



BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS & ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 25<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

**(Agreed on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022)**

### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Virginie Michel  
Antonio Velarde  
Inmaculada Estevez  
Thea Van Niekerk  
Maryse Guinebretiere

Lars Schrader

Bas Rodenburg

■ Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:

Stephanie Buijs  
Christine Nicol

■ European Commission:

Kirsten Vornhagen (DG SANTE)

■ EFSA:

BIOHAW Unit: Elea Bailly-Caumette, Michaela Hempfen, Cristina Rojo Gimeno, Yves Van der Stede

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)

## 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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 24<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022, web

The minutes of the 24<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022.<sup>4</sup>

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

### 5.1. Draft opinion

The WG discussed the contributions addressing the comments received from AHAW panel members and pending comments raised by WG experts.

### 5.2. Specific ToR 1

Remaining comments in the section answering specific ToR 1 on minimum enclosure were discussed as well as conclusions and recommendations. The recommendations for covered verandas and outdoor range were discussed and agreed, in part with certainty ranges.

The methodology and results of the model calculation was added to the draft opinion but not discussed.

### 5.1. Specific ToR 2

Comment on specific ToR 2 on beak trimming were addressed. The concentration of text on beak trimming and injurious pecking in this section revealed some gaps on the ABMs for soft tissue lesions. It was agreed to add the iceberg indicator 'wounds' to the ABMs for soft tissue lesions. Conclusions and recommendations were discussed and agreed.

### 5.2. Specific ToR 3

Comments on the specific TORs were discussed and agreed, There were only few comments by the panel which have been addressed.

The draft opinion will be presented to the panel for possible adoption on 14/15 December 2022.

## 6. Next meeting

There are no further meetings planned. EFSA and EC described the next steps in the process to the WG.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wqs/animal-health/wq-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>5</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>6</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>5</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS & ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 24<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 3 and 4 November 2022**

**(Agreed on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022)**

### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Virginie Michel  
Antonio Velarde  
Inmaculada Estevez  
Thea Van Niekerk  
Maryse Guinebretiere  
Lars Schrader  
Bas Rodenburg  
Inga Tiemann  
Julio Álvarez Sánchez

■ Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:

Stephanie Buijs  
Christine Nicol

■ European Commission:

Kirsten Vornhagen (DG SANTE)

■ EFSA:

BIOHAW Unit: Elea Bailly, Mariana Geffroy, Michaela Hempen, Cristina Rojo Gimeno, Yves Van der Stede

MESE Unit: Olaf Mosbach-Schulz

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)

## 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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Working Group meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022, web

The minutes of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022.<sup>4</sup>

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

### 5.1. Specific ToR 1

The specific ToR 1 is addressed in parts. Part 1 provides an overview of welfare consequences on cage and non-cage systems for laying hens and Part 2 defines minimum requirements of enclosures for laying hens, pullets and layer breeders. This includes a discussion of access to covered veranda and/or outdoor range.

### 5.2. Specific ToR 1: model calculation of space allowance

An update to the calculation of space allowance based on selected behaviours was presented. The behaviour that contributes most to the calculation of space needed is 'walking', followed by 'wing flapping' and 'foraging'. A sensitivity analysis was carried out to evaluate which factor contributes the most to the model outcome which will be included in the uncertainty analysis. The input for 'distance walking' and 'space walking' have largest effect on model outcome. The model outcome with associated uncertainty informs the conclusions on minimum area of enclosure and maximum stocking density.

### 5.1. Specific ToR 2

An update was provided on the text on beak-trimming. It was decided to collect all discussion on beak-trimming in this section and refer to it when beak trimming is mentioned elsewhere.

### 5.2. Specific ToR 3

An update was provided on ABMs collected in the slaughterhouse to assess welfare on farm. The draft text is well developed and will now be integrated into the draft opinion.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wqs/animal-health/wq-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

### **5.3. Draft opinion**

The WG discussed the general conclusions and recommendation on the welfare consequences and added certainty ranges to those with larger uncertainties.

An alternative structure was suggested for the draft opinion in order to reduce repetition and improve readability. Even though it is challenging to revise the structure at this stage, the WG decided to go ahead with the suggestion.

The comments from the AHAW Panel were discussed. The draft opinion will be presented to the panel for thorough reading during the next meeting 23/24 November and for possible adoption on 14/15 December 2022.

## **6. Next meeting**

The next WG meeting will be held on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022.

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>5</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>6</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>5</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS & ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 23<sup>rd</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 10 October 2022**

**(Agreed on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022)**

### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Virginie Michel  
Antonio Velarde  
Inmaculada Estevez  
Thea Van Niekerk  
Maryse Guinebretiere  
Lars Schrader  
Bas Rodenburg  
Inga Tiemann  
Linda Keeling  
Sabine Gebhardt

■ Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:

Stephanie Buijs  
Christine Nicol

■ EFSA:

BIOHAW Unit: Sean Ashe, Mariana Geffroy, Michaela Hempen, Cristina Rojo Gimeno, Yves Van der Stede

MESE Unit: Olaf Mosbach-Schulz

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)



## 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Bas Rodenburg and Virginie Michel.

## 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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2022 in Parma

The minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022<sup>4</sup>.

