

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE 68TH PLENARY MEETING OF
THE SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS
HELD IN PARMA ON 19-20 OCTOBER 2011**

AGENDA:

1. **OPENING, APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE,**
2. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
4. **NEW REQUESTS TO EFSA/BIOHAZ**
5. **OPINIONS FOR POSSIBLE ADOPTION**
 - 5.1 **THE RISK POSED BY SHIGA-TOXIN PRODUCING *ESCHERICHIA COLI* (STEC) AND OTHER PATHOGENIC BACTERIA IN SEEDS AND SPROUTED SEEDS**
 - 5.2 **ABP: EVALUATION OF ON-SITE TREATMENT OF PIG CARCASSES**
 - 5.3 **ABP: EVALUATION OF ISOLATION IN PROOFED PIT ON FARM DEAD POULTRY**
 - 5.4 **ABP: EVALUATION OF COMPOSTING ON FARM OF DEAD POULTRY**
6. **DRAFT OPINIONS FOR THOROUGH READING**
 - 6.1 **NOROVIRUSES IN OYSTERS: METHODS, LIMITS AND CONTROL OPTIONS**
 - 6.2 **2011 UPDATE OF THE QPS LIST OF BIOLOGICAL AGENTS INTENTIONALLY ADDED TO FOOD OR FEED**
 - 6.3 **EVALUATION OF THE SAFETY AND EFFICACY OF CECURE (CETYLPYRIDINIUM CHLORIDE) FOR THE REMOVAL OF MICROBIAL SURFACE CONTAMINATION OF POULTRY**
 - 6.4 **ASSESSMENT OF THE SCIENTIFIC ELEMENTS SUPPORTING THE PROHIBITION OF THE PLACING ON THE MARKET OF GM POTATO EH92-527-1 FOR CULTIVATION PURPOSES IN AUSTRIA**
7. **PROGRESS REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING MANDATES**
 - 7.1 **PUBLIC HEALTH HAZARDS TO BE COVERED BY INSPECTION OF POULTRY MEAT**

- 7.2 PUBLIC HEALTH HAZARDS TO BE COVERED BY INSPECTION OF BOVINE MEAT
- 7.3 PUBLIC HEALTH HAZARDS TO BE COVERED BY INSPECTION OF SHEEP AND GOAT MEAT
- 7.4 PUBLIC HEALTH HAZARDS TO BE COVERED BY INSPECTION OF FARMED GAME MEAT
- 7.5 PUBLIC HEALTH HAZARDS TO BE COVERED BY INSPECTION OF SOLIPEDS MEAT
- 7.6 ESTIMATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACT OF SETTING A NEW TARGET FOR THE REDUCTION OF *SALMONELLA* IN TURKEYS
- 7.7 PUBLIC HEALTH RISKS REPRESENTED BY CERTAIN COMPOSITE PRODUCTS CONTAINING FOOD OF ANIMAL ORIGIN
- 7.8 MINIMUM HYGIENE CRITERIA TO BE APPLIED TO CLEAN SEAWATER AND ON THE PUBLIC HEALTH RISKS AND HYGIENE CRITERIA FOR BOTTLED SEAWATER INTENDED FOR DOMESTIC USE
- 7.9 EVALUATION OF SAFETY AND EFFICACY OF LISTEX P100 FOR THE REMOVAL OF *L. MONOCYTOGENESS* SURFACE CONTAMINATION OF RAW FISH
- 7.10 REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A NEW METHOD OF DISPOSAL OF CATEGORY 2 ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS – COMPOSTING AND INCINERATION OF DEAD-ON-FARM PIGS
- 8. FEEDBACK FROM THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE AND FROM OTHER WGS
- 9. STANDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA
 - 9.1 EMERGING RISKS
 - 9.2 FEEDBACK FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION INFORMATION FROM EC: FOLLOW-UP TO SCIENTIFIC EFSA ADVICE AND ONGOING WORK
 - 9.3 BIOHAZ NETWORKS
- 10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS
 - 10.1 RESULTS FROM THE EXPERT SATISFACTION SURVEY
- 12. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

PARTICIPANTS

Panel Members:

Olivier Andreoletti, Herbert Budka (Vice-Chair), Sava Buncic, John D Collins (apologies), John Griffin, Arie Havelaar, Tine Hald (apologies), James Hope, Günter Klein, Kostas Koutsoumanis, James McLauchlin, Christine Müller-Graf, Christophe Nguyen-The, Birgit Noerrung (apologies), Luisa Peixe (apologies), Miguel Prieto Maradona (apologies), Antonia Ricci, John Sofos (Vice-Chair), John Threlfall, Ivar Vågsholm, Emmanuel Vanopdenbosch.

