



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON Animal Health and Welfare

21st Working Group meeting on Welfare Farm to Fork



29 November 2023

h 14:00-18:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 08 December 2023

Location: webconference

Attendees:

- Working Group Members:

Christoph Winckler

Hans Spoolder

Antonio Velarde

Mette Herskin

Virginie Michel

Sandra Edwards

Barbara Padalino

Julio Alvarez

- EFSA:

Denise Candiani, Sean Ashe, Oana Balmos, Chiara Fabris, Aikaterini Manakidou, Cristina Rojo Gimeno, Neil Tirchett, Marika Vitali, Martina Zanna, Yves Van der Stede

I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received by Mette Herskin.

II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

III. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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.

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence³ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁴, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

IV. Agreement of the minutes of the 20th Working Group meeting held on 02 March 2022, webconference

The minutes of the 20th Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 09 March 2022.

V. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

This was the last meeting of the Task Force working group established in 2020 in order to develop consistent approaches in the opinions on animal welfare related to the F2F strategy. The WG discussed lessons learnt from the past 3 years and possible future strategies. In particular, the following points were discussed:

- a. The extent to which EFSA can formulate conclusions and recommendations in absence of evidence: it was agreed that all options should be explored before concluding that there is no evidence. Other options might involve the need to elicit expert opinion. In this respect, there is consensus that a formal EKE is more defensible than other options, especially when the reasoning is well explained i.e. what the expert opinion is based on. EKE outcomes as well as literature outcomes can be used to propose options to risk managers for their negotiations. This in practice translates into a phraseology for recommendations similar to the following: 'If welfare outcome XX needs to be achieved, then EFSA recommends YY'.
- b. The exercise for selection of welfare consequences: it was agreed that the methodology for selecting the highly relevant welfare consequences, from the common list of 33 established in the F2F frame, should continue to apply in future opinions.
- c. Public consultations: EFSA presented the new engagement strategy including public consultations, specific for animal welfare mandates (i.e. informative stakeholder event + call for data + hearing experts invited to some working group meetings + public consultations in the end (if needed) + webinar for information after publication of the opinion). It was agreed that if a call for data did not bring any information, this should be specified in the opinion.
- d. Animal welfare roadmap: it was suggested that specific sessions of a core welfare team from the Panel should be organised in order to continue the alignment among welfare opinions, in future absence of a task force.
- e. Update of the guidance of animal welfare: ideas to update the guidance for RA in animal welfare were discussed.

VI. Next meeting

No further meetings are foreseen.

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



Annex

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

In the Annual Declaration of Interest filled by Prof. Sandra Edwards the following interest has been declared: she is member of the Technical Advisory Committee for pigs of the Red Tractor (UK), which constitutes a Conflict of Interest (CoI) with the mandate of the EFSA Working Group in hand. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence⁶ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁷, 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 on the protection of pigs, and has not been allowed to be, or act as, a chairman, a vice-chairman or rapporteur of the Working Group.



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 20th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE FARM TO FORK

Held by web conference, 02nd March 2022

(Agreed on 9th of March 2022)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Christoph Winckler
Hans Spoolder
Velarde Antonio
Mette Herskin
Virginie Michel
Sandra Edwards
Padalino Barbara
Julio Alvarez

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives (Point 5.2): Denis Simonin, Andrea Gavinelli, Kirsten Vornhagen, Christian Juliusson, Rebecca Holmes, Lucie Carrouee, Sandra Sanmartin, Kornilia Zafeiropoulou,

■ EFSA:

ALPHA Unit: Denise Candiani, Chiara Fabris, Sean Ashe, Mariana Jeffroy, Maria Vaeret Veggeland, Michaela Hempen, Raquel Garcia, Eliana Lima, Marika Vitali, Lina Mur, Lukas Pantenburg, Olaf Mosbach-Schulz (AMU)

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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 19th Working Group meeting held by web on 24th January 2022.

The minutes of the Working Group meeting held on 24th of January 2022 by web were agreed on 4th of February 2022.³

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1 Cross-cutting scientific discussions

The approach for the opinion on transport of free-moving animals (small ruminants) was discussed. The issues of fitness of transport (list of conditions that make an animal being non-fit) and possible options for maximum journey duration were discussed in depth. For the animals transported in containers the issue of the animal position in the crate was also discussed (standing or sitting). The final part of the meeting was dedicated to the methodology to tackle uncertainty in the F2F opinions and a proposal for the assessment was agreed.