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

### 5.1. Data extraction and calculation of space allowance

An update to the calculation of space allowance based on selected behaviours was presented. The behaviour that contributes most to the calculation of space needed is 'walking', followed by 'wing flapping' and 'foraging'. A thorough discussion on the data sources for these behaviours followed to validate the calculations. It was agreed that a sensitivity analysis may be useful and that an uncertainty analysis needs to accompany the model results to provide useful conclusions. This will be followed up during the next WG meeting.

### 5.2. Discussion on specific scenario 1

For specific scenario 1, a table was developed to compare conventional and alternative husbandry systems. In addition, minimum requirement for enclosures for laying hens, pullets and breeders are described. The WG did not conclude on minimum total area, group size and stocking density. Other requirements on environment and management were defined, such as elevated platforms, litter and nests. The discussion will continue during the next WG meeting.

## 6. Next meeting

The next WG meeting will be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wqs/animal-health/wq-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>5</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>6</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>5</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS & ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 22<sup>nd</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

**(Agreed on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022)**

### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Virginie Michel

Antonio Velarde

Inmaculada Estevez

Thea Van Niekerk

Maryse Guinebretiere

Lars Schrader

Bas Rodenburg

Inga Tiemann

■ Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:

Stephanie Buijs

Christine Nicol

■ EFSA:

BIOHAW Unit: Sean Ashe, Mariana Geffroy, Michaela Hempen, Cristina Rojo Gimeno

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Christine Nichol.

<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)

## 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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 21<sup>st</sup> Working Group meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> August and 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 in Parma

The minutes of the 19<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022<sup>4</sup>.

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

### 5.1. Behavioural needs, priorities and preferences

The definitions of the terms "behavioural need", "priority" and "preference" were clarified, and it was agreed that for the purpose of the scientific opinion, the terms "need" and "preference" were sufficient. "Priority" being part of "needs" are addressed and don't need to be distinguished.

### 5.2. Data extraction and calculation of space allowance

An update to the calculation of space allowance based on selected behaviours was presented. There are limited data for laying hens but the WG agreed that the approach is valid nevertheless and certainty ranges can be provided, if needed. and tasks were assigned to verify extracted data from the scientific literature to inform the calculations.

### 5.3. Discussion on the General TORs of the scientific opinion<sup>5</sup>

The WG discussed the comments from the AHAW panel and the draft conclusions and recommendations. It was agreed that a general recommendation could be added promoting the concept of positive welfare in future welfare assessments. The panel comments will be addressed until the next WG meeting.

### 5.4. Discussion on specific scenarios

For specific scenario 1, a table was developed to compare conventional and alternative husbandry systems. In addition, minimum requirement for enclosures for laying hens, pullets and breeders will be described. For specific scenario 2, the effect of beak trimming and non-beak trimming and effect on welfare are described. For specific scenario 3, ABMs were selected that could be measured at slaughter to assess welfare at farm. A literature search is conducted on those ABMs.

The drafting of the sections on the specific scenarios was assigned to experts and will be discussed during the next WG meeting.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wqs/animal-health/wq-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <https://open.efsa.europa.eu/questions/EFSA-Q-2020-00483?search=EFSA-Q-2020-00483>

## **6. Next meeting**

The next WG meeting will be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>6</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>7</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS & ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 21<sup>st</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held in hybrid mode (in-person and tele-conference) on 31<sup>st</sup> August and 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022**

**(Agreed on 12 September 2022)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Virginie Michel
  - Antonio Velarde
  - Inmaculada Estevez
  - Thea Van Niekerk
  - Maryse Guinebretiere
  - Lars Schrader
  - Bas Rodenburg
  - Anja Brinch Riber (attending item 5.1, 5.2)
  - Sabine Gebhardt-Henrich (attending item 5.1, 5.2)
  - Ingrid de Jong (attending item 5.1, 5.2)
  - Linda Keeling (attending item 5.1, 5.2)
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:
  - Stephanie Buijs
  - Christine Nicol
  - Inga Tiemann (attending item 5.1, 5.2)

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)

- EC:  
Kirsten Vornhagen
- EFSA:  
BIOHAW Unit: Michaela Hempen, Cristina Rojo Gimeno, Yves Van Der Stede, Marika Vitali

## 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Stephanie Buijs and Lars Schrader.

## 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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 19<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2022 by web

The minutes of the 19<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022<sup>4</sup>.

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

### 5.1. Specific scenario 1 - space allowance calculation

The calculations for space allowance for laying hens based on selected behaviours were discussed. Tasks were assigned to verify extracted data from the scientific literature to inform the calculations.

### 5.2. Specific scenario 1 – minimum requirement for enclosure (indoor, covered veranda and open range)

The WG discussed possible recommendations for housing systems for laying hens, pullets and layer breeders. This discussion will continue during the next meeting.

### 5.3. Specific scenario 2 – Beak trimmed / non-beak trimmed birds

A draft text to answer specific scenario 2 was introduced. The discussion was post-poned to the next meeting.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wqs/animal-health/wq-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>



#### **5.4. Specific scenario 3 – ABMs at slaughter**

During the last meeting, potential ABMs at slaughter were screened. During this meeting, the working group selected ABMs at slaughter based on four criteria: relevance welfare consequence, automation possibility, already measured at slaughter and importance rated by the network.

#### **5.5. Discussion on the scientific opinion<sup>5</sup>**

The WG discussed the contributions to the draft opinion, comments from the AHAW panel and draft conclusions and recommendations. The draft opinion will be presented to the AHAW panel on 21/22 September. Possible adoption is planned for December 2022.

