Location: Webconference

Attendees:

- o Working Group Members:
  John BEREZOWSKI, Katinka DE BALOGH, Fernanda DÓREA, Simon RÜEGG

- o EFSA:
  Alessandro BROGLIA (BIOHAW), Andrea GERVELMEYER (BIOHAW, chair), Marzia GNOCCHI (BIOHAW)

I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

III. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence[1] and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management[2,] EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

IV. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

a. Discussion of the draft EFSA scientific report

The Working Group experts discussed the different sections of the draft EFSA scientific report and agreed amendments where necessary.

b. Discussion of the disease briefs and surveillance activity cards

The Working Group experts discussed the disease briefs and the surveillance activity cards and agreed amendments where necessary.

V. Next meeting

No further meetings are planned at this stage.

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[1] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf
[2] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

Location: Webconference

Attendees:

- o Working Group Members:
  Katinka DE BALOGH, Fernanda DÓREA, Simon RÜEGG

- o Hearing Experts[1]:
  John BEREZOWSKI, Marieta BRAKS, Marta CARMINATI, Ezio FERROGLIO, Annette NIGSCH, Gertraud SCHUEPBACH, Joaquín VICENTE BAÑOS

- o EFSA:
  Alessandro BROGLIA (BIOHAW), Andrea GERVELMEYER (BIOHAW, chair), Marzia GNOCCHI (BIOHAW), Alessia RUSINA (BIOHAW), Gabriele ZANCANARO (BIOHAW)

I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

III. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence[2] and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management[3,] EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

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[1] As defined in Article 17 of the Decision of the Executive Director concerning the selection of members of the Scientific Committee, the Scientific Panels, and the selection of external experts to assist EFSA with its scientific work: http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/expertselection.pdf

[2] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf
[3] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

IV. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

a. Discussion of the structure and content of the draft EFSA scientific report

The structure and content of the draft EFSA scientific report were displayed, discussed, and agreed.

b. Discussion of section 3.1 on harmonised approach to surveillance for early detection of pathogens of the draft EFSA scientific report

Gabriele Zancanaro presented the proposal for a harmonised approach to do surveillance for early detection of pathogens.

Since many countries might wish to improve their current surveillance, but keep the current, established sampling strategies, they will need to know what they really need to change to fulfil requirements. The minimum requirement for EU-wide harmonization were discussed.

It was agreed to achieve the harmonisation through alignment with the output also to give member states flexibility when developing the different surveillance component.

c. Discussion of the draft agenda of the workshop

The draft agenda of the workshop was discussed and agreed without changes.

d. Agreement of inputs for the different workshop agenda points

VectorNET and ENETWILD will present on the two days of the workshop. Their presentations will focus on important aspects for surveillance targeting vectors (mosquitos and ticks) and wildlife. The Working group will prepare presentations on different surveillance approaches for early detection, cross sectoral collaboration and surveillance on Disease X.

A specific time slot will be dedicated to Member States to discuss their plans for surveillance under the direct grant and to identify potential synergies between countries that intend to do surveillance on the same pathogens.

On the second day, participants will be split into 6 breakout groups according to regions for in-depth discussions on cross-sectoral collaboration. These groups will be guided by facilitators who will report back on the main points from the discussion to the plenary.

A representative from HaDEA will be asked to be present at the end of the second day to answer questions regarding application content.

e. Agreement of the tools to be used at workshop

It was agreed that Microsoft Teams will be used to host the meeting. Plenary as well as break-out sessions will be needed and created in Microsoft Teams. Instructions for the tool will be provided by EFSA in advance.

f. Discussion of disease cards and survey cards

11 disease cards and 33 survey cards were prepared by ISA contractors and ENETWILD. Katinka De Balogh will take care of preparing a card for Disease X.

The content of the cards was discussed. It was decided to divide the work across the working group members, who will review the cards with the assistance of the respective ISA contractors who drafted those. EFSA will draft surveillance pyramid assemblies for each of the 11 diseases.

g. Agreement of task and deadlines to be met

The Working Group members will prepare their presentations for the workshop and share them with EFSA in advance.

