



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH & CONSUMER PROTECTION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Directorate C - Scientific Opinions

C2 - Management of scientific committees; scientific co-operation and networks

**SUMMARY RECORD OF THE MEETING OF THE
SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL
WELFARE**

Held on 24-25 April 2003 in Brussels

Adopted by written procedure 7th May 2003

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COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

Held on 24-25 April 2003 in Brussels

List of Participants

MEMBERS

Dr. P. Le Neindre (Chairman)
Dr. R. Ahl
Dr. D. Alexander
Dr. H. Blokhuis (24 April only)
Prof. D.M. Broom (24 April only)
Dr. M. Gunn
Dr. P. Have
Prof. V. Moennig
Prof. D. Morton (24 April only)
Prof. J. Noordhuizen
Prof. G. Panina
Prof. A-L. Parodi
Dr. M. Sharp
Dr. E. Vanopdenbosch
Prof. J. van Oirschot
Prof. M. Verga
Prof. M. Wierup

COMMISSION

Mr. R. Horgan
Dr. J. Husu-Kallio
Dr. P. Wagstaffe
Dr. J. Moynagh
Dr. J. Claxton
Ms. S. Mateljan

APOLOGIES

Dr. R. Dantzer
Prof. P. Jensen

**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON
ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE**

Held on 24-25 April 2003 in Brussels

1. Welcome and apologies

Apologies and attendance are listed on page 2.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted after a number of revisions:

- under point 4 of the agenda, draft minutes of the latest meetings of each sub-committee were also tabled for adoption,
- an additional point was added to the agenda concerning the discussion and possible adoption of a report reviewing the operation of the Scientific Committee since 1997.

3. Declarations of interest

Dr. Alexander informed the members that he has been involved in a team developing a vaccine for Newcastle disease, and it was agreed that Dr. Alexander would not comment on this part of the draft diagnostics and vaccines report to be discussed under point 7 of the agenda.

4. Approval and adoption of the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee and each Sub-Committee

The summary record of the plenary meeting of the Scientific Committee of 26 February was adopted. The summary records of the meeting of the Sub-Committee on Animal Welfare of 4 March 2003 and of the meeting of the Sub-Committee on Animal Health were also adopted by the members of the respective Sub-Committees.

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

Since the last report to the Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Welfare, two meetings of the sub-committee on animal health (SCAH) were held in Brussels, on 12 March and 2 April 2003, where the draft report on developments in diagnostic techniques and vaccines for some OIE List A diseases, in particular Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Classical Swine Fever and Avian Influenza was discussed. The two working groups were chaired by Prof. Volker Moennig and Prof. Jan van Oirschot. The draft report was subject to several amendments and revisions. The report was finally

discussed on 2 April 2003 and unanimously approved by the sub-committee and will be presented for possible adoption at the plenary committee meeting of 24-25 April.

6. Report from the Sub-Committee on Animal Welfare (Prof. Broom)

Since the last plenary meeting of February 26th, the sub-committee on animal welfare (SCAW) held a meeting on March 4th where the draft report on welfare aspects of animal stunning and killing methods was discussed. A meeting of that working group (WG) took place on March 10-11 and the last foreseen WG meeting takes place on April 28-29.

Work has also progressed in the preparation of a report on the welfare of animals during transport (other species not considered in the 2002 SCAHAW Report). WG meetings took place on March 13 and April 14, and a further WG meeting is proposed to take place in June. An advance draft of the document has been circulated electronically to SCAW members who are invited to send their comments on the draft document.

Prof. Per Jensen who was unable to attend the plenary meeting extended his sincere thanks to all members for a fruitful cooperation over the past number of years in the activities of the Committee.

7. Discussion and possible adoption by the Committee of a report on vaccines and diagnostic techniques for some important List A OIE diseases

The draft report on developments in diagnostic techniques and vaccines for some OIE List A diseases, in particular Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Classical Swine Fever and Avian Influenza was presented by Prof. Volker Moennig and Prof. Jan van Oirschot, chairs of the two working groups involved in preparing the draft report. The members complimented the working groups on the excellent and comprehensive report presented and emphasised the importance of the report in the context of outbreaks of some of these diseases in various EU Member States. Various revisions and amendments were agreed and the report was adopted unanimously on the second day of the meeting.

8. Discussion and possible adoption by the Committee of a report on a review of the operation of the Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Welfare

The draft paper was briefly discussed on the first day of the meeting and returned to on the second day. The relationship between animal health and animal welfare was discussed and whether animal welfare could be seen as part of animal health, or vice versa. It was agreed that animal welfare and animal health should be seen as two scientific disciplines with important complementary linkages and areas of overlapping. This relationship was reflected in the Committee's title and structure and it was emphasised that both disciplines had worked well in tandem in the structure of the present Committee and its Sub-Committee. The members recognised that there would be difficulties associated with separating the provision of scientific advice on either animal health or animal welfare due to the impact that animal health will have on animal welfare and vice versa. Various revisions were agreed to the draft report and it was adopted unanimously on the second day of the meeting.

9. Miscellaneous

It was agreed that advance drafts of reports still in preparation by the Committee (concerning welfare aspects of animal stunning and killing methods and the welfare of animals during transport- other species not covered in the Committee's 2002 report) would be circulated to members of the Committee. The members were also informed that the minutes of this last foreseen plenary meeting would be adopted by written procedure.

The secretariat updated the members on developments regarding the establishment of the Panel on Animal Health and Welfare of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

Dr. Husu-Kallio, Deputy Director General of DG SANCO, thanked the members for their work over the previous number of years and emphasised the importance of their reports to the Commission in formulating policy strategies and legislative proposals.

The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and scientific secretary expressed their appreciation to the members for their assistance and collaboration in the work of the Committee and took the opportunity to wish all the members the very best for the future.