### **6. Next meeting**

The next WG meeting will be held on 19 September 2022.

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<sup>5</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00483>

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>6</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>7</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS & ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 20<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

**(Agreed on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Virginie Michel
  - Antonio Velarde
  - Inmaculada Estevez
  - Thea Van Niekerk
  - Maryse Guinebretiere
  - Lars Schrader
  - Bas Rodenburg
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:
  - Stephanie Buijs
  - Christine Nicol
  - Inga Tiemann (attending item 5.1)
- EFSA:
  - BIOHAW Unit: Michaela Hempen, Cristina Rojo Gimeno
  - MESE Unit: Olaf Mosbach-Schulz

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)

## 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Stephanie Buijs.

## 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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 19<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2022 by web

The minutes of the 19<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022<sup>4</sup>.

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

### 5.1. Data extraction and calculation of space allowance

An approach to calculate space allowance for laying hens was presented and tasks were assigned to verify extracted data from the scientific literature to inform the calculations.

### 5.2. Discussion on the scientific opinion<sup>5</sup>

The WG discussed the contributions to the draft opinion, pending comments and draft conclusions and recommendations. The first part of the draft opinion answering the common terms of reference is well developed and will be shared with the AHAW panel. The comments from the panel members will then be discussed during the next WG meeting.

### 5.3. Discussion on specific scenarios

The European Commission requests EFSA propose detailed animal-based measures and preventive and corrective measures for the following scenarios:

- The welfare of laying hens and the risks associated with alternative systems (organic, free range and barn) compared to the cage system currently allowed
- Welfare of hens in furnished cages, and risks associated with rearing of animals non beak trimmed
- The assessment of Animal Based Measures collected in slaughterhouses to monitor the level of welfare on laying hen farms

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00483>

Where possible, these measures will be quantified using data or expert judgement. Alternatively, a qualitative approach is taken. The approach discussed under 5.1. will inform this assessment as well as the information elicited through expert knowledge elicitation.

A harmonized methodology is applied for the Animal based Measures collected at slaughterhouses. Screening and discussion of those was scheduled for this meeting but needed to be postponed to a later meeting date.

The drafting of the sections on the specific scenarios was assigned to experts and will be discussed during the next WG meeting.

## **6. Next meeting**

The next WG meeting will be held on 31 August and 1 September 2022.

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>6</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>7</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS & ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 19<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2022**

**(Agreed on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Virginie Michel
  - Antonio Velarde
  - Inmaculada Estevez
  - Thea Van Niekerk
  - Maryse Guinebretiere
  
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:
  - Stephanie Buijs
  - Christine Nicol
  - Inga Tiemann (attending item 5.2 and 5.3)
  - Ana Granados (attending item 5.1)
  - Gerard Leveque (attending item 5.1)
  
- EFSA:
  - BIOHAW Unit: Michaela Hempen, Cristina Rojo Gimeno

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)

## 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Lars Schrader.

## 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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 18/19<sup>th</sup> May 2022 in Parma.

The minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022<sup>4</sup>.

## 5. Hearing experts

Ms Ana Granados and Mr Gerard Leveque were invited to present their views for item 6.1 – Layer breeders - discussion on the feedback from EFFAB (European Forum of Farm Animal Breeders) on individual and collective cages- of the present meeting.

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA invited Ms Ana Granados and Mr Gerard Leveque to submit an Annual Declaration of Interest. Their participation in the present meeting was limited to providing testimony, without the possibility to take on any role undertaken by members of the Working Group (i.e. not possible to draft or be involved in the discussion or the adoption of a scientific output), in accordance with the applicable legal framework.<sup>3</sup>

## 6. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

### 6.1. Layer breeders - discussion on the feedback from EFFAB on individual and collective cages

Ms Ana Granados and Mr Gerard Leveque presented their view on the use of individual and collective cages in the production of laying hen breeders.

### 6.2. Data extraction and calculation of space allowance

An approach to calculate space allowance for laying hens was presented and tasks were assigned to extract data from the scientific literature to inform the calculations.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>



### **6.3. Discussion on group stress**

The draft definition of group stress and related animal-based measures was discussed and agreed.

### **6.4. Discussion on covered veranda and outdoor range**

The draft description and requirements for covered veranda and outdoor range was discussed and tasks assigned.

### **6.5. Discussion on the scientific opinion<sup>5</sup>**

The WG discussed the structure of the draft conclusions and recommendations assigned tasks. Pending comments on the draft opinion were discussed.

### **6.6. Discussion on specific scenarios**

The specific scenarios requested in the terms of reference were presented and an approach to answer those was presented. The reply to the specific scenarios will be kept short as descriptions and justification are already described in the previous sections. A table could be used with hyperlinks to the relevant sections in the opinion.

## **7. Next meeting**

The next WG meeting will be held on 11 July 2022.