EFSA will set up the tool that will be used during the workshop (Microsoft Teams) and take care of remaining organisational issues. EFSA will also be in touch with Member States regarding the agenda, instructions for Microsoft Team and participant list. EFSA will check the availability of HADEA to be present during the second day of the workshop.

V. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 23-24 January 2023 via web conference.

BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS & ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

MINUTES OF THE 8th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON ONE HEALTH SURVEILLANCE

Held on 12 December 2022, WEB-conference

(Agreed on 16 December 2022)

Participants

- Working Group Members: Katinka DE BALOGH, Fernanda DÓREA, Simon RÜEGG

- Hearing Experts: John BEREZOWSKI, Marieta BRAKS, Marta CARMINATI, Ezio FERROGLIO, Dolores GAVIER-WIDÉN, Annette NIGSCH, Gertraud SCHUEPBACH, Joaquín VICENTE BAÑOS,

- EFSA: Frank BOELAERT (BIOHAW), Alessandro BROGLIA (BIOHAW), Andrea GERVELMEYER (BIOHAW, chair), Marzia GNOCCHI (BIOHAW), Gabriele ZANCANARO (BIOHAW)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The chair welcomed the meeting attendees. Apologies were received from Ezio Ferroglio and Annette Nigsch.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence[1] and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management[2], EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

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[1] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf
[2] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

4. Scientific topics for discussion

4.1 Presentation and discussion of ISA contractors' second deliverable: disease and survey cards

The experts discussed the draft disease and survey cards proposed for the ten priority pathogens for the coordinated surveillance under the One health approach. Particularly, they assessed the usefulness of the proposed survey cards, identified what needs to be improved, identified missing survey cards that would be useful for the diseases, and checked if the information in the disease card is correct and pertinent.

It was highlighted that separate disease and survey cards should be prepared for *Echinococcus multilocularis* and *Echinococcus granulosis*. Information on "Shedding/detectability of pathogen" should be inserted in the disease card if antigen detection is proposed for a surveillance component. The disease cards should be complemented with links to existing maps of the distribution of the disease in animals and in humans in the EU and neighbouring countries that are regularly updated.

Regarding the survey cards, the use of surveillance terminology should be more consistent. It was agreed to apply the definitions of RiskSur. Different surveillance components need to be described in separate survey cards. It was also underlined that no survey cards should be developed for activities co-funded under other programmes/grants.

4.3 Discussion on cross-sectorial coordination/collaboration

It was agreed to add examples of lessons learnt into this section. The necessity that MS describe the integration of the different activities in their proposals was underlined, and the joint development of the surveillance proposals should be encouraged in this section.

4.4 Discussion on surveillance on disease X

The experts agreed to provide further illustrations of what could be done under the direct grant in terms of early detection of unknown pathogens in animals and the environment. According to the WHO definition of 'disease X', its observation in humans is a prerequisite. The work under the direct grants could deviate from that and include "potential disease X found/present in animals". It was discussed that the surveillance for these pathogens would need to focus on locations where the pathogen is most likely to occur. Syndromic surveillance of signals such as unusual/increased mortality, abortions, divergent behaviour in (wild) animals to establish the cause of the observed signals and the investigation of diagnostic dilemmas posed by animal samples submitted for pathology/laboratory testing were considered useful approaches for detecting a hitherto unknown pathogen, as well as applying an HACCP approach and targeting underserviced populations. The experts agreed to develop disease and survey cards for the early detection of disease X.

4.5 Agreement of task and deadlines to be met by the end of the year

Tasks and deadlines were agreed.

5. Next meeting

The next Working Group meetings is scheduled on 10-11 January 2023.

BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS & ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

MINUTES OF THE 7th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON ONE HEALTH SURVEILLANCE

Held on 18 November 2022, WEB-conference

(Agreed on 25 November 2022)

Participants

- Working Group Members: Katinka DE BALOGH, Fernanda DÓREA

- Hearing Experts: John BEREZOWSKI, Joaquín VICENTE BAÑOS, Ezio FERROGLIO, Annette NIGSCH, Gertraud SCHUEPBACH, Marta CARMINATI

- EFSA: Alessandro BROGLIA, Sofie DHOLLANDER, Andrea GERVELMEYER, Marzia GNOCCHI, Lisa KOHNLE, Gabriele ZANCANARO

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Simon RÜEGG and Dolores GAVIER-WIDÉN.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence[1] and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management[2], EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

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[1] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf
[2] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

4. Scientific topics for discussion

4.1.   Presentation of ISA contractors' first deliverable: Zoonotic pathogens and Host animals

The ISA contractors' first deliverable was presented and discussed. Information about susceptible species, clinical signs, seroconversion, diagnostic tests, test matrices and surveillance options were given for each of the diseases chosen during the prioritisation workshop.

In the following discussion, it was noted that risk areas should also be considered, and they might not be the same for different diseases. In addition, the specimens to collect from a given host will not be the same for the different diseases. Experts agreed that the preparation of an overview showing how the different aspects of the diseases are interlinked would be very useful.

The importance to build on already existing sampling/surveillance activities including environmental sampling of, e.g., effluents and other matrices was underlined. The direct grant projects can be used to optimise what countries are already doing in terms of coordination and harmonization, where necessary. Further, the surveillance strategy proposals should provide countries advice regarding the best use of money to get the most out of the samples they will collect.

4.2.   Explanation of contribution of Enetwild and Vectornet

Enetwild contractors can provide an overview of which pathogens could be found in which matrices of wildlife species, as well as provide data/estimates of wildlife species distribution and abundance. A comparison of the cost-effectiveness of sampling wildlife versus sampling domestic animals can be provided. Hunting-based sampling is considered the most cost-effective surveillance approach for wildlife.

Vectornet could provide distribution maps of vectors and advice on how to carry out surveillance for pathogen detection in vectors if will be decided to do so. A template might be needed for this input. Regarding drafting the surveillance system for vector-borne diseases, it would be useful to start with a map that shows competent vector species, areas of higher risk and where to focus for early detection.

4.3.   Presentation of recommendations resulting from the mapping questionnaire and the literature review

A brief overview of the results from the literature review and the mapping questionnaire was given. The report will soon be shared with WG experts and ISA contractors.

4.4.   Explanation of RIBESS and SIGMA and their importance for the One Health project

Due to technical problems this presentation was postponed. It was briefly highlighted that the RIBESS tool can be used for planning output-based surveillance. The data collection should follow the SIGMA approach. For the generation of surveillance reports (dashboards, etc.), existing tools (e.g., the SIGMA Kaleidoscope) could possibly be used. Experts were advised to consider the tools3 developed for the early detection surveillance of plant pests, that can be easily adapted to animal health needs.

4.5.   Which pathogens to survey in which host and ecological system?

A proposal for selecting surveillance strategies in line with the idea of combining multi-pathogen surveillance was briefly presented by Enetwild. Experts agreed that an overview of options that can be viewed from different perspectives would be very useful, e.g., in the pathogen view the different

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[3] Plant Pest Survey Toolkit

vectors, host animals and the samples that can be targeted are shown; in the host view the pathogens that can be detected these hosts can be seen.

The surveillance strategy proposal should allow MSs to find the surveillance option relevant to their regional need, and at the same time achieve the objective that the results generated by different countries on a given disease are harmonised in terms of output achieved (e.g., detection surveillance sensitivity, confidence level).

It was considered beneficial if the surveillance strategy proposal would allow for coordination of existing surveillance strategies and/or adding on to existing surveillance systems.

If applying a risk-based approach, the identification of risk areas will have to be re-assessed after a couple of years, with a potential adaptation of the surveillance system.