5.2 Exchange with EC

An information exchange was held with colleagues from DG SANTE to update on the progress of all mandates in the context of the F2F strategy revision.

6. Next meeting

4th of April 2022 via web

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

³ <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork.pdf>



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 19th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE FARM TO FORK

Held by web conference, 24th January 2022

(Agreed on 4th of February 2022)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Christoph Winckler
Hans Spoolder
Velarde Antonio
Mette Herskin
Virginie Michel
Sandra Edwards
Padalino Barbara
Julio Alvarez

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives (Point 5.2): Denis Simonin, Andrea Gavinelli, Kirsten Vornhagen, Christian Juliusson, Rebecca Holmes, Lucie Carrouee, Zafeiropoulou Kornilia

■ EFSA:

ALPHA Unit: Denise Candiani, Mimi Kalcheva, Chiara Fabris, Sean Ashe, Mariana Jeffroy, Maria Vaeret Veggeland, Michaela Hempen, Raquel Garcia, Eliana Lima, Marika Vitali, Lina Mur, Lukas Pantenburg, Olaf Mosbach-Schulz (AMU)

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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 18th Working Group meeting held by web on 13th December 2021.

Working Group meeting held on 13th of December 2021 by web were agreed 21st of December 2021.³

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1 Cross-cutting scientific discussions

The approach for the specific scenario requiring ABMs at slaughter to assess on farm-welfare was discussed. It is relevant for the mandates on calves, pigs, broilers and laying hens. It was agreed it is a 2-step selection approach mainly based on expert opinion. Changes to the methodological protocol for developing welfare mandates in the F2F context were agreed following proposals from the AHAW Panel. It was also clarified that in all opinion the term 'stress' is always used as a synonym of reduced welfare. It was agreed that the opinions, when possible, will report qualitative information on sensitivity and specificity of the ABMs.

5.2 Exchange with EC

An information exchange was held with colleagues from DG SANTE to update on the progress of all mandates in the context of the F2F strategy revision.

6. Next meeting

2nd of March 2022 via web

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

³ <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork.pdf>



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 18th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE FARM TO FORK

Held by web conference, 13th of December 2021

(Agreed on 21th of December 2021)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Christoph Winckler
Hans Spoolder
Velarde Antonio
Mette Herskin
Virginie Michel
Sandra Edwards
Padalino Barbara
Julio Alvarez

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives: none

■ EFSA:

ALPHA Unit: Denise Candiani, Mimi Kalcheva, Chiara Fabris, Sean Ashe, Mariana Jeffroy, Maria Vaeret Veggeland, Michele Ardizzone, Raquel Garcia, Eliana Lima, Marika Vitali, Lina Mur, Olaf Mosbach-Schulz (AMU)

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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 17th Working Group meeting held by web on 15th November 2021.

Working Group meeting held on 15th of November 2021 by web were agreed 26th of November 2021.³

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

The approach for expert consensus exercise when addressing specific scenarios narratively and not via 'usual' EKE methodology for nesting material from pigs WG was agreed along with the point on infectious diseases and how to capture it. Feedback from exchange meeting with the EC was presented and discussed along with the public Consultation of Pigs.

Agreed to go ahead with protocol and publication before the pigs opinion.

6. Next meeting

24th of January 2022 via web

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

³ <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork.pdf>



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 17th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE FARM TO FORK

Held by web conference, 15th of November 2021

(Agreed on 26th of November 2021)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Christoph Winckler
Hans Spoolder
Velarde Antonio
Mette Herskin
Virginie Michel
Sandra Edwards
Padalino Barbara
Julio Alvarez

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives: Denis Simonin, Andrea Gavinelli, Kirsten Vornhagen, Christian Juliusson, Rebecca Holmes, Lucie Carrouee

■ EFSA:

ALPHA Unit: Denise Candiani, Mimi Kalcheva, Chiara Fabris, Sean Ashe, Mariana Jeffroy, Maria Vaeret Veggeland, Michele Ardizzone, Raquel Garcia, Eliana Lima, Marika Vitali, Lina Mur, Olaf Mosbach-Schulz (AMU)

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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 16th Working Group meeting held by web on 24th September 2021.