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<sup>5</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00483>

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>6</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>7</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS, ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

### MINUTES OF THE 18<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held in hybrid mode (in-person and tele-conference) on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

**(Agreed on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022)**

#### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Virginie Michel (in-person, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> May)  
Antonio Velarde (in-person, 18<sup>th</sup> May)  
Anja Brinch Riber (in-person, 18<sup>th</sup> May)  
Sabine Gebhardt-Henrich (in-person, 18<sup>th</sup> May)  
Ingrid de Jong (in-person, 18<sup>th</sup> May)  
Linda Keeling (in-person, 18<sup>th</sup> May)  
Werner Bessei (web, 18<sup>th</sup> May)  
Maryse Guinebretiere (in-person, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> May)  
Lars Schrader (web, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> May)  
Inmaculada Estevez (web, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> May)

■ Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:

Inga Tiemann (in-person, 18<sup>th</sup> May)  
Christine Nicol (in-person, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> May)  
Stephanie Buijs (in-person, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> May)

■ EFSA:

BIOHAW Unit: Cristina Rojo Gimeno (18<sup>th</sup> May), Michaela Hempten (18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> May), Olaf Mosbach-Schulz (19<sup>th</sup> May), Yves Van Der Stede (19<sup>th</sup> May), Marika Vitali (18<sup>th</sup> May)

<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/election.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/election.pdf)

## 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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, 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.

## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 17<sup>th</sup> sub-Working Group meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022, WEB meeting (TELE-Conference).

The minutes of the 17<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022<sup>4</sup>.

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion<sup>5,6</sup>

### Day 1: Joint meeting with WG on the protection of broilers

#### 5.1 Structure of the Conclusion & recommendations on welfare consequence

The working group members agreed on structuring the conclusions and recommendations on welfare consequences by husbandry system and animal category.

#### 5.2 Space allowance for broilers and laying hens: ethogram approach and Expert Knowledge Elicitation

A presentation was provided on a tool used to calculate the space required to perform 11 behaviours (broilers and laying hens) based on data extracted from literature. The working group members agreed to identify additional data on positive welfare indicators to further fine tune the calculation of space allowance for broilers and laying hens. These results will complement the results of the expert knowledge elicitation (EKE).

#### 5.3 Conclusions and Recommendations on Welfare consequences: 'Resting problems' and 'Exploratory and foraging behaviour':

Working group members discussed pecking and scratching material and the minimal size of perches for broilers and laying hens agreed to recommended elevated structures for all husbandry systems.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <https://open.efsa.europa.eu/questions/EFSA-Q-2020-00483>

<sup>6</sup> <https://open.efsa.europa.eu/questions/EFSA-Q-2020-00479>

#### **5.4 Conclusions and Recommendations on minimum space allowance outdoors (covered veranda)**

Working group members agreed to recommend a covered veranda for broilers and laying hens.

#### **5.5 Conclusions and recommendations on welfare consequence 'group stress' and the impact of group size**

Group stress needs to be discussed further at the next meeting. A draft text will be circulated to both WGs.

#### **5.6 Conclusions and recommendations on sensory under- and overstimulation**

Due to lack of time this item was not addressed and will be addressed during the next joint meeting.

#### **5.7 Presentation on the Animal Based Measures collected in slaughterhouses to monitor the level of welfare**

The approach was described and agreed upon the working group members and a timeline was identified.

### **Day 2: Expert knowledge elicitation**

The EKE focussed on providing a judgement on the percentage of birds/time walking, scratching, pecking in relation to stocking density. Data from literature was discussed and represented as graph to inform the expert elicitation. The experts were the asked to provide judgements on the average percentage of birds (and variation), that is showing foraging behaviour in a flock of layers with low and high stocking density. The WG concluded that stocking density is not the only factor relevant for the occurrence of foraging behaviour. This will be reflected in the Scientific Opinion.

## **6. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on the 21<sup>st</sup> of June 2022.



BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS & ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 17<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE SUB-WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

**(Agreed on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Virginie Michel
  - Inmaculada Estevez
  - Maryse Guinebretiere
  - Lars Schrader
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:
  - Stephanie Buijs
- EFSA:
  - BIOHAW Unit: Michaela Hempen

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. The meeting was dedicated to finalising pending discussion on the draft opinion that could not be completed during the last WG meeting.

### 2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)

### 3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

### 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 16<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 14-15<sup>th</sup> March 2022, TELE-conference.

The minutes of the 16<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022<sup>4</sup>.

### 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

#### 5.1. Discussion on the scientific opinion<sup>5</sup>

The WG members discussed the specific conclusions and recommendation for the different husbandry systems for laying hens, pullets and breeders.

Tasks were assigned and deadlines agreed.

### 6. Next meeting

The next WG meeting will be held on 18-19 May 2022.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wqs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-O-2020-00483>

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>6</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>7</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)





BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS & ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 16<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022**

**(Agreed on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022)**

### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Virginie Michel  
Antonio Velarde  
Inmaculada Estevez  
Bas Rodenburg  
Thea Van Niekerk  
Maryse Guinebretiere  
Lars Schrader

■ Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:

Stephanie Buijs  
Christine Nicol

■ EFSA:

BIOHAW Unit: Michaela Hempfen, Cristina Rojo Gimeno

■ Others:

Monique Bestman (attending the EKE discussion – item 5.2 - via the EFSA Framework Contract on support services for Expert Knowledge Elicitation)  
Ute Knierim (attending the EKE discussion – item 5.2 - via the EFSA Framework Contract on support services for Expert Knowledge Elicitation)  
Hans-Herrmann Thulke (attending the EKE discussion – item 5.2 - via the EFSA Framework Contract on support services for Expert Knowledge Elicitation)

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)

## 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Antonio Velarde.

## 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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 14-15<sup>th</sup> March 2022, TELE-conference.

The minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022<sup>4</sup>.

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

### 5.1. Discussion on the scientific opinion<sup>5</sup>

The WG members discussed the contributions to the draft scientific opinion.

The general conclusions and recommendations of the welfare consequences were discussed as well as the specific conclusions and recommendation for the different husbandry systems for laying hens, pullets and breeders. The approach on adding an expression of the uncertainty about the conclusions was agreed using one of three ranges of uncertainty.

Tasks were assigned and deadlines agreed.

### 5.2. EKE (Expert Knowledge Elicitation) on space allowance (specific scenario 1)

The evidence dossier on the second ABM on exploratory behaviour in relation to stocking density was discussed. If data permits, space allowance will be assessed separately for indoor and outdoor. The WG agreed on which data sets should be included in the EKE that is planned for the next WG meeting. The evidence dossier will be completed and shared with the WG one week before the EKE.

## 6. Next meeting

The next WG meeting will be held on 18-19 May 2022.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wqs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-O-2020-00483>

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>6</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>7</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS & ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

### MINUTES OF THE 15<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 14 and 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

**(Agreed on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022)**

#### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Virginie Michel

Antonio Velarde

Inmaculada Estevez

Bas Rodenburg

Thea Van Niekerk

Maryse Guinebretiere

Lars Schrader

■ Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:

Stephanie Buijs

Christine Nicol

■ EFSA:

BIOHAW Unit: Michaela Hempen, Cristina Rojo

MESE Unit: Olaf Mosbach-Schulz (item 5.1)

■ Others:

Monique Bestman (attending the EKE discussion – item 5.1 - via the EFSA Framework Contract on support services for Expert Knowledge Elicitation)

Ute Knierim (attending the EKE discussion – item 5.1 - via the EFSA Framework Contract on support services for Expert Knowledge Elicitation)

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)

Hans-Herrmann Thulke (attending the EKE discussion – item 5.1 - via the EFSA Framework Contract on support services for Expert Knowledge Elicitation)

Karen Laing (attending the EKE discussion – item 5.1 - via the EFSA Framework Contract on support services for Expert Knowledge Elicitation)

## 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Antonio Velarde.

## 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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022, TELE-conference.

The minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022<sup>4</sup>.

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

### 5.1. EKE (Expert Knowledge Elicitation) on space allowance (specific scenario 1)

The evidence dossier on the first ABM on plumage damage in relation to stocking density was discussed. Definitions were agreed and the EKE questions defined.

Stocking density was defined as indoor space measured in bird/usable m<sup>2</sup> ('usable' defined as in Directive 1999/74/EC). Outside areas are excluded. 3-D housing is considered and converted in flat area for the EKE.

Plumage damage was defined as 'Deterioration or loss of plumage due to the action of other birds scoring neck, back & rump and belly' and scored on a 3-point scale.

Four questions were elicited: average plumage score for non-beak trimmed flocks in low stocking density, beak-trimmed and non-beak trimmed flocks in high stocking density, and maximum stockage density without effect on plumage score.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

## **5.2. Discussion on the scientific opinion<sup>5</sup>**

The WG members discussed the contributions to the draft scientific opinion. It was agreed that the sections related to the common TORs should be completed before the next WG meeting. Tasks were assigned and deadlines agreed.

## **6. Next meeting**

The next WG meeting will be held on 2-3 May 2022.

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<sup>5</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00483>

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>6</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>7</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS & ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 14<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

**(Agreed on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022)**

### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Virginie Michel  
Antonio Velarde  
Inmaculada Estevez  
Bas Rodenburg  
Thea Van Niekerk  
Maryse Guinebretiere  
Lars Schrader

■ Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:

Stephanie Buijs  
Christine Nicol

■ EFSA:

BIOHAW Unit: Michaela Hempen  
MESE Unit: Olaf Mosbach-Schulz (item 5.1)

■ Others:

Monique Bestman (attending the EKE discussion – item 5.1 - via the EFSA Framework Contract on support services for Expert Knowledge Elicitation)  
Ute Knierim (attending the EKE discussion – item 5.1 - via the EFSA Framework Contract on support services for Expert Knowledge Elicitation)

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)



## 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## 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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 13<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022, TELE-conference.

The minutes of the 13<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022<sup>4</sup>.

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

### 5.1. Preparation of EKE (Expert Knowledge Elicitation) on space allowance (specific scenario 1)

In preparation to the expert knowledge elicitation (EKE), the draft evidence dossier was discussed. The data extraction from the literature was completed but the WG decided to run an additional search and include additional papers, if any, to the data sheet which is part of the evidence dossier. WG members were assigned tasks to complete the evidence dossier with support from EFSA secretariat.

### 5.2. Discussion on the scientific opinion<sup>5</sup>

The WG members revised the questions on individual and collective cages for laying hens that will be sent to EFFAB (European Forum of Farm Animal Breeders), similar to what was already done in the context of the mandate on broiler welfare.

The WG members then discussed the contributions to the draft scientific opinion, in particular a new section on genetic impact on welfare of laying hens. Tasks were assigned and deadlines agreed.

