

Summary record of the meeting of the sub-committee on animal welfare held on 23 November 1998 in Brussels, adopted 13 January 1999

List of Participants

MEMBERS

Prof. D. Broom , Dr. R. Dantzer, Prof. Dr. J. Hartung, Prof. P. Jensen, Dr. P. Le Neindre, Prof. M. Verga

APOLOGIES

Dr. D. Morton

COMMISSION

Mr. J. Moynagh, Mr S. Beukema

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted as proposed.

2. Adoption of the minutes of the previous meeting of the sub-Committee

The summary record of the meeting of the subcommittee of 21 September 1998 was adopted without amendment.

3. Declarations of interest

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

4. Discussion and possible approval of reports of the Sub-Committee

(i) Force feeding of ducks and geese

The working document was discussed in detail and several amendments were agreed. The draft report was approved by the sub-committee. It will now be forwarded to the plenary meeting of the Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare with a view to its adoption at the meeting of 16 December 1998.

(ii) The effects of using Bovine Somatotrophin.

The working document was circulated and was discussed in general terms. The rapporteur, Prof. Broom explained that a meeting with the representatives of the Public Health Committee who were chef de file for this topic was planned for 13 December to co-ordinate the animal welfare and public health aspects of the document the report.

The sub committee noted that while it was in general agreement with the direction and conclusions of the draft document, there was still some detailed work to be done in the sub-committee before approval of the document.

5. Election or re-election of vice-chairs of the sub committee.

Following discussion, members unanimously agreed that the next term of office would be for two years, until the expiry of the current mandate of the Committee. Both the current vice chairs Prof. Broom and Prof. Hartung indicated their

willingness to stand for election. There being no other candidates, both were declared to be elected. Prof. Broom was unanimously agreed to be the first vice chair.

6. Miscellaneous

Progress reports were presented on two items

(i) Standards for forced ventilation for animal transport vehicles for journeys of more than eight hours for the bovine, porcine, ovine and caprine species.

The rapporteur, Prof. Hartung, reported on developments on this topic. A further meeting of the group will be necessary.

(ii) Welfare requirements for broilers.

The rapporteur, Prof. Jensen, reported that the first meeting of this group took place on 5 November. The issue was discussed in detail and tasks allocated within the group. The next meeting of the group is planned for early January.