



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 6th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON AHAW PANEL GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS (SELF MANDATE): ANIMAL HEALTH GUIDANCE

M-2020-0033

Web-conference, 17 January 2022

(Agreed on 27 January 2022)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Dominique BICOUT (chair)
Julio ALVAREZ
Arvo VILTROP
- Hearing Experts¹:
Not applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not applicable
- EFSA:
Yves VAN DER STEDE
Andrea GERVELMEYER (Secretariat)

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants. All working group members connected via Teams.

¹ As defined in Article 17 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/en/keydocs/docs/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 Independence² and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management³, 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. No interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Discussion

In this WG meeting the experts discussed the Guidance on Conducting Scientific Assessments in Animal Health using Modelling (<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/1419>).

4.1. Discussion of updated sections

The experts discussed the draft text of the revised sections of the guidance document and agreed improvements where necessary. The agreed changes of the draft guidance document and the necessary modifications of abstract and summary will be done by the end of February, followed by a review of the updated guidance by all WG members by end of March, before submission to the AHAW Panel for a first reading in May 2022.

5. Next working group meeting

The next meeting will be agreed by email.

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

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

MINUTES OF THE 5th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON AHAW PANEL GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS (SELF MANDATE): ANIMAL HEALTH GUIDANCE

M-2020-0033

Web-conference, 27 October 2021

(Agreed on 03 November 2021)

Participants

- Working Group Members:¹
 - Dominique BICOUT (chair)
 - Julio ALVAREZ
 - Arvo VILTROP

- Hearing Experts²:
 - Not applicable

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

- EFSA:
 - Yves VAN DER STEDE
 - Andrea GERVELMEYER (Secretariat)

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants. All working group members connected via Teams.

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<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/expertselection.pdf>.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

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4. Discussion

In this WG meeting the experts discussed the Guidance on Conducting Scientific Assessments in Animal Health using Modelling (<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/1419>).

4.1. Presentation of guidance review background and achievements so far

An overview of the achievements made so far in revising the guidance document was presented. The lifecycle of EFSA guidance documents was explained.

4.2. Discussion of further revision tasks

The experts discussed the remaining tasks for the revision. These concern mainly the procedures outlined in section 2.4 and the standard terminology in Appendix B. Tasks were distributed and deadlines agreed.

5. Next working group meeting

The next meeting will take place on 17/01/2022.

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



ANIMAL HEALTH AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

MINUTES OF THE 5th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON AHAW Panel guidance documents (Self Mandate): Animal Welfare Guidance

M-2020-0033

Held on 10 March 2021 (Web-meeting): 9h - 12h

(Agreed on 15 March 2021)

Participants

- Working Group Members:¹
Dominique BICOUT (chair)
Virginie MICHEL
Antonio VELARDE
- Hearing Experts²:
Not applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not applicable
- EFSA:
Yves VAN DER STEDE (Secretariat), Maria VEGGELAND

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants.

All working group members connected via Teams.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

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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. No interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Discussion Agenda points: action points

4.1. Feedback on Glossary on animal welfare risk assessment (Animal Based Indicator (ABI), Animal Based measure (ABM) & animal based measurement)

ABI, ABM and Animal-based measurement are suggested terms for the updated glossary to replace the previous Animal-based measure and was discussed thoroughly with the working group. The Task Force has not discussed yet nor provided feedback. It should be stated clearly in the guidance doc that there is a difference between ABM (currently used by EFSA) and ABI (currently used by EC). When there is a Welfare consequence (WC) there is always one or more ABIs, but not always ABMs. Also, there might be several ways to measure the same ABI, and so the distinction should be made between this and ABM.

In addition, the ABM is exposure scenario specific. Feasibility, validity and reliability are the three criteria allowing to determine which ABM can be used or should be chosen. Illustrative examples of combinations of WC, ABI, ABM and Animal-based measurement will be provided in the updated guidance document.