Working Group meeting held on 24th of September 2021 by web were agreed 24th of September 2021.³

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

The outcomes of the EKE exercise on space allowance from the working groups of calves and pigs were presented. The draft format of the related recommendations was also discussed. An exchange meeting between EFSA and EC was also held (11:00-12:30 am) where these approaches and draft recommendations were discussed. In addition, The Transport of Freely Moving Species Working Group presented an update on the state of art of its mandate. The EC clarified the expectations regarding the specific scenario requesting the identification of ABMs at slaughter for all relevant mandates (calves, pigs, laying hens, broilers).

6. Next meeting

13th of December 2021 via web

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

³ <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork.pdf>



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 16th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE FARM TO FORK

Held by web conference, 24th of September 2021

(Agreed on 24th of September 2021)

Participants:

- Hearing experts

Joop Lensink

Anna Valros

Werner Bessei

Xavier Manteca

- European Commission and/or Member States representatives: none

- EFSA:

ALPHA Unit: Denise Candiani, Mimi Kalcheva, Chiara Fabris, Raquel Garcia, Eliana Lima, Marika Vitali, Olaf Mosbach (AMU)

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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 15th Working Group meeting held by web on 9th September 2021.

Working Group meeting held on 9th of September 2021 by web were agreed 13th of September 2021.³

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

A training on Expert Knowledge Elicitation (EKE) was given to the hearing experts in order to prepare for the EKE exercises that will be run in the specific welfare mandates.

6. Next meeting

15th of November 2021 via web

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

³ <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork.pdf>



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 15th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE FARM TO FORK

Held by web conference, 9th of September 2021

(Agreed on 13th of September 2021)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Virginie Michel
 - Antonio Velarde
 - Christoph Winckler
 - Hans Spoolder
 - Mette Herskin
 - Sandra Edwards
 - Barbara Padalino

- European Commission and/or Member States representatives: none

- EFSA:
 - ALPHA Unit: Denise Candiani, Mimi Kalcheva, Chiara Fabris, Michele Ardizzone, Raquel Garcia, Sean Ashe, Maria Veggeland, Eliana Lima, Mariana Geffroy, Marika Vitali

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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 14th Working Group meeting held by web on 7th July 2021.

Working Group meeting held on 7th July 2021 by web were agreed 9th of July 2021.³

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

The Transport of Freely Moving Species Working Group presented and discussed the section and draft conclusions about heat stress in horses. The feedback from EC on this section was also presented with view to the level of detail requested for preventive and corrective measures.

The Calves Working Group presented their feedback and examples of conclusions and recommendations from space allowance, after first results of EKE on time spent by calves on locomotory and playing activities. It was agreed to add narrative text around other ABMs. The WG on pigs are proceeding with same structure

6. Next meeting

15th of November 2021 via web

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

³ <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork.pdf>



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 14th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE FARM TO FORK

Held by web conference, 7th of July 2021

(Agreed on 9th of July 2021)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Virginie Michel
Antonio Velarde
Christoph Winckler
Hans Spooler
Mette Herskin
Sandra Edwards
Barbara Padalino

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives: none

■ EFSA:

ALPHA Unit: Denise Candiani, Mimi Kalcheva, Chiara Fabris, Michele Ardizzone, Raquel Garcia, Sean Ashe, Maria Veggeland, Eliana Lima, Mariana Geffroy, Yves van der Stede, Olaf Mosbach-Schulz (AMU)

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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 13th Working Group meeting held by web on 14th June 2021.

Working Group meeting held on 14th June 2021 by web were agreed 22nd of June 2021.³

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

The Transport of Freely Moving Species Working Group presented and discussed a proposal on thermal stress in horses. The task force suggested improvements for the draft conclusions and recommendations that will be discussed at the next Working Group meeting.

The Laying Hens Working Group update was presented where the mandate requests a system comparison (cages versus alternative systems). It was clarified that the overall aim is to provide EC with scientific basis for the End of the Cage initiative and answer the question on what conditions in the alternative systems have the potential to ensure good welfare.

The Pigs Working Group made an update and presented the outcomes of 3 EKE exercises on 3 exposure variables: space allowance for sows, space allowance for piglets, crate opening time. Space allowance for sows was assessed with an EKE exercise on the possibility to perform locomotory behaviour. Additional animal based measures (ABMs) will be described narratively.