4.6.   How to handle disease X?

Experts discussed that most of the recently emerged examples of disease X originate from outside Europe. Therefore, areas where migrating birds will remain for sometimes in spring could be suitable risk areas for early detection surveillance for disease X. While bats do not play a role in the epidemiology of the identified priority pathogens, they have been shown to be important for detecting disease X and its transboundary transmission. Experts felt that it would be good if all countries had a similar system for early detection of disease X emergence.

4.7.   What are the critical elements of early detection surveillance that need to be defined and at which level? Which components of the early detection surveillance need to be harmonised across different EU countries working on the same pathogen? How can we assure that results of surveillance are compatible across countries?

ISA contractors agreed to develop templates for these points for review and agreement by the WG experts.

4.8.   Structure of the scientific report on the surveillance strategy

The draft scientific report with the proposed section headings will be prepared by EFSA and then filled in by ISA contractors and WG experts.

5. Task distribution

ISA contractors will make an outline of the surveillance strategy proposal based on the RISKSUR structure for the WG to review and agree. The distribution of the different pathogen-specific sections among the ISA contractors were agreed. Fernanda Dorea will draft a section about the cross-sectorial collaboration required by the One Health surveillance system. Katinka De Balogh will draft the section of the proposed surveillance for early detection of disease X. Draft sections will be shared with WG experts and hearing experts before the next meeting of the WG on 12 December 2022.

It has been agreed that the draft surveillance strategy proposal will be shared before the end of the year with countries intending to apply for a direct grant, to provide them the opportunity to review it before the surveillance strategy workshop in January.

6. Any Other Business

An additional Working Group meeting on 10 January 2023 has been agreed. The date of the workshop for discussing the surveillance strategy proposals with countries intending to apply for a direct grant is 16-17/01/2023.

7. Next meeting

The next Working Group meetings is scheduled for 12 December 2022.

BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS & ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

MINUTES OF THE 6th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON ONE HEALTH SURVEILLANCE

Held on 14 November 2022, WEB-conference

(Agreed on 23 November 2022)

Participants

- ◼ Working Group Members: Katinka DE BALOGH, Fernanda DÓREA

- ◼ Hearing Experts: John BEREZOWSKI, Ezio FERROGLIO, Dolores GAVIER-WIDÉN, Joaquín VICENTE BAÑOS

- ◼ EFSA: Lisa KOHNLE (BIOHAW, chair), Alessandro BROGLIA (BIOHAW), Andrea GERVELMEYER (BIOHAW), Marzia GNOCCHI (BIOHAW)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence[1] and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management[2], EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

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[1] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf
[2] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

4. Scientific topics for discussion

4.1.   Information on workshop organisation

The final agenda of the prioritisation workshop was presented and discussed. Additional Q&A sessions were included, as a large number of questions on the methodology and results of the EU ranking were expected. It was agreed that Slack and miro will be used as additional tools during the workshop to allow exchange between different participants from the same country, and to facilitate the voting sessions.

4.2.   Discussion on presentation of the outcome of the disease questionnaire survey

The results of the individual country rankings and the overall EU ranking were presented and discussed. As no major differences were observed between the EU ranking using only country-specific weights and the EU ranking using combined weights, it was decided that only the first option would be brought to the plenary during the workshop. The Working Group then discussed on a specific proposal, which included bringing forward the first five diseases from the overall EU ranking for the second day of the workshop (further discussion using surveillance-related criteria) while taking the last 10 diseases from the list out of the exercise. For the remaining 30 diseases, it was suggested to let countries vote on an additional five diseases to be brought forward for the second day of the workshop. Finally, it was agreed to present also disease-specific overview results for the first five diseases from the list.

4.3.   Discussion on grouping of workshop participants

It was agreed to distribute all workshop participants with voting rights into six breakout groups, which would then convene on the second day of the workshop to discuss on the surveillance-related criteria. Similar-sized groups were planned for and created, and facilitators assigned.

4.4.   Distribution of roles

The different roles (chair, organisers, facilitators) were distributed among the Working Group and EFSA staff, and tasks assigned.