Animal-based indicator (ABI): A proxy which has a proven relationship to the welfare consequence of concern. The animal-based indicator could reflect an absolute state or change in the state of an animal. E.g., loss of body tissue reserves. There may be different measures for a single animal-based indicator (e.g., Body condition score and Weight to assess the loss of body tissue reserves).

Animal-based measure (ABM): Is ('on of the') method of evaluation/assessment of the indicator used in the animal welfare assessment. e.g. Body condition Score (BCS) with a scale from 0 to 5.

Animal-based measurement: the result after applying the Animal based measure: The measurement can at individual scale (e.g. 2.3 for sheep 1, 2.6 for sheep 2, etc.) or group level (e.g. Average score of BCS).

4.2. Figure 2 & Box 3 Guidance document

Figure 2 was modified and presented. From the discussion (see point 4.1) it was clear that Figure 2 should contain all possibilities in relation to ABI, ABMs and WC (see action points).

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

The endpoints (Box 3) for the assessment of the risk of poor welfare will be updated in the guidance document and thoroughly discussed. The chair of the WG attended the cross cutting working group on uncertainty (WGU) on 8 March and presented the framework for assessing the welfare risk given a welfare consequence and given a specific system (with different WCs). The principles/model presented was agreed and will be presented again using the example of scientific opinion on housing systems for rabbits (EFSA, AHAW, 2020). The use of considering magnitude (severity & duration) as well as prevalence/occurrence was discussed in detail.

4.3. Examples for guidance document

A summary of the publication by Paton et al. (2013, Risk assessment principles in evaluation of animal welfare (Paton et al., 2013)) was presented and discussed. It was agreed that the principles could be applied and integrated in the updated guidance document. In particular the assessment of Welfare for one system and the comparison of "Severity of Welfare Challenge (hazard)", the weighing of Welfare consequences, the impact of welfare consequence (taking into account duration, intensity & occurrence) and the way the risk assessment could be summarised (qualitative, semi-quantitative and quantitative) were discussed. Examples that could be used for the guidance document were presented (Rabbit Opinion (2020)- comparing different housing systems ; Opinion (2010) the influence of genetic parameters on the welfare and the resistance to stress of commercial broilers).

4.4. Publication on guidance document

The possibility to contribute to Elsevier's 3rd edition of the Encyclopedia of Meat Sciences. (<https://www.sciencedirect.com/referencework/9780123847348/encyclopedia-of-meat-sciences>) by providing a publication on 'Animal Health and Welfare' section was discussed. A new chapter – based on the current work of the guidance document – could be considered. The deadline will be by October 2021. The articles should be written with a target audience of upper level undergraduate students, Masters level graduate students, or industry professionals and executives.

5. Distribution of tasks

Action point, 4.1 (Virginie & Antonio): To provide 3 examples: 1. No ABM, 2. the perfect example with one WC, one ABI, two ABM and one Measurement and 3. One ABI for two WCs. One of the examples should be a positive WC. By 1 April 2021.

Action point, 4.1 (Yves & Maria): To present in next Task Force on the discussion on the ABI, ABM and Animal based measurements (end of meeting), however not to impose on them additional work/problems in the ongoing work of the F2F mandates.

Action point 4.2: Dominique to presenting the example (rabbits) to cross cutting working group Uncertainty (27 April 2021).

Action point 4.3: Provide feedback on example document before next meeting (identify issues that should be included in the guidance document) by 1 April 2021.

Action point 4.4.: Yves to propose to WG an outline for article Elsevier (1 April 2021)

Action point general: provide input for figures to Dominique for the meeting on cross cutting working group uncertainty (27 April 2021).

6. Workplan (next working group) and timelines

The next meeting dates and timelines were agreed: **3 May 2021** 09h- 12h: TEAMS meeting

ANIMAL HEALTH AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

MINUTES OF THE 4th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON AHAW

Panel guidance documents (Self Mandate): Animal Welfare Guidance

M-2020-0033

Held on 25 January 2021 (Web-meeting): 9h - 12h

(Agreed on 30 January 2021)

Participants

Working Group Members:

- Dominique BICOUT (chair)
- Virginie MICHEL
- Antonio VELARDE

Hearing Experts:

- Not applicable

European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

- Not applicable

EFSA:

- Yves VAN DER STEDE (Secretariat)

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants.
All working group members connected via Teams.