The Calves Working Group presented an update on the exposure variable space allowance as assessed via EKE exercise on the possibility for performing locomotor play behaviour. An additional EKE will be possibly run on respiratory disorders.

The Broilers Working presented an update on the structure of the opinion and a common structure of the ABMs section was agreed upon.

6. Next meeting

9th September 2021 via web

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

³ <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork.pdf>



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 13th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE FARM TO FORK

Held by web conference, 14 June 2021

(Agreed on 22 June 2021)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Julio Alvarez
Virginie Michel
Antonio Velarde
Christoph Winckler
Hans Spoolder
Mette Herskin
Sandra Edwards

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives (11:00-12:30 h):

Denis Simonin, Andrea Gavinelli, Kirsten Sander Vornhagen, Rebecca Holmes

■ EFSA:

ALPHA Unit: Denise Candiani, Mimi Kalcheva, Michele Ardizzone, Raquel Garcia, Sean Ashe, Maria Veggeland, Cristina Rapagnà, Eliana Lima, Olaf Mosbach-Schulz (AMU)

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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 12th Working Group meeting held by web on 10th May 2021.

Working Group meeting held on 10th May 2021 by web were agreed 12th of May 2021.³

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

The first outcomes from the elicitation for the specific scenarios from the calf WG (exercise on space allowance as exposure variable assessed through the ABM "time spent in locomotory play behaviour) were discussed and presented to EC. The outcomes could include a 5th point – in the lower range of space allowance in this case – for exploring separately the slope under space allowances provided under commercial conditions to give some impression whether the relationship over the whole exposure range is truly linear. Ultimate aim is to understand the benefit of giving extra space when the space is limited vs giving extra space when the space is already generous.

6. Next meeting

7th July 2021 via web

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

³ <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork.pdf>



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 12th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE FARM TO FORK

Held by web conference, 10 May 2021

(Agreed on 12 May 2021)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Julio Alvarez

Virginie Michel

Antonio Velarde

Christoph Winckler

Hans Spoolder

Mette Herskin

Sandra Edwards

■ Hearing experts

George Stilwell

■ EFSA:

ALPHA Unit: Denise Candiani, Mimi Kalcheva, Chiara Fabris, Michele Ardizzone, Raquel Garcia, Sean Ashe, Maria Veggeland, Cristina Rapagnà, Eliana Lima, Olaf Mosbach-Schulz (AMU)

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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 11th Working Group meeting held by web on 12 April 2021.

Working Group meeting held on 12 April 2021 by web were agreed on 21 April 2021.³

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion⁴

The Task Force discussed the outcomes of the first trial EKE exercise - on methodology for specific scenarios – that was held with the WG on calves. The exercise aimed at defining, for an exposure variable (space allowance), the relationship between a relevant Animal Bases Measure (% of locomotory play behaviour) and different levels of the exposure variable (increasing space in m²). From the pilot it can be estimated that a full EKE exercise takes approximately 4 hours. Therefore the experts agreed to review their list of exposure variables for which EKE is needed in order to prioritise and reduce the number of exercises. A protocol describing the full process to be followed for the EKE was drafted. The task force experts will consult their working groups to check for additional external expertise needed for the EKEs.

6. Next meeting

14th June 2021 via web.

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

³ <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/animal-health/wg-welfare-farmtofork.pdf>

⁴ [Open EFSA \(europa.eu\)](https://www.efsa.europa.eu)



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 11th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE FARM TO FORK

Held by web conference, 12 April 2021

(Agreed on 21 April 2021)¹

Participants

■ Working Group Members:²

Julio Alvarez

Virginie Michel

Antonio Velarde

Christoph Winckler

Hans Spoolder

Mette Herskin

Sandra Edwards

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives (11:00-12:00 h):

Denis Simonin, Andrea Gavinelli, Christian Juliusson, Kirsten Sander Vornhagen, Rebecca Holmes

■ EFSA:

ALPHA Unit: Denise Candiani, Mimi Kalcheva, Michele Ardizzone, Raquel Garcia, Sean Ashe, Maria Veggeland, Cristina Rapagnà, Sara Gisella Omodeo, Eliana Lima, Olaf Mosbach-Schulz (AMU)

¹ Minutes should be published within 15 working days of the final day of the relevant meeting.