EFSA:

Marta Hugas, Ernesto Liebana, Michaela Hempen, Winy Messens, Pietro Stella, Luis Vivas Alegre, Pablo Romero Barrios, Teresa Da Silva Felicio, Fulvio Barizzone (Scientific staff).

European Commission (EC):

DG Health and Consumers: S. Osaer

1. OPENING AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The meeting started at 9:00 a.m. In the absence of the Chair, Prof John Sofos and Prof Herbert Budka on their capacity as Vice-Chairs opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Apologies were received from J.D. Collins, T. Hald, B. Noerrung, L. Peixe, and M. Prieto-Maradona.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Declarations of Interests, EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of interest (ADoI) and the Specific Declaration of interest (SDoI) filled in by the experts invited to the present meeting. No conflicts of interests related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the beginning of this meeting.

4. NEW REQUESTS TO EFSA/BIOHAZ

There were no new requests received.

5. OPINIONS FOR POSSIBLE ADOPTIONS

5.1. RISK POSED BY SHIGA-TOXIN PRODUCING *ESCHERICHIA COLI* (STEC) AND OTHER PATHOGENIC BACTERIA THAT MAY CONTAMINATE SEEDS AND SPROUTED SEEDS.

The Draft Opinion was presented by the Chairman of the Working Group, and after a thorough discussion it was adopted by the Panel on the 20th of October 2011.

5.2. ABP: EVALUATION OF ON-SITE TREATMENT OF PIG CARCASSES

5.3. ABP: EVALUATION OF ISOLATION IN PROOFED PIT ON FARM OF DEAD POULTRY

5.4. ABP: EVALUATION OF COMPOSTING ON FARM OF DEAD POULTRY

These Draft Opinions on Animal-by-Products (ABP) were presented by the Chairman of the Working Group, and after a thorough discussion they were adopted by the Panel on the 20th of October 2011.

6. DRAFT OPINIONS FOR THOROUGH READING

6.1. NOROVIRUSES IN OYSTERS: METHODS, LIMITS AND CONTROL OPTIONS

The last WG meeting took place on the 15th Sept 2011 in Brussels, and the following meeting is scheduled as a telemeeting on 9th November. The draft opinion was presented by the WG Chair via phone conference and thoroughly discussed. The deadline for this mandate is December 2011.

6.2. UPDATE (2011) OF THE QPS LIST OF BIOLOGICAL AGENTS INTENTIONALLY ADDED TO FOOD OR FEED

The last telemeetings took place on the 26th of September and 7th October. The next telemeeting is scheduled for 14th November. The deadline for adoption of this opinion is December 2011.

6.3. EVALUATION OF THE SAFETY AND EFFICACY OF CECURE FOR THE REMOVAL OF MICROBIAL SURFACE CONTAMINATION OF POULTRY

A telemeeting was held on the 12th of September and another one on the 11th of October. The deadline for adoption is December 2011. It will be a joint opinion adopted by BIOHAZ (regarding the efficacy and development of resistance) and CEF Panel (regarding the toxicological safety and the environmental risks). BIOHAZ will table the chapters about efficacy and AMR in December for possible adoption; the publication will follow when CEF will adopt the chapters under its remit, which is foreseen for April 2012.

6.4. ASSESSMENT OF THE SCIENTIFIC ELEMENTS SUPPORTING THE PROHIBITION OF THE PLACING ON THE MARKET OF GM POTATO EH92-527-1 FOR CULTIVATION PURPOSES IN AUSTRIA

A new mandate submitted by the EC was received in EFSA and allocated to the GMO and BIOHAZ Panels. A joint WG with the GMO Panel has been established. The first WG meeting took place on the 29th September 2011 in Parma. The deadline for adoption is January 2012.

7. PROGRESS REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING MANDATES

7.1. PUBLIC HEALTH HAZARDS TO BE COVERED BY INSPECTION OF POULTRY MEAT

The BIOHAZ “ad hoc” WG on meat inspection of poultry had a webconference on 17th October. A presentation prepared by the Chair of the WG was delivered to the Panel, summarising progress on the mandate to date. The next WG meeting is scheduled for 23rd November in Parma.

The deadline for the opinion on meat inspection of poultry is June 2012.

7.2. PUBLIC HEALTH HAZARDS TO BE COVERED BY INSPECTION OF BOVINE MEAT

The BIOHAZ “ad hoc” WG on meat inspection of bovines met for the first time on the 18th October 2011. A telemeeting to follow up progress will be scheduled before the end of 2011. The deadline for this Opinion is June 2013.

