

## Scientific Panel on Animal Health and Welfare

### Minutes of the 105<sup>th</sup> Plenary meeting

**Held on 10-11 May 2017, Parma, (Italy)**

**(Agreed on 29 May 2017)**

#### **Participants**

##### ■ Panel Members

Anette Bøtner (only 10/05), Dominique Bicot, Andy Butterworth, Paolo Calistri, Klaus Depner (only 10/05), Sandra Edwards, Bruno Garin-Bastuji, Margaret Good, Christian Gortazar Schmidt (TC 10/05), Hans Hermann Thulke, Virginie Michel, Miguel Angel Miranda, Simon More, Mohan Raj, Søren Saxmose Nielsen, Liisa Sihvonen, Hans Spoolder, Jan Arend Stegeman, Antonio Velarde Calvo, Preben Willeberg and Christoph Winckler

##### ■ EFSA

ALPHA UNIT: Beatriz Beltran-Beck, Alessandro Broglia, Denise Candiani, Sofie Dhollander, Chiara Fabris, Andrey Gogin, Lisa Kohnle, Nikolaus Kriz, Joana Morgado, Frank Verdonck, Gabriele Zancanaro

##### ■ EUROPEAN COMMISSION (via teleconference)

DG SANTE: Barbara Logar, Marina Marini, Laura Perez Alvarez, Maria Pittman

##### ■ OBSERVERS

Giovanni Pupillo (student Parma University), David Graham (FESASS), Anna Zuliani (University Udine), Joanne Riendeau (Canadian Food Inspection Agency) and (only on 11/05) students from Milan University: Alice Luciano, Grazia Pastorelli, Elisa Migliorati, Chiara Bettinelli, Serena Salvaneschi, Marta Tonoli and Cornelia Adlhoch (ECDC)

#### **1. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The chair welcomed the meeting participants.

#### **2. Adoption of the agenda**

The agenda was adopted without changes.

#### **3. Declarations of Interest of Scientific Panel Members**

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Declarations of Interests (DoI), EFSA screened the Annual (ADoI) and Specific Declaration of Interest (SDoI) provided by the Panel

Members for the present meeting. The Panel members were asked to confirm that no further interests had to be declared in the context of the agenda of the meeting. No conflict of interest has been identified.

#### **4. Agreement of the minutes of the 104<sup>th</sup> Plenary meeting held on 4 and 5 April 2017, Parma (Italy)**

The minutes of the previous plenary meeting have been adopted by written procedure.

#### **5. Presentation of the Guidelines for Observers**

The guidelines were presented. No questions were received from the observers before or during the meeting.

#### **6. New Mandates**

Not applicable

#### **7. Scientific outputs submitted for possible adoption**

- **Scientific opinion on the listing and categorisation of animal diseases in the framework of the Animal Health Law on Aujeszky's Disease (EFSA-Q-2015-00713), Ebola (EFSA-Q-2016-00602), Infection with Trypanosoma evansi Infections (EFSA-Q-2016-00593), Infection with Brucella spp. EFSA-Q-2016-00591, Paratuberculosis (EFSA-Q-2016-00588), Koi Herpes Virus (EFSA-Q-2016-00589), Infection with Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza Virus (EFSA-Q-2016-00599)**

The discussion has been organised by tackling both overarching issue, common to all opinion, and specific comments on each opinion.

A general discussion took place on the high workload of the Panel and the AHAW team to deliver the AHL disease opinions with a sound scientific quality within the available time. The Panel asked EFSA to make more resources available to support the scientific preparation and follow up of the assessments. The Panel agreed to identify the aspects, for each disease, that would require further data collection and/or analysis which could have an impact on the outcome of the assessment.

For some criteria, additional scientific evidence has been identified after the expert judgement and the Panel discussed for each case whether a new judgement round was required. Both the original and new judgement outcomes will be documented in the scientific opinions.

The general structure of the conclusions of the 'AHL disease opinions' was discussed, in particular the outcome of the assessment of the criteria of art. 9 of the AHL for the purpose of disease categorisation. A proposal has been developed and will be further discussed by the working group.

All AHL disease opinions scheduled for adoption have been discussed in detail, the comments provided in the text by the Panel and by the EC have been addressed, presented, discussed and agreed. Once the format of the conclusions is agreed, all the opinions apart from paratuberculosis, will be circulated to the Panel for written adoption. The opinion on paratuberculosis will be scheduled for adoption during the June plenary.

- **Scientific opinion on avian influenza (EFSA-Q-2015-00214 and EFSA-Q-2016-00348)**

The following draft chapters and the corresponding appendices were discussed: HPAI introduction via wild birds, HPAI transmission and spread, mutation from LPAI to HPAI. Clarification is required on the classification of water and non-water birds. It should also be specified that non-water birds entering the EU are considered immunologically naïve and susceptible to infection based on the low numbers of HPAI H5N8 infected non-water birds reported during winter 2014-2015. The model simulating HPAI entry does not take birds leaving a virtual contact area as this would not affect the outcome of the model given the assumption that wild birds are long enough in the area to transmit the virus. The term 'wetlands' will be edited to refer in the text also to other landscape types where wild birds gather, in particular in the proximity of poultry holdings. Information on the infectious period will be included in the chapter on AI transmission. The role of pigeons and netting as biosecurity measure were also mentioned in the discussion and will be integrated in the corresponding chapters. The use of uncertainty terminology in AHAW opinions will be discussed in autumn.

## **8. Scientific outputs submitted for discussion**

- **Scientific Opinions on the listing and categorisation of animal diseases in the framework of the new Animal Health Law: Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (EFSA-Q-2016-00587), Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis (EFSA-Q-2016-00586), Japanese Encephalitis (EFSA-Q-2016-00594), Anthrax (EFSA-Q-2016-00590), Equine Encephalomyelitis (Eastern and Western) (EFSA-Q-2016-00595), Venezuelan Equine Encephalomyelitis (EFSA-Q-2016-00596)**

There was no time left for the discussion of these drafts.

## **9. Feedback from the Scientific Committee/Scientific Panels, EFSA, the European Commission**

There was nothing to report.

## **10. Any other business**

A brief update was provided on the scope of the first meeting of the Animal Welfare platform.

An update was provided on hearing experts invited to ongoing working groups and the composition of the newly created working groups on Bsal and Avian influenza monitoring (Art31).

The Panel agreed with the proposal to reply to the Bsal Art29 mandate with two scientific opinions: the AHL-part by Oct 2017 and the other TORs by April 2018.

### **Extra session on AHL expert judgement**

10<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> May 2017, Parma

Participants:

Panel members: Dominique BICOUT, Margaret GOOD, Miguel Angel MIRANDA, Søren Saxmose NIELSEN, Liisa SIHVONEN, Anette BØTNER, GARIN-

BASTUJI, Christian GORTAZAR, Simon MORE, Virginie MICHEL,  
Paolo CALISTRI, Jan Arend STEGEMAN, Preben WILLEBERG.

EFSA: Alessandro BROGLIA, Lisa KOHNLE, Francesca, BALDINELLI, Frank  
VERDONCK (ALPHA);

The collective judgement was completed for EBL, anthrax, bovine TB and bluetongue.