² Indicate first full name and then surname (John Smith) all throughout the document.

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 Independence³ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁴, 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 10th Working Group meeting held by web on 2 March 2021.

Working Group meeting held on 2 March 2021 by web were agreed 5 March 2021.⁵

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

The Task Force discussed the methodology for specific scenarios. The proposal for the methodology on specific scenarios is based on EKE to define, for each exposure variable (e.g., space allowance), the relationship between relevant Animal Bases Measures (ABMs, e.g., % of time spent lying) and the exposure variable (e.g., increasing space in m²). This requires establishing a minimum (e.g. min. space needed) and a maximum (saturation point e.g., amount of space above which the animals would not rest more based on data extracted from literature).

A meeting with EC representatives was also held to update on the status of the scientific opinions and present this methodology.

6. Next meeting

10th May 2021 via web.

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

⁵ Please add here the link to the respective minutes published on the EFSA website



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 10th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE FARM TO FORK

Held by web conference 2nd of March 2021, Parma

(Agreed on 5th of March 2021)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Julio Alvarez
Virginie Michel
Antonio Velarde
Christoph Winckler
Hans Spoolder
Mette Herskin
Sandra Edwards

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not Applicable

■ EFSA:

ALPHA Unit: Denise Candiani, Mimi Kalcheva, Michele Ardizzone, Raquel Garcia, Sean Ashe, Maria Veggeland, Cristina Rapagnà, Sara Gisella Omodeo, Eliana Lima, Olaf Mosbach-Schulz (AMU)



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Participants were welcomed.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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 9th Working Group meetings held by web on 10th of February 2021.

The minutes of the 9th Working Group meeting held on 10th of February 2021 via web, were agreed on 15th of February 2021.

5. Scientific topics for discussion³

The Task Force revised the feedback from all working groups on space allowance.

A structured approach based on the following steps was discussed as following: establishing a theoretical curve based on extracted data from literature, establishing the minimal space for an animal species (which corresponds to the size of the single animal) and then answering by EKE to a question for establishing a "saturation" point – above which the situation (measured by the ABM) would not change.

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

³ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00479>



6. Next meeting

12th of April 2021 via web



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 9th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE FARM TO FORK

Held by web conference 10th of February 2021, Parma

(Agreed on 15th of February 2021)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Julio Alvarez
Virginie Michel
Antonio Velarde
Christoph Winckler
Hans Spoolder
Mette Herskin
Sandra Edwards

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not Applicable

■ EFSA:

ALPHA Unit: Denise Candiani, Mimi Kalcheva, Michele Ardizzone, Raquel Garcia, Sean Ashe, Maria Veggeland, Chiara Fabris, Cristina Rapagnà, Sara Gisella Omodeo, Eliana Lima



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Participants were welcomed.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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 8th Working Group meetings held by web on 18th of January 2021.

The minutes of the 8th Working Group meeting held on 18th of January 2021 via web, were agreed on 21st of January 2021.

5. Scientific topics for discussion³

The Task Force revised the list of welfare consequences, following feedback from all working groups.

A discussion about the details of the ranking exercise was held agreeing upon a relevant justification and way of comparison. The protocol for specific scenarios and citing previous reports from EFSA and their reported literature were discussed.

An exchange meeting with the EC was held aiming to maintain a regular update on the status of development of the scientific opinions, but also to answer some questions for clarification.

6. Next meeting

2nd of March 2021 via web

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

³ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-O-2020-00479>



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 8th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE FARM TO FORK

Held by web conference 18th of January 2021, Parma

(Agreed on 21th of January 2021)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Julio Alvarez
Virginie Michel
Antonio Velarde
Christoph Winckler
Hans Spoolder
Mette Herskin
Sandra Edwards

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not Applicable

■ EFSA:

ALPHA Unit: Denise Candiani, Mimi Kalcheva, Michele Ardizzone, Raquel Garcia, Simona Bottinelli, Sean Ashe, Maria Veggeland, Chiara Fabris, Cristina Rapagnà, Sara Gisella Omodeo, Eliana Lima



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Participants were welcomed.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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 7th Working Group meetings held by web on 9th of December 2020.

