summary Record of the 114th SCAN Plenary Meeting (Brussels, 12 March 1998) (approved at the 115th meeting on 24 April 1998)

1. Welcome, apologies

All members were present.

2. Declarations of interests

No specific interests which might be prejudicial to the independence of the members in relation to items under discussion were declared.

3. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was adopted with two minor corrections in points 8.2 and 8.5.

4. Approval of the summary record of the 113th meeting

The report was approved subject to some small amendments.

5. Discussion and possible adoption of internal rules of procedure

A Commission representative presented the draft Internal Rules of Procedure. He explained that should the Committee decide to amend it substantially, it would then need to be re-submitted Scientific Steering Committee.

Several members expressed their concerns about the requested declarations of interests and the confidentiality of these declarations. After a long discussion it was agreed to remove the footnotes from the declaration of interests and to adopt the Internal Rules of Procedures.

6. Discussion and possible adoption of a scientific opinion concerning:

6.1. Question 87 on the re-evaluation of the safety of use of nitroimidazoles as feed additives (ronidazole, ipronidazole & dimetridazole)

The rapporteur informed the Committee on the result of the working group meeting on 6 February and explained that there had been no opportunity at the joint working group meeting (Questions 87 and 91) on 11 March to finalise the draft opinion.

It was decided that all members should consider the latest draft and to comment before 30 March. This should allow a final working group meeting on 01 April to complete the draft opinion with a view to its adoption at the next plenary (joint meeting on Questions 87 and 91).

6.2. Question 91 on the re-evaluation of the safety of use of quinoxaline-n-dioxides (carbadox, olaquinox)

The rapporteur explained the progress made at the working group meeting on 11 March. As the working group had not been able to discuss the rapporteur's draft completely, the Committee decided to finalise the draft opinion at the joint working group meeting (Questions 87 and 91) scheduled for 01 April. In order to cover the question of occupational hazards and worker safety, the secretariat will invite an expert in this particular field (competence of DG V).

The aspect of risk management being beyond the mandate of a Scientific Committee, the chapters dealing with the latter (chapters 3.7, 3.8 and 3.10) will be deleted.

7. Discussion of draft scientific opinion concerning:

7.1. Question 85 on the safety of use the micro-organism additives listed in notice 96/263 (O.J. N° C263, 11.9.96, p.3) following Article 5 of Council Directive 93/113/EC (O.J. N° L334, 31.12.93, p.17)

The rapporteur informed the Committee about the evaluation of the dossier. Once this exercise will be completed at the working group meeting on 13 March, the requests for additional information will be communicated to the Commission (DG XXIV).

7.2. Question 86 on the safety of use enzyme additives listed in notice 96/263 (O.J. N° C263, 11.9.96, p.3) following Article 5 of Council Directive 93/113/EC (O.J. N° L334, 31.12.93, p.17).

The rapporteur announced that the group had to examine more than 30 files, many of them voluminous. The draft report will be finalised at the working group on 13 March in view of its adoption at the next plenary.

7.3. Question 70 on the use of formaldehyde as preservative-agent for feed.

The chairman confirmed the willingness of the former rapporteur, who is no longer a member of SCAN, to contribute to the finalisation of the draft report. He will contact him in order to find out if a further working group meeting is required before possible adoption in a plenary. He will keep the secretariat informed.

8. Progress report and planning of working group meetings on outstanding questions to the committee:

8.1. Question 89 on the use of diclazuril as feed additive for to rabbits

As the file has been completed, the working group can start its activities. The first working group meeting is scheduled for 23 April 1998.

8.2. Danish safeguard clause concerning the ban on virginiamycin in animal feed (urgent question)

The current file is still incomplete. The Rapporteur will prepare a document and circulate to the members for comment. He will inform the secretariat if he feels that a meeting of the group is then appropriate.

8.3. Swedish request for a general ban on antibiotics, coccidiostats and other medicinal substances and growth promoters as feed additives (urgent question, the Commission has to act before the end of 1998)

It was recognised that this is a huge and extremely complex question. The chairman informed that the SSC is aware of the multidisciplinary nature of the question. The question needs to be formulated.

8.4. Request from Denmark to review the question of tylosin as feed additive.

It was noted that the complete dossier would not be available until July. Consequently no actions can be taken for the time being.

8.5. Question 63 on the use of virginiamycin in the feedingstuffs for sows and gilts (urgent question, opinion needed

before June 1998)

Although it was suggested to combine this question with point 8.2, the DG VI representative insisted that SCAN should respond to this question.

8.6. Question concerning the use of narasin as antibiotic feed additive in feed for pigs.

It was noted that the complete dossier had not yet been received. Consequently no actions can be taken for the time being

9. Miscellaneous

9.1. Several members of the Committee complained extensively about the inadequacy of their travel allowances and subsistence expenses. Specific complaints were made about the payments for the Plenary meeting in November. The secretariat distributed a statement of payments that had been made for the plenary of 11 November and explained the administrative rules for financial compensation (pre-paid tickets, daily allowance and remuneration for the services provided) and measures undertaken to speed up the payments.

9.2. A Commission representative explained the mandate of the Committee. With reference to the Commission Decision setting up the Scientific Committees in the field of consumer health and food safety he recalled that the Committee should focus on risk assessment and that the subsequent risk management is the responsibility of the Commission. It was recognised that this will require careful wording of the terms of reference. The issue was discussed and some members expressed their concerns about this limitation.

Annex I: Attendance

Members:

Dr. Georges BORIES, Dr. Niels AGERGAARD, Prof. Arturo ANADÓN, Dr. Louis Aimé AUMAITRE, Prof. Dr. Carlo BERETTA, Dr. Joaquim BRUFAU, Dr. Andrew CHESSON, Prof. Tito H. FERNANDES Prof. Gerhard FLACHOWSKY, Dr. Anders FRANKLIN, Prof. Dr. Jürgen GROPP, Prof. Jean-François GUILLOT, Prof. A. V. KOVATSIK, Prof. Dr. Josef LEIBETSEDER, Prof. Gianfranco PIVA, Dr. David Michael PUGH, Dr. Atte VON WRIGHT, Dr. Pieter WESTER.

Apologies for absence:

None

For the Commission:

DGXXIV:

Mr. R. Vanhooorde , Mr. J. Moynagh, Mr. P. Wagstaffe , Mr. C. Deckart (point 5), Mrs P. Brunko , Mr. B. Verleysen , Mrs. A Duysens

DGVI

Mrs D. André , Mrs P. Colombo

DG III

Mr. P. Brunet