



Parma, 21 March 2005 - revision 1

## **TASK FORCE ON ZONOSSES DATA COLLECTION**

### **MINUTES OF THE 5<sup>th</sup> MEETING** **Held in Parma on 23 November 2005**

#### **AGENDA:**

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1. Minutes from the last meeting
2. Declaration of interest
3. Feed back from the joint meeting of human health, veterinary and food experts on data collection of zoonoses and food-borne outbreaks, 22 November 2005
4. Revision of the web-based reporting system
5. Setting up a Steering Committee for the IT project on revision of the Zoonoses web-based reporting system
6. State of play with the Community Summary Report 2004
7. Discussion and possible endorsement of the merged Report on needs to revise the Community Reports on Zoonoses and to harmonise the related data collection
8. For information
9. Next meeting
10. Any other business

#### **PARTICIPANTS:**

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##### Members and other national or Commission representatives:

Peter Much (Austria), Luc Vanholme (Belgium), Petr Satran (Czech Republic), Birgitte Helwich (Denmark), Piret Priisalu (Estonia), Terhi Laaksonen (Finland), Pierre-Alexandre Beloil (France), Matthias Hartung (Germany), Dimitris Vourvidis (Greece), Alma Dudgeon (Ireland), Paolo Calistri (Italy), Valentina Rizzi (Italy), Nicole Werner-Keiss (Latvia), Joseph Schon (Luxembourg), Quentin Lawson (Malta), Rob van Oosterom (the Netherlands), Merete Hofshagen (Norway), Jacek Osek (Poland), Sergio Rodeia (Portugal), Marta Bedriová (Slovak Republic), Katica Florjanc (Slovenia), José Luis Paramio Lucas (Spain), Luisa Pulido Puente (Spain), Sofia Boqvist (Sweden), Jenny Frössling (Sweden), Harry Bailie (the United Kingdom), Annemarie Käsbohrer (CRL), Birgitte Borck (ZCC), Sarolta Idei (the Commission, DG SANCO)

##### Observers:

Juerg Danuser (Switzerland), D. Chaisemartin (OIE), Venceslava Taseva (Bulgaria), Adriana Costache (Romania)

##### EFSA:

Pia Mäkelä (chair), Frank Boelaert, Francesca Riolo (Science), Carsten Behring, (Information Technology), Hélène Fenech, Miriam Grasselli, Alwyn Borg Myatt (Administrative staff)

**1. MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes from the last meeting held on 29-30 September 2005 were adopted taking into account the comments from the members provided by e-mail which will be published on EFSA's web site.

**2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest. The chair reminded the Task Force members to send their annual declaration of interest to EFSA within 2 weeks.

**3. FEED BACK FROM THE JOINT MEETING OF HUMAN HEALTH, VETERINARY AND FOOD EXPERTS ON DATA COLLECTION OF ZOOSES AND FOODBORNE OUTBREAKS, 22 NOVEMBER 2005**

The chair reported on the Joint Meeting between Human Health, Food and Veterinary Experts on Zoonoses and Food-borne Outbreaks, on 22 November 2005 in Parma. It was a promising start of the collaboration between the sectors.

Firstly, regarding the integration of the information on zoonoses cases in humans and that on zoonoses in animals and food, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) made a suggestion for data flow. In this proposal, countries would send data through the Communicable Disease networks to ECDC. These networks and ECDC would analyse data together, and then submit the data to EFSA to be used in Zoonoses Summary Report. ECDC also expressed its wish to be involved in the joint analyses of data from different sources. ECDC and EFSA, in cooperation with Commission, the Networks and ZCC, will agree on the practical details and draft a model for data transfer. The Member States, including the Task Force, will be consulted before adopting the model. Some members emphasised the need to keep the tables and forms regarding the human zoonoses cases in the web-based zoonoses reporting system, in case the new data transfer would not be fully operational.

Secondly, EFSA presented its plans to organise data collection on food-borne outbreaks in the framework of the Zoonoses Directive. Via a procurement procedure a contractor had recently been awarded the contract and will draft proposals to improve the actual reporting system by the end of 2006. The new reporting tools should be in place for 2007. A joint Working Group will be set up to guide the contractor.

**4. REVISION OF THE WEB-BASED REPORTING SYSTEM**

The chair briefed the members about the state of progress of the Working Group on the revision of the reporting manual. The programme context lists, and the new disease status table of small ruminant brucellosis still need to be optimized. Both issues were discussed and commented on by the members. In addition, the need to include a table for co-financed

Salmonella programmes was addressed. The Working Group will further consider these issues in light of the discussion.