## 6. Next meeting

The next WG meeting will be held on the 14/15<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00483>

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>6</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>7</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 13<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

**(Agreed on 04 February 2022)**

### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Virginie Michel

Antonio Velarde

Inmaculada Estevez

Bas Rodenburg

Thea Van Niekerk

Maryse Guinebretiere

Lars Schrader

■ Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:

Stephanie Buijs

Christine Nicol

■ EFSA:

BIOHAW Unit: Michaela Hempen

MESE Unit: Olaf Mosbach-Schulz

■ Others:

Monique Bestman (attending the EKE discussion – item 5.2 - via the EFSA Framework Contract on support services for Expert Knowledge Elicitation)

Ute Knierim (attending the EKE discussion – item 5.2 - via the EFSA Framework Contract on support services for Expert Knowledge Elicitation)

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)

## 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## 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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021, TELE-conference.

The minutes of the 12<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021<sup>4</sup>.

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

### 5.1. Discussion on the scientific opinion<sup>5</sup>

The WG members discussed a list of questions on individual and collective cages for laying hens that they may send to EFFAB (European Forum of Farm Animal Breeders), similar to what was already done in the context of the mandate on broiler welfare.

The WG members then discussed the contributions to the draft scientific opinion and agreed on tasks and deadlines.

### 5.2. Preparation of EKE (Expert Knowledge Elicitation) on space allowance (specific scenario 1)

In preparation to the expert knowledge elicitation (EKE), the concept of an evidence dossier was introduced, which will need to be prepared and finalised before the EKE. The data extraction from reviewed literature is an important part of this evidence dossier. To complete the evidence dossier, an additional meeting is required.

## 6. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on the 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00483>

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>6</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>7</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 12<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

**(Agreed on 16 December 2021)**

### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Virginie Michel

Antonio Velarde

Inmaculada Estevez

Bas Rodenburg

Thea Van Niekerk

Maryse Guinebretiere

Lars Schrader

■ Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:

Stephanie Buijs

Christine Nicol

■ EFSA:

ALPHA Unit: Michele Ardizzone, Michaela Hempfen, Olaf Mosbach-Schulz

■ Others:

Monique Bestman (attending the EKE discussion – item 5.2 - via the EFSA Framework Contract on support services for Expert Knowledge Elicitation)

Ute Knierim (attending the EKE discussion – item 5.2 - via the EFSA Framework Contract on support services for Expert Knowledge Elicitation)

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)

## 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## 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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021, TELE-conference.

The minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021<sup>4</sup>.

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

### 5.1. Discussion on the scientific opinion<sup>5</sup>

The WG members revised the most updated version of the draft scientific opinion. Further discussion is needed.

### 5.1. Preparation of EKE (Expert Knowledge Elicitation) on space allowance (specific scenario 1)

The WG members participated in a training on how to use Expert Knowledge Elicitation (EKE) in animal welfare assessment, given by EFSA.

The WG members discussed inputs and feedbacks on the exercise performed to set up the data extraction process from selected scientific literature, supporting the EKE exercise on scenario 1 in the frame of the f2f mandate on laying hens. Further discussion is needed.

## 6. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on the 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00483>

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>6</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>7</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)





ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 11<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021**

**(Agreed on 26 November 2021)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:  
Virginie Michel  
Antonio Velarde  
Inmaculada Estevez  
Bas Rodenburg  
Thea Van Niekerk  
Maryse Guinebretiere  
Lars Schrader
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:  
Stephanie Buijs  
Christine Nicol
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not Applicable
- EFSA:  
ALPHA Unit: Michele Ardizzone, Denise Candiani

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)

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

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## **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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## **4. Agreement of the minutes of the 10<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021, TELE-conference.**

The minutes of the 10<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021<sup>4</sup>.

## **5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion<sup>5</sup>**

The WG members revised the most updated version of the draft scientific opinion with regard to the descriptions of selected ABMs in the context of specific welfare consequences for laying hens husbandry systems. Further discussion is needed.

The WG members discussed inputs and feedbacks on the exercise performed to set up the data extraction process from selected scientific literature, supporting the EKE exercise on scenario 1 in the frame of the f2f mandate on laying hens. Further discussion is needed.

## **6. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wqs/animal-health/wq-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00483>

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>6</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>7</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 10<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

**(Agreed on 20 October 2021)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:  
Virginie Michel  
Antonio Velarde  
Inmaculada Estevez  
Bas Rodenburg  
Thea Van Niekerk  
Maryse Guinebretiere  
Lars Schrader
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:  
Stephanie Buijs  
Christine Nicol
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not Applicable
- EFSA:  
ALPHA Unit: Michele Ardizzone, Denise Candiani

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)

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

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## **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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## **4. Agreement of the minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021, TELE-conference.**

The minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021<sup>4</sup>.

## **5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion<sup>5</sup>**

The WG members revised the most updated version of the draft scientific opinion, including the latest contributions on the description of welfare consequences to be considered at higher level since linked to specific hazards presents in many husbandry systems (e.g. beak trimming and outdoor access). Further discussion is needed.

The WG members discussed on the approach and criteria to be used for the assessment of the three specific scenarios, as requested in the terms of reference. Further discussion is needed.

## **6. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wqs/animal-health/wq-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00483>

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>6</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>7</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 9<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

**(Agreed on 1 October 2021)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:  
Virginie Michel  
Antonio Velarde  
Inmaculada Estevez  
Bas Rodenburg  
Thea Van Niekerk  
Maryse Guinebretiere  
Lars Schrader
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:  
Stephanie Buijs  
Christine Nicol
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not Applicable
- EFSA:  
ALPHA Unit: Michele Ardizzone, Denise Candiani

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)

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

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## **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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## **4. Agreement of the minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021, TELE-conference.**

The minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021<sup>4</sup>.