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. No interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Discussion Agenda points: action points

In previous WG meeting (09 June 2020 & 22 September 2020), eight action points were defined within the WG. In this WG meeting the state of play of each action point was discussed (Table 1).

1. Finalization of the Glossary on animal welfare risk assessment

The last version of glossary was thoroughly revised and finalised. Two groups of terms were mainly discussed:

- Distinction and clarification are made on terms: Animal-Based Indicator (ABI), Animal-Based Measure (ABM) and Animal-Based measurement.
- Welfare definition: an updated definition has been worked out combining the ANSES and Mellor (2015 and 2017) definitions.

These new terminologies were agreed within the WG and will be further discussed in the Task Force welfare (Farm 2 Fork mandates) in order to align the methodology and terminology used in the mandates and guidance documents.

2. Tables of WCs, ABIs and ABMs

The structure of tables relating Welfare consequences, Animal-Based Indicator (ABI) and Animal-Based Measure have been discussed. As a consequence, it was decided i) to develop the rational and revised the Figure 2 of the scientific opinion and ii) provide illustrative examples

3. Other action points in guidance document

It was agreed that Figure 1 (agreed on meeting 20 September 2021) will be aligned according to the new glossary terms (ABI, ABM's, Welfare consequences and Animal-Based measurements).

For Box 3 (page 15 of original guidance document) it was agreed that endpoints for welfare assessment will be calculated and detailed according two major categories of risk questions: i) assessment of different scenario's and for which each scenario may have different Welfare consequences (WC), each with its own duration and intensity leading to different magnitude ii) assessment of WC and their magnitude for different scenario's.

5. Distribution of tasks

Table 1: State of play of action points (22 September 2020) to update guidance document (AW 2012):

Nr	Topic discussed	Description	Discussion. How to tackle it in the guidance document	Who?	By when?
1	Integrate the Concept of benefit assessment	Update the procedural guidelines for proper integration of modelling into Working Group operational procedures	Done	WG	Done
2	Integrate concept of risk mitigation	Integrate possible measures for decreasing the risk and increasing the benefits; prevention, correction and mitigation options	Done in the glossary	WG	Done
3	Terminology and glossary on risk and beneficial factors and animal welfare consequences	Update the terminology and glossary on all risk and beneficial factors and animal welfare consequences	Done	WG	Done
4	Harmonizing terminology and glossary between AH and AW	Explore to which extent terminology and glossary can be harmonized (similarities & differences) between animal health and animal welfare	Still pending	Dominique & Yves	Pending
5	Problem formulation	Review the "problem formulation" to include both the "risk problem" and the "benefit formulation"	Done: see figure 1 and point 1	WG	Done
6	Data collection section	Review the data collection section (systematic literature	Postpone after Tables of	Antonio, Virginie	

		reviews, expert's opinion)	WCs, ABIs and ABMs		
7	Qualitative and quantitative assessment	Improve the description of qualitative and quantitative assessment. Inputs from AMU. Include examples of both risk and benefit. Statistical methods, and interpretation of data.	Still pending	Antonio, Virginie	Pending
8	Uncertainty checklist and guidance	Integrate in the guidance the checklist in relation to the assessment and handling of uncertainty and variability	Scheduled for the next meeting	Dominique	11 March 2021
9	Illustrative examples and figures	Which type of example to integrate in the guidance documents	To be discussed in next WG	Yves	11 March 2021
Additional tasks					
	Update of the Glossary	Revised definitions of ABI, ABM and Welfare consequences	Feedback from Task Force on Welfare (TFW)	Yves	February 2021
	Tables of WCs, ABIs and ABMs	Illustrative examples to help constructing tables	Postpone until the TFW has advanced	Antonio, Virginie	
	Tables of WCs, ABIs and ABMs	Illustrative examples to help constructing tables		Yves	11 March 2021
	Figure 2: consequence characterisation flowchart	Rework the Fig.2 and the text to accommodate the articulation and new description of WCs, ABIs and ABMs		Dominique	11 March 2021
	Box 3: Endpoints of the assessment	Rework the Box 3 and get feedback from the WG on UA		Dominique	11 March 2021