7.3. PUBLIC HEALTH HAZARDS TO BE COVERED BY INSPECTION OF SHEEP AND GOAT MEAT

The BIOHAZ “ad hoc” WG on meat inspection of small ruminants has been established and the first WG meeting will be held on the 27th October 2011. The deadline for this opinion is June 2013.

7.4. PUBLIC HEALTH HAZARDS TO BE COVERED BY INSPECTION OF FARMED GAME MEAT

The BIOHAZ “ad hoc” WG on meat inspection of farmed game met for the first time on the 12th and 13th September. A new WG meeting is scheduled on the 29th November 2011. The deadline for this opinion is June 2013.

7.5. PUBLIC HEALTH HAZARDS TO BE COVERED BY INSPECTION OF SOLIPED MEAT

The BIOHAZ “ad hoc” WG on meat inspection of solipeds has been formed and the first WG meeting will be held on 29 November 2011. The deadline for this opinion is June 2013.

7.6. ESTIMATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACT OF SETTING A NEW TARGET FOR THE REDUCTION OF *SALMONELLA* IN TURKEYS

The BIOHAZ *ad hoc* WG on *Salmonella* in turkeys had a meeting in Parma on the 22nd and 23th September 2011. A presentation prepared by the Chair of the WG was delivered to the Panel, summarising progress on the mandate to date. The next WG meetings are scheduled for 15th November (by webconference) and 6th December 2011 in Parma. The deadline of the opinion is March 2012.

7.7. PUBLIC HEALTH RISKS REPRESENTED BY CERTAIN COMPOSITE PRODUCTS CONTAINING FOOD OF ANIMAL ORIGIN

The second WG meeting took place on the 19th of September through web-conference. The next meeting will be held on the 9th November in Brussels. The deadline for adoption is April 2012.

7.8. MINIMUM HYGIENE CRITERIA TO BE APPLIED TO CLEAN SEAWATER AND ON THE PUBLIC HEALTH RISKS AND HYGIENE CRITERIA FOR BOTTLED SEAWATER INTENDED FOR DOMESTIC USE

The first WG meeting took place on the 20th September in Parma. The next meeting is scheduled for 28th October 2011. The deadline for adoption is March 2012.

7.9. EVALUATION OF SAFETY AND EFFICACY OF LISTEX™ P100 FOR THE REMOVAL OF *L. MONOCYTOGENES* SURFACE CONTAMINATION OF RAW FISH

An *ad hoc* WG on Listex™ P100 has been established and held its first meeting by webconference on 10th October 2011. The second meeting will be held in Brussels on 7th November 2011. The deadline for adoption is March 2012.

7.10. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A NEW METHOD OF DISPOSAL OF CATEGORY 2 ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS – COMPOSTING AND INCINERATION OF DEAD-ON-FARM PIGS

A new mandate submitted by the French Competent Authority was received in EFSA and allocated to the BIOHAZ Panel. The standing WG on Assessment of Animal By-Products will be in charge of the mandate. Dr. John Griffin is the Chair person for this WG. The terms of reference were discussed in detail. Adoption is foreseen by March 2012.

8. FEEDBACK FROM THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE AND FROM OTHER WGS

The last SC Plenary meeting took place on the 13 September Parma. The minutes of that meeting will be available on the EFSA website (<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/event/110913.htm>).

9. STANDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

9.1. EMERGING RISKS

Nothing to report

9.2. FEEDBACK FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION INFORMATION FROM EC: FOLLOW-UP TO SCIENTIFIC EFSA ADVICE AND ONGOING WORK

Nothing to report

9.3. BIOHAZ NETWORKS

A reflection paper ("*Possible control options to minimise the selection for antibiotic resistance in the agricultural sector*") prepared by a member of the MRA Network was presented to the Panel for information and discussion during the September Plenary meeting. Due to the lack of time, it was agreed to discuss the paper at the next plenary meeting in December.

The 6th Meeting of the MRA Network meeting will be held in March 2012 in Brussels.

The 6th Meeting of the Scientific Network on BSE-TSE that was scheduled for the 6th and 7th of October in Chania, Greece, had to be cancelled due to an unforeseen general strike in Greece affecting air traffic. Following this, a new meeting has been scheduled for the 29th and 30th of November in Brussels.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

10.1. RESULTS FROM THE EXPERT SATISFACTION SURVEY

The executive summary of the recent EFSA Scientific Expert Satisfaction Survey was tabled for information and discussion with the Panel members.

11. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The meeting closed at 14:30 pm.