5. Any Other Business

None.

6. Next meeting

The next Working Group meetings is scheduled on 18 November.

BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS & ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

MINUTES OF THE 5th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON ONE HEALTH SURVEILLANCE

Held on 25-26 October 2022, WEB-conference

(Agreed on 7 November 2022)

Participants

- Working Group Members: Katinka DE BALOGH, Fernanda DÓREA

- Hearing Experts: John BEREZOWSKI, Dominique BICOUT, Ezio FERROGLIO, Dolores GAVIER-WIDÉN, Joaquín VICENTE BAÑOS

- EFSA: Lisa KOHNLE (BIOHAW, chair), Frank BOELART (BIOHAW), Alessandro BROGLIA (BIOHAW), Andrea GERVELMEYER (BIOHAW), Marzia GNOCCHI (BIOHAW)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence[1] and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management[2], EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

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[1] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf
[2] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

4. Scientific topics for discussion

4.1.   Presentation of aggregation of scores

Dominique BICOUT presented the methodology for the aggregation of scores after questionnaire results are received. He explained how the scores for the 10 different questions will be standardised and combined, and the four criteria weighted, to produce a ranked list of diseases for each participating country. Scores for questions a and b were combined before standardisation due to the dependence between these two questions. Final disease scores at country level will range between 0 and 16 and will be normalised to display a 0-100% scale on the x-axis (degree of compliance). Figures for the presentation of results at country and EU levels were discussed and additional figures were suggested by the Working Group: boxplots to display the variability of scores within diseases, bar charts to display the variability of scores between countries.

4.2.   Discussion on presentation of results

Exemplary data received through a questionnaire from one country were displayed and discussed. It was agreed that questionnaires should be checked for completeness and consistency before translating the qualitative results collected in the last sheet of the Excel file into scores. It was emphasised that countries will need to complete all questions for all diseases in the Excel file or it will not be possible to produce ranked lists of diseases. Once all countries have submitted their questionnaire results to EFSA, the outputs will be produced and shared with them in advance for further discussion at the prioritisation workshop.

4.3.   Collection and analysis of country inputs – finding synergies and sharing of results

Once all incoming results from countries are collected, EFSA will combine them into an EU ranked list of diseases, which will be presented at the prioritisation workshop. The closer the results of the individual countries are, the more diseases will be picked from the EU ranked list of diseases and put forward for the second day of the workshop. In the next Working Group meeting these results will be discussed in detail to find synergies between countries or highly ranked diseases, and come up with a proposal to be presented to the workshop participants.

4.4.   Presentation of ECDC list

The disease ranking performed internally by ECDC on our list of 45 zoonotic diseases was presented. It was agreed that this list will be shown and explained by ECDC at the prioritisation workshop to inform countries about public health considerations.

4.5.   Discussion on platforms and tools

It was agreed that Microsoft Teams will be used to host the meeting. Plenary as well as breakout sessions will be needed and are possible in Microsoft Teams. To provide countries with a communication platform amongst themselves, EFSA will provide private Slack channels in which participants from the same country can discuss and agree on their votes in the background. Miro will be used as an interactive platform for the ice breaker as well as the voting sessions. Instructions for the different tools will be provided by EFSA in advance.

4.6.   Discussion on external presentations

EFSA's different contractors (ENETWILD, VectorNET) who will be developing the surveillance strategies for the prioritised diseases and EFSA on their behalf (ISA), as well as the Working Group, will present on the second day of the prioritisation workshop. Their presentations will focus on the diseases that were put forward on the first day to inform and enrich the following discussions on the four surveillance-related criteria in the breakout and plenary sessions. Disease X will be briefly mentioned in those presentations.

4.1.   Discussion on second-round criteria

The second-round criteria were transformed into a list of questions/themes corresponding to the four surveillance-related criteria that were agreed by the Working Group: feasible, implementable, beneficial, constructive. Bullet points of the questions/themes will be further developed and

reviewed so that they can be shared with countries in advance. They will also be posted in miro for the different voting sessions.