Carsten Behring (EFSA's zoonoses IT Project manager) presented the IT improvements under preparation for the web-based reporting system. The Task Force appreciated these improvements, that is, the fixed column headings, the wizard for text pages, the fixed save buttons and the prompts to save regularly.

Norway and Sweden emphasized that a nice national PDF report is of the utmost importance but that the current tools are insufficient to obtain this. To overcome this, Carsten Behring will test out a new tool to convert the PDF report into Microsoft software like Word or Excel, to enable countries to reformat the report substantially. Italy volunteered to test the XML import and export tools in a pilot project.

For all zoonoses web-system end user problems, Carsten Behring will make a list of national contact points of IT professionals, and will request contact details by e-mail.

## **5. SETTING UP A STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE IT PROJECT ON REVISION OF THE ZOOSES WEB-BASED REPORTING SYSTEM**

EFSA intends to set up an IT Project Steering Committee (PSC) for the zoonoses reporting system. A PSC would provide for the overall strategy for further development of the system and management of the IT project. It should ensure that the project remains on course, that it delivers products of the required quality, and that it agrees on the required scope of priority developments.

The PSC should be composed of EFSA representatives, members from the Commission, the end users, such as Member States, Reporting Officers and reporters, and ZCC. Carsten Behring will formally request voluntary candidates for the PSC via e-mail to the Task Force members.

## **6. STATE OF PLAY WITH THE COMMUNITY SUMMARY REPORT 2004**

The chair gave an overview of the current state of play of the Community Summary Report 2004. The preparation of the draft report took more time than expected. The final draft has been provided to all countries for consultation. Comments are welcome until the 29 of November 2005. The report will be published before Christmas 2005.

The Task Force members congratulated the ZCC for a well done analysis and drafting of the Summary report.

## **7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ENDORSEMENT OF THE MERGED REPORT ON NEEDS TO REVISE THE COMMUNITY REPORTS ON ZOOSES AND TO HARMONISE THE RELATED DATA COLLECTION**

The chair gave feedback from the consultation of the merged report by the Animal Health and Welfare panel and Biological Hazards (BIOHAZ) panel. The panels were pleased to be

informed and being given the opportunity to comment this report. A number of points were raised, including animal welfare aspects of zoonoses, importance of harmonisation of sampling schemes and analysis methods, difficulties in implementation of harmonised schemes, as well as the impact of increasing imports from countries outside EU on zoonoses situation. It was also suggested that the robustness of the data collected should be analysed at some stage. The panels also saw a need to make a controlled access to the data available to a wider scientific community.

Some further minor comments were made by Task Force members. Dr. Chaisemartin from OIE will send a complementary summary paragraph regarding data OIE's Member countries or territories provide to OIE. The Commission requested to be formally briefed about any further amendment.

The report was endorsed by the Task Force and it will be published on the EFSA website after incorporation of the agreed amendments.

## **8. FOR INFORMATION**

Frank Boelaert gave a presentation about the progress on the analysis of the *Salmonella* baseline study in laying hens. EFSA had received the final reports and data of 14 countries from the Commission; only the final reports were received from eight countries, whereas nothing was received from the other four countries. The Task Force confirmed that the database comprising all Member States' datasets still needs to be substantially upgraded. Moreover, data sent by MS still need to be thoroughly validated. The final validated datasets will be delivered to EFSA within the next two weeks.

The chair informed the Task Force about the state of play with setting up the new Working Groups (WG). The BIOHAZ panel's sub-WG, regarding *Salmonella* baseline survey protocol in pigs, has been established. As for the two other WGs, the WG *Salmonella/Campylobacter* in broiler meat, and the WG about antimicrobial resistance, candidates have been selected and the WGs will be set up soon. Frank Boelaert gave feedback from the first meeting of the sub-WG on the baseline survey regarding *Salmonella* in pigs.

A draft letter has been prepared proposing visits of an EFSA delegation to the Member States to enhance the collaboration in reporting on zoonoses. It was agreed that this letter will be sent to the Chief Veterinary Officers of the Member States and Norway, with a copy to the Task Force members and to EFSA's Advisory forum.

## **9. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will take place in March 2006.

## **10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

No other items were discussed.