The minutes of the 7th Working Group meeting held on 9th of December 2020 via web, were agreed on 10th of December 2020.

5. Scientific topics for discussion³

The Task Force reviewed and discussed the feedback from the ranking exercise of the relevant welfare consequences per husbandry systems from all working groups along with a discussion on the revised list of the welfare consequences and eventual changes.

An exchange of good practices upon the continuation of the exercise among the working groups was presented and commented on, providing further clarifications in order to align the work process and efficiency.

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

³ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00479>



6. Next meeting

10th of February 2021 via web



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 7th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE FARM TO FORK

Held by web conference 9th of December 2020, Parma

(Agreed on 10th of December 2020)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Julio Alvarez
Virginie Michel
Antonio Velarde
Christoph Winckler
Hans Spoolder
Mette Herskin

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not Applicable

■ EFSA:

ALPHA Unit: Denise Candiani, Mimi Kalcheva, Michele Ardizzone, Raquel Garcia, Simona Bottinelli, Sean Ashe, Maria Veggeland, Chiara Fabris, Cristina Rapagnà, Sara Gisella Omodeo



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Participants were welcomed.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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 6th Working Group meetings held by web on 30th of November 2020.

The minutes of the 6th Working Group meeting held on 30th of November 2020 via web, were agreed on 4th of December 2020.

5. Scientific topics for discussion³

The Task Force held a discussion on the revised list of the welfare consequences. Preparation of an exercise on the relevant welfare consequences per husbandry systems that will be performed in each WG was presented and commented on.

6. Next meeting

18th of January 2021 via web

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

³ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-O-2020-00479>



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 6th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE FARM TO FORK

Held by web conference 30th of November 2020, Parma

(Agreed on 4th of December 2020)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Julio Alvarez

Virginie Michel

Antonio Velarde

Christoph Winckler

Hans Spoolder

Mette Herskin

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not Applicable

■ EFSA:

ALPHA Unit: Denise Candiani, Mimi Kalcheva, Michele Ardizzone, Raquel Garcia, Simona Bottinelli, Sean Ashe, Maria Veggeland, Chiara Fabris, Cristina Rapagnà, Sara Gisella Omodeo



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Participants were welcomed.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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 5th Working Group meetings held by web on 24th and 25th of November 2020.

The minutes of the 5th Working Group meeting held on 24th and 25th of November 2020 via web, were agreed on 26th of November 2020.

5. Scientific topics for discussion³

After an overall feedback discussion of the working groups followed by another discussion in regards of the hearing experts expected contributions, the task force reviewed the proposals coming from the working groups on definitions of the welfare consequences.

6. Next meeting

9th of December 2020 via web

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

³ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-O-2020-00479>



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 5th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE FARM TO FORK

Held by web conference 24th and 25th of November 2020, Parma

(Agreed on 26th of November 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Antonio Velarde
Maryse Guinebretiere (24th of November only)
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not Applicable
- EFSA:
ALPHA Unit: Denise Candiani, Mimi Kalcheva, Michele Ardizzone, Raquel Garcia, Simona Bottinelli, Sean Ashe, Chiara Fabris, Cristina Rapagnà, Sara Gisella Omodeo



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Participants were welcomed.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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 4th Working Group meetings held by web on 9th and 10th of November 2020.

The minutes of the 4th Working Group meeting held on 9th and 10th of November 2020 via web, were agreed on 17th of November 2020.

5. Scientific topics for discussion³

A presentation of the mandate and the terms of reference was discussed with the working group. Along with that the SharePoint sites were presented, commented and agreed upon. The draft structure of the draft opinion was discussed and amendments were proposed.

6. Next meeting

30th of November 2020 via web

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

³ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-O-2020-00479>



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 4th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE FARM TO FORK

Held by web conference 9th and 10th of November 2020, Parma

(Agreed on 17th of November 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Virginie Michel
Antonio Velarde
Christoph Winckler
Hans Spoolder
Mette Herskin

- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not Applicable

- EFSA:
ALPHA Unit: Denise Candiani, Mimi Kalcheva, Michele Ardizzone, Raquel Garcia, Simona Bottinelli, Sean Ashe, Chiara Fabris, Cristina Rapagnà, Sara Gisella Omodeo



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Participants were welcomed.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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 3rd Working Group meetings held by web on 30th of October 2020.