4.1. Definition of questions/"steps" and roles for different (breakout) sessions

The first day of the prioritisation workshop will start with introductions by EFSA and ECDC, including answering questions from countries, followed by an ice breaker session in miro. Country participants will be able to learn more about each other and introduce themselves. This will be followed by a presentation on the methodology for the aggregation of scores and the results of the submitted questionnaires – the EU ranked list of diseases. If individual country results will be sufficiently aligned, a first batch of diseases from this list will be put forward for the second day of the workshop. Another batch of the remaining diseases (and any others they consider missing) will be up for a voting by countries. The first day will finish with a session on conclusions and an outlook to the second day. On the second day, the presentations mentioned above will be delivered before participants will be split into breakout groups (probably according to regions or similarity of results) for in-depth discussions on the four surveillance-related criteria. These groups will be guided by facilitators who will later on report back on the main points from the discussion to the plenary. Countries will be asked to vote in miro (traffic light system – "red"/"yellow"/"green") to indicate how feasible/implementable/beneficial/constructive surveillance for the different diseases would be, and all votes will be counted. Finally, after the results from the different criteria sessions have been summarised, the countries will vote on the final list of priority diseases for which EFSA will support them in developing their surveillance proposals. The second day will end with a session on conclusions and next steps.

5. Task distribution

The Working Group will prepare a list of bullet points of questions/themes for the four surveillance-related criteria (feasible, implementable, beneficial, constructive) that will be covered and discussed during the breakout and plenary sessions on the second day of the prioritisation workshop. Hearing Experts from ENETWILD/VectorNet and Dominique BICOUT as well as Fernanda DÓREA from the Working Group will prepare their presentations and share them with EFSA in advance. EFSA will set up the different tools that will be used during the workshop (Microsoft Teams, Slack, miro) and take care of remaining organisational issues. EFSA will also be in touch with Member States regarding the agenda, background on the methodology (including flowchart), instructions for the different tools and participant list.

6. Any Other Business

Andrea GERVELMEYER presented and asked for feedback from the Working Group on the templates provided by the contractors for developing surveillance strategies in domestic animals.

7. Next meeting

The next Working Group meetings is scheduled on 14 November.

BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS & ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

MINUTES OF THE 4th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON ONE HEALTH SURVEILLANCE

Held on 29 August 2022, WEB-conference

(Agreed on 7 September 2022)[1]

Participants

- ■ Working Group Members: Katinka DE BALOGH, Fernanda DÓREA, Simon RÜEGG

- ■ Hearing Experts: Julio, ÁLVAREZ, John BEREZOWSKI, Dominique BICOUT

- ■ EFSA: Lisa KOHNLE (BIOHAW, chair), Alessandro BROGLIA (BIOHAW), Andrea GERVELMEYER (BIOHAW), Linnea LINDGREN KERO (BIOHAW)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence[2] and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management[3], EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

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[1] Minutes should be published within 15 working days of the final day of the relevant meeting.
[2] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf
[3] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

4. Scientific topics for discussion

4.1. Final phrasing and assessment of criteria for the first round of the prioritisation exercise

Last edits and comments on the first-round criteria were discussed. The criteria on human activity, frequency of the disease in humans and cross-species transmission potential were removed, as they were either redundant, not adding any additional value or would not help in differentiating the different diseases. The outcome of the discussion was the finalised list of 4 criteria and 10 sub-criteria (questions) to be used in the first round of the prioritisation exercise.

4.2. Presentation of background information for the prioritisation exercise

The type of references that were collected to back up the questions of the prioritisation exercise were presented. They comprise mostly technical disease cards or review articles published by international organisations and publicly available. Q-fever was used as an example to illustrate the way in which the information will be presented to Member States to help them answer the questions of the prioritisation exercise.

4.3. Discussion on weighting of criteria

It was agreed to include a very simplified weighting process in the questionnaire to be sent out to Member States, which would be performed simultaneously. Member States will be required to assign values between 0 and 100 to the 4 criteria to specify the respective weights they would like to give to the respective topics covered by the exercise.