## **5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion<sup>5</sup>**

The WG members revised the most updated version of the draft scientific opinion, including the latest contributions on the description of some of the welfare consequences selected, and the related ABMs. Further discussion is needed.

The WG members discussed on the approach and criteria to be used for the assessment of the three specific scenarios, as requested in the terms of reference. Further discussion is needed.

## **6. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wqs/animal-health/wq-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00483>



## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>6</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>7</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 8<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

**(Agreed on 26 July 2021)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Virginie Michel
  - Antonio Velarde
  - Inmaculada Estevez
  - Bas Rodenburg
  - Thea Van Niekerk
  - Maryse Guinebretiere
  - Lars Schrader
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:
  - Stephanie Buijs
  - Christine Nicol
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
  - Not Applicable
- EFSA:
  - ALPHA Unit: Michele Ardizzone

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)

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

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## **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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## **4. Agreement of the minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021, TELE-conference.**

The minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2021<sup>4</sup>.

## **5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion<sup>5</sup>**

The WG members discussed and agreed the definitions of animal-based measures (ABM) as proposed in the most updated version of the draft scientific opinion, with the harmonisation of terminology across different welfare consequences.

## **6. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00483>

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>6</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>7</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 7<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021**

**(Agreed on 11 June 2021)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Virginie Michel
  - Antonio Velarde
  - Inmaculada Estevez
  - Bas Rodenburg
  - Thea Van Niekerk
  - Maryse Guinebretiere
  - Lars Schrader
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:
  - Stephanie Buijs
  - Christine Nicol
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
  - Not Applicable
- EFSA:
  - ALPHA Unit: Michele Ardizzone, Denise Candiani

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)

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

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## **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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## **4. Agreement of the minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021, TELE-conference.**

The minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021<sup>4</sup>.

## **5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion<sup>5</sup>**

The WG members revised the most updated version of the draft scientific opinion, including the latest contributions on the description of husbandry systems and main welfare consequences(WC). Further discussion is needed.

The WG members discussed and agreed the animal-based measures (ABM) and exposure scenarios (Hazards) as proposed in the most updated version of the draft scientific opinion, with the harmonisation of terminology across different welfare consequences.

## **6. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on the 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00483>

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>6</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>7</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 6<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

**(Agreed on 5 May 2021)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Virginie Michel
  - Inmaculada Estevez
  - Bas Rodenburg
  - Thea Van Niekerk
  - Maryse Guinebretiere
  - Lars Schrader
  - Antonio Velarde
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:
  - Stephanie Buijs
  - Christine Nicol
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
  - Not Applicable
- EFSA:
  - ALPHA Unit: Michele Ardizzone

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)



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

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## **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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## **4. Agreement of the minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021, TELE-conference.**

The minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021<sup>4</sup>.

## **5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion<sup>5</sup>**

The WG members revised the most updated version of the draft scientific opinion, including the latest contributions on the description of husbandry systems and main welfare consequences (WC). Further discussion is needed.

The WG members discussed the animal-based measures (ABM) and exposure scenarios (Hazards) as proposed in the most updated version of the draft scientific opinion, starting with the harmonisation of terminology across some of the welfare consequences. Further discussion is needed.

## **6. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on the 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00483>

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>6</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>7</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

## SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

### MINUTES OF THE 5<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021**

**(Agreed on 01 April 2021)**

#### Participants

- Working Group Members:  
Virginie Michel  
Inmaculada Estevez  
Bas Rodenburg  
Thea Van Niekerk  
Maryse Guinebretiere  
Lars Schrader
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:  
Stephanie Buijs  
Christine Nicol
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Not Applicable
- EFSA:  
ALPHA Unit: Michele Ardizzone, Denise Candiani

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)

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

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## **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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## **4. Agreement of the minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021, TELE-conference.**

The minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021<sup>4</sup>.

## **5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion<sup>5</sup>**

The WG members revised the most updated version of the draft scientific opinion, including the latest contributions on the description of husbandry systems and main welfare consequences (WCs). Further discussion is needed.

The specific scenarios from the terms of reference were discussed by the WG members, as well as the method proposed to retrieve and assess information from the literature (quantitative/qualitative data).

With the support of the EFSA facilitator, the WG members discussed the proposed Expert Knowledge Elicitation (EKE) model approach to assess the relationship between exposure variables and the corresponding ABMs.

## **6. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on the 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00483>

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>6</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>7</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 4<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

**(Agreed on 16 February 2021)**

### Participants

- Working Group Members:
  - Virginie Michel
  - Inmaculada Estevez
  - Bas Rodenburg
  - Thea Van Niekerk
  - Maryse Guinebretiere
  - Lars Schrader
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:
  - Stephanie Buijs
  - Christine Nicol
  - Inga Tiemann
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
  - Not Applicable
- EFSA:
  - ALPHA Unit: Michele Ardizzone

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)

## 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## 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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Working Group meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021, TELE-conference.

The minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021<sup>4</sup>.

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion<sup>5</sup>

Working group members discussed the updated version of the list of welfare consequences, as revised by the EFSA AHAW Task Force, proposing some amendments for further discussion.