The minutes of the 3rd Working Group meeting held on 30th of October 2020 via web, were agreed on 5th of November 2020.

5. Scientific topics for discussion³

The working group discussed and revised the draft protocol. It was agreed to create a toolbox of methodologies that can be used in order to respond to similar questions, while identifying 3 major categories of questions, which the task force agreed upon. The draft structure of the opinion on pigs was discussed and amendments were proposed. It was agreed to make same changes to the other opinions.

6. Next meeting

30th of November 2020 via web

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

³ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/wicket/page?2>



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 3rd MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE FARM TO FORK

Held by web conference 30th of October 2020, Parma

(Agreed on 5th of November 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Virginie Michel
Antonio Velarde
Christoph Winckler
Hans Spoolder
Mette Herskin

- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not Applicable

- EFSA:
ALPHA Unit: Denise Candiani, Mimi Kalcheva, Michele Ardizzone, Raquel Garcia, Simona Bottinelli, Sean Ashe, Chiara Fabris, Cristina Rapagnà, Sara Gisella Omodeo



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Participants were welcomed.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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 2nd Working Group meetings held by web on 5th and 7th of October 2020.

The minutes of the 2nd Working Group meeting held on 5th and 7th of October 2020 via web, were agreed on 13th of October 2020.

5. Scientific topics for discussion³

The working group discussed the structure of the draft tables that will be produced to respond to the specific scenarios that are included in each mandate.

A file was created to request clarifications from the EC about the mandates. Planning of the specific sub working groups took place in order to best coordinate with the task force meetings.

6. Next meeting

9th – 10th of November 2020 via web

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

³ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/wicket/page?7>



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 2nd MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE FARM TO FORK

Held by web conference 5-7 October 2020, Parma

(Agreed on 13 October 2020)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Virginie Michel
Antonio Velarde
Christoph Winckler
Hans Spoolder
Mette Herskin

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not Applicable

■ EFSA:

ALPHA Unit: Denise Candiani, Mimi Kalcheva, Michele Ardizzone, Raquel Garcia, Simona Bottinelli, Sean Ashe, Chiara Fabris, Cristina Rapagnà, Sara Gisella Omodeo



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Participants were welcomed.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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 1st Working Group meetings held by web on 25th and 28th September 2020.

The minutes of the 1st Working Group meeting held on 25th and 28th of September via web, were agreed on 2nd October 20.

5. Scientific topics for discussion³

The working group discussed the structure of the outcome tables that will be produced to respond to the common Terms of Reference requesting for a description of main husbandry systems and animal categories. A common list of welfare consequences to be used in all specific mandates (needed to ensure consistency among the five mandates) was produced and, finally, a discussion was started about the specific scenarios that are included as a separate sets in all five mandates.

6. Next meeting

30th October 2020 via web

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

³ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/wicket/page?7>



ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 1st MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON WELFARE FARM TO FORK

Held by web conference 25-28 September 2020, Parma

(Agreed on 2nd October 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Virginie Michel
 - Antonio Velarde
 - Christoph Winckler
 - Hans Spoolder
 - Mette Herskin

- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
 - Not Applicable

- EFSA:
 - ALPHA Unit: Denise Candiani, Mimi Kalcheva, Michele Ardizzone, Raquel Garcia, Simona Bottinelli, Sean Ashe, Chiara Fabris, Cristina Rapagnà, Sara Gisella Omodeo



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Participants were welcomed.

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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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. Scientific topics for discussion³

The mandates were presented, and the working group discussed them at high level in order to define any need for clarification. Several points were then discussed further in depth among which: i) possible sources for figures on EU animal populations for the various species and husbandry systems in which they are kept, ii) need for a common list of welfare consequences to be used in all specific mandates (the experts agreed that a common list is needed to ensure consistency among the five mandates), iii) the difference between preventive and corrective measures was clarified: preventive measures (measures to prevent the welfare consequences acting on the hazards before the welfare consequence occurs) vs corrective measures (measure to correct the welfare consequence acting on the hazards or on the welfare consequence once it occurs), iv) discussion on "common ToRs": in each mandate there is a request for a description of main husbandry systems and animal categories and the working group agreed to respond to this request by the development of summary outcome tables.

5. Next meeting

5th and 8th October 2020 via web

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

³ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/wicket/page?7>