4.4. Presentation and discussion of Excel tool

The Excel tool that will be used as a questionnaire to collect the Member States' responses to the questions of the prioritisation exercise was presented. It will include general instructions, the list of 50 diseases and one sheet per disease. User-friendliness of the tool will be improved.

4.5. Discussion on piloting, training and instructions

It was agreed to pilot the questionnaire internally within EFSA to see if instructions, questions and answer options are clear and unambiguous. Moreover, results from this pilot phase will be used to test the calculation of overall disease scores and perform sensitivity analyses.

4.6. Definition of criteria for the second round of the prioritisation workshop

Ideas for the second-round criteria were collected and structured. Topics were expanded to surveillance in pets and wildlife, sentinel surveillance and citizen science, among others. Those criteria will be further developed in the next WG meeting.

5. Task distribution

A cleaned version of the second-round criteria was distributed for further editing, structuring and input. WG members were furthermore asked to propose participatory approaches and/or elements for the prioritisation workshop to be held physically in Parma in October to encourage discussion among Member States.

6. Any Other Business

None.

7. Next meeting

The next Working Group meetings is scheduled on 26 and 27 of September.

BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS & ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

MINUTES OF THE 3rd MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON ONE HEALTH SURVEILLANCE

Held on 20 June 2022, WEB-conference

(Agreed on 6 July 2022)[1]

Participants

- ◼ Working Group Members: Katinka DE BALOGH, Fernanda DÓREA, Simon RÜEGG
- ◼ Hearing Experts: John BEREZOWSKI
- ◼ EFSA: Lisa KOHNLE (BIOHAW), Alessandro BROGLIA (BIOHAW), Andrea GERVELMEYER (BIOHAW)
- ◼ ECDC: Jonathan SUK

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted with minor changes, as the sequence of items was modified.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence[2] and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management[3], EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

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[1] Minutes should be published within 15 working days of the final day of the relevant meeting.
[2] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf
[3] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

4. Scientific topics for discussion

4.1.   Agreement on list of diseases

Based on the input provided by the experts and the following thorough discussion, the list of diseases was reduced from 125 to 51, which will ultimately feed into the prioritisation exercise. Another 12 diseases were kept apart for consideration in future, and another 62 diseases were excluded. Exclusion criteria very clearly specified and spelled out.

4.2.   Criteria definition and phrasing

Based on the objectives of the mandate, the outcome of the literature review (report on disease ranking tools) provided by the contractor, the list of diseases and the experts' individual opinion, topics for criteria were discussed and agreed on. Four criteria (likelihood of introduction/(re-)emergence, epidemic potential, likelihood of establishment and severity of harm) with a total of 11 sub-criteria were identified for the first round of the prioritisation exercise. Criteria specifically related to surveillance (e.g. feasibility, effectiveness, benefits) will be developed for the second round of the prioritisation exercise.

4.3.   Scoring methods

Different scoring methods were discussed and compared. Qualitative answers on an ordinal scale (3-4 levels) were considered to be the preferred option of choice.

4.4.   Examples of disease prioritisation exercises

Jonathan Suk (ECDC) presented on the criteria and scoring method used in a similar prioritisation exercise currently conducted in Africa.

4.5.   Implementation of the prioritisation exercise

Two rounds of the prioritisation exercise were envisaged. It was planned that the first round would be implemented in form of an online questionnaire survey (tool to be decided) to be filled in by several respondents per applicant Member State. The option of having a focal point per applicant Member State for distributing the questionnaire and collecting all responses from the respective country was further considered. The required expertise of respondents participating in the first (public health, animal health (epidemiology), environmental health, risk management, economics) and second (surveillance, economics, agriculture/industry, conservation) round of the prioritisation exercise was defined.