The ranking exercise initiated in the previous meeting to identify the most relevant welfare consequences per each husbandry system was completed for pullets. An assessment of the overall picture of the entire ranking in laying hens, breeders and pullet's husbandry systems was made to ensure the harmonization of the result across species. Further discussion is needed.

The overall structure of the draft scientific opinion on the welfare of laying hens was agreed in regard to the classification of husbandry systems for laying hens, pullets and breeders; draft text was revised for the description of some husbandry systems. Further discussion is needed.

Further activities to be conducted in relation to specific scenarios identified in the Terms of References of the Mandate were presented, together with clarifications from the Commission on the mandate. Further discussion is needed.

ESTAT surveys on laying hen's husbandry systems were discussed.

## 6. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00483>

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>6</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>7</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)





ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 3<sup>rd</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

**(Agreed on 27 January 2021)**

### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Virginie Michel  
Inmaculada Estevez  
Bas Rodenburg  
Thea Van Niekerk  
Maryse Guinebretiere  
Lars Schrader  
Antonio Velarde Calvo

■ Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:

Stephanie Buijs  
Christine Nicol  
Inga Tiemann

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not Applicable

■ EFSA:

ALPHA Unit: Michele Ardizzone, Denise Candiani, Raquel Garcia Matas

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)

## 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## 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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting held on 15th December 2020, TELE-conference.

The minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 18 December 2020<sup>4</sup>.

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion<sup>5</sup>

Working group members discussed the updated version of the list of welfare consequences, as revised by the EFSA AHAW Task Force, proposing some amendments for further discussion.

The overall structure of the draft scientific opinion on the welfare of laying hens was agreed in regard to the classification of husbandry systems for laying hens, pullets and breeders; draft text was revised for the description of some husbandry systems. Further discussion is needed.

The ranking exercise, initiated in the previous meeting, to identify the most relevant welfare consequences per each husbandry system was completed for laying hens and breeders; the ranking exercise for pullets will be completed in the next meeting. Further discussion is needed.

## 6. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00483>

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>6</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>7</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 2<sup>nd</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

**(Agreed on 18 December 2020)**

### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Virginie Michel

Inmaculada Estevez

Bas Rodenburg

Thea Van Niekerk

Maryse Guinebretiere

■ Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:

Stephanie Buijs

Christine Nicol

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not Applicable

■ EFSA:

ALPHA Unit: Michele Ardizzone, Denise Candiani, Raquel Garcia Matas

AMU Unit: Olaf Mosbach-Schulz

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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:  
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## 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## 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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Working Group meeting held on 11th November 2020, TELE-conference.

The minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 25 November 2020<sup>4</sup>.

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion<sup>5</sup>

The first part of the meeting was held jointly with the members of the EFSA Broiler WG; *i*) the list of welfare consequence, revised by the EFSA AHAW Task Force, was presented and some amendments were proposed e.g. to incorporate predation stress, *ii*) the methodology to rank and identify the most relevant welfare consequences per husbandry system was explained and *iii*) a full example to apply this methodology was conducted for one husbandry system. During the second part of the meeting, for all the remaining laying hen husbandry systems, the EFSA Laying Hens WG performed the first part of the ranking exercise. This consisted in excluding the non-applicable welfare consequences for these systems and preparing the basis for ranking the relevant ones. Relevance is to be assessed by expert's opinion following judgement on duration, severity and occurrence of welfare consequences in those husbandry systems.

## 6. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork-welfare-laying-hens.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00483>

## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>6</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>7</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

## MINUTES OF THE 1<sup>st</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE OF LAYING HENS

**Held by TELE-conference on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

**(Agreed on 25 November 2020)**

### Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Virginie Michel  
Inmaculada Estevez  
Bas Rodenburg  
Lars Schrader  
Thea Van Niekerk

■ Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:

Stephanie Buijs  
Christine Nicol

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not Applicable

■ EFSA:

ALPHA Unit: Michele Ardizzone, Denise Candiani, Raquel Garcia Matas

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 15 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/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)

## 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## 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<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Annual Declarations of Interest, please refer to Annex. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## 4. Scientific topic(s) for discussion<sup>4</sup>

The first part of the meeting was held jointly with the members of the EFSA WG Broiler where the mandate on laying hens and broiler welfare on farm was presented in the context of the Farm to Fork Strategy. During the second part, the common terms of reference and specific scenarios were discussed. The list of welfare consequences with the definitions suggested by the Task Force was reviewed and suggestions will be considered at the next Task Force meeting. It was agreed that the relevant animal categories are *i)* laying hen breeders, *ii)* pullets before they become laying hens and *iii)* hens during the production of eggs. The husbandry systems were defined for the animal categories. The experts will list 5 relevant welfare consequences per each husbandry system by 27th November and when these are approved by the Task Force, they will start drafting the descriptions of the husbandry systems and the welfare consequences for the common terms of reference.

## 5. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on the 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00483>



## Annex

### **Interests and actions resulting from the screening of Annual Declarations of Interest (ADoI)**

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Inmaculada Estevez the following interests have been declared: she is involved as a member in the Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) scientific committee and provides scientific advice to the American Humane Association, which constitute a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>5</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>6</sup>, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, a waiver was granted in accordance with Article 21 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management.

Pursuant to Article 21(6) of the above-mentioned Decision, the concerned expert was allowed to take part in the discussion and in the drafting phase of the EFSA Scientific Opinion concerning the protection of domestic fowls related to the production of egg, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)