5. Task distribution

A cleaned version of draft criteria and sub-criteria will be distributed after the meeting for phrasing of individual questions and answers for the questionnaire. Working Group Members were asked to review another questionnaire produced by the contractor for mapping of already existing surveillance activities in the EU, and to provide their input on how to structure the preparatory work for drafting specific surveillance strategies based on the outcome of the prioritisation exercise.

6. Any Other Business

None.

7. Next meeting

The next Working Group meetings will be scheduled from end of August 2022.

BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS & ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

MINUTES OF THE 2nd MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON ONE HEALTH SURVEILLANCE

Held on 7 June 2022, WEB-conference

(Agreed on 17 June 2022)[1]

Participants

- ■ Working Group Members: Fernanda DÓREA, Simon RÜEGG
- ■ Hearing Experts: John BEREZOWSKI
- ■ EFSA: Lisa KOHNLE (BIOHAW), Alessandro BROGLIA (BIOHAW), Andrea GERVELMEYER (BIOHAW)
- ■ ECDC: Jonathan SUK

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence[2] and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management[3], EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

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4. Scientific topics for discussion

4.1.   Agreement on list of diseases

The discussion on the list of zoonotic diseases for the upcoming disease ranking exercise with Member States was continued. Comments received by Working Group Members were presented and exclusion criteria further applied. Around 50 zoonotic diseases were put forward for the exercise, while another 25 diseases are still pending. It was agreed to collect further information before making a final decision.

4.2.   Discussion on methodological approach

Different rounds of the disease ranking exercise and relevant stakeholders to be involved were discussed. The possibilities of conducting an online survey or facilitated workshop were mentioned. It was agreed to present also the country/region-specific results and not only one list of priorities as an outcome of the disease ranking exercise.

4.3.   Discussion on number and topics of criteria

Topics for criteria retrieved through an extensive literature review were presented to the Working Group.

5. Task distribution

It was agreed to collect further comments on the topics for criteria and to group the selected zoonotic diseases according to certain aspects.

6. Any Other Business

None.

7. Next meeting

The next Working Group meeting is foreseen on 20 June.

BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS & ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

MINUTES OF THE 1st MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON ONE HEALTH SURVEILLANCE

Held on 31 May 2022, WEB-conference

(Agreed on 17 June 2022)[1]

Participants

- Working Group Members: Katinka DE BALOGH, Fernanda DÓREA, Simon RÜEGG
- Hearing Experts: Joaquín VICENTE BAÑOS, Dolores GAVIER-WIDÉN
- EFSA: Lisa KOHNLE (BIOHAW), Alessandro BROGLIA (BIOHAW)
- ECDC: Jonathan SUK

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted after exchanging points 4 and 5.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence[2] and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management[3], EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

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4. Hearing Experts

Joaquín VICENTE BAÑOS and Dolores GAVIER-WIDÉN were invited to present their views on disease ranking tools.

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Presentation of report on disease ranking tools

A literature review on disease ranking tools was presented by VICENTE BAÑOS and Dolores GAVIER-WIDÉN. Different frameworks and approaches were introduced and illustrated with examples. The Hearing Experts elaborated on the different steps to be taken when developing a similar methodology and recommended to use a combination of multiple-criteria decision analysis and the Delphi method.

5.2. Presentation of the mandate and scope of the Working Group

The mandate and its Terms of Reference were introduced by Lisa KOHNLE (BIOHAW). The time frame, activities and tasks of the Working Group were explained.

5.3. Discussion on methodological approach

The methodological approach of the mandate was discussed and agreed with the Working Group.

5.4. List of diseases to be ranked and criteria for selection

A comprehensive list of zoonotic diseases for the upcoming disease ranking exercise with Member States was presented. Exclusion criteria to shorten this initial list of zoonotic diseases were defined with the Working Group and systematically applied.

5.5. Criteria to be used for ranking

This point was postponed to the next meeting.

6. Task distribution

It was agreed to collect further comments on the list of diseases.

7. Any Other Business

None.

8. Next meeting

The next Working Group meeting is foreseen on 7 June.