6. Workplan (next working group) and timelines

The next meeting dates and timelines were agreed:

10 March 2021 09h- 12h: TEAMS meeting

ANIMAL HEALTH AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

MINUTES OF THE 3rd MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON AHAW Panel guidance documents (Self Mandate): Animal Welfare Guidance

M-2020-0033

Held on 22 September 2020 (Web-meeting): 14-16h

(Agreed on XXX October 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:⁵
 - Dominique BICOUT (chair)
 - Virginie MICHEL
 - Antonio VELARDE
- Hearing Experts⁶:
 - Not applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
 - Not applicable
- EFSA:
 - Yves VAN DER STEDE (Secretariat)

7. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants.

All working group members connected via Teams.

8. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

9. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence⁷ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁸, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by

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<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/expertselection.pdf>.

⁷ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁸ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

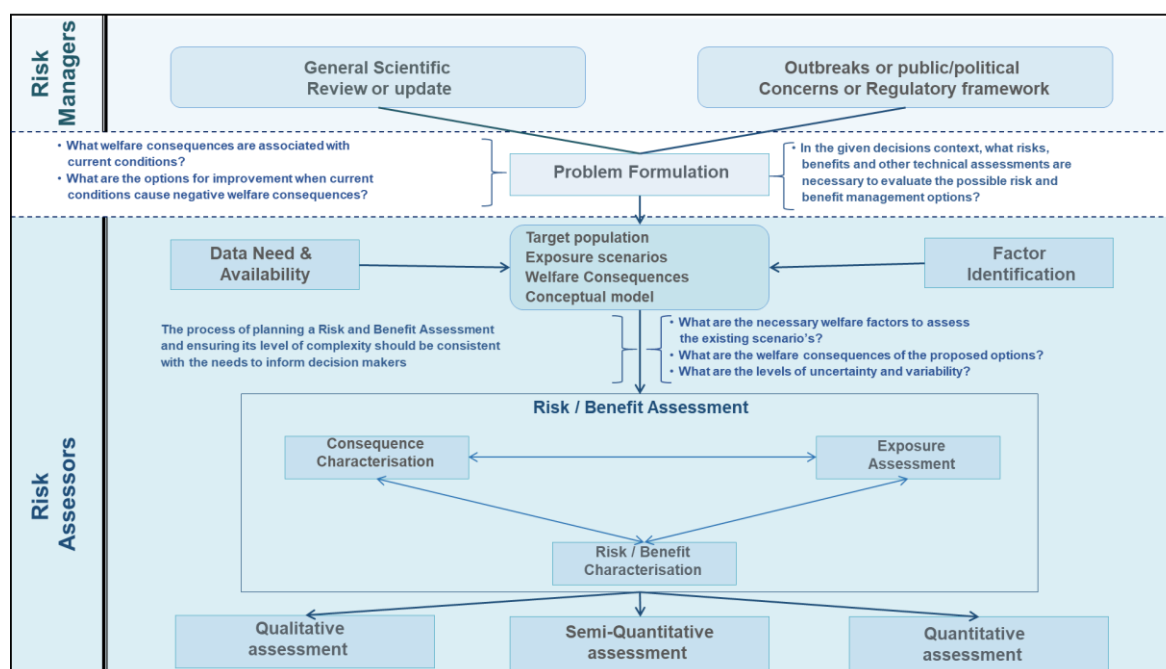
the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process. No interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

10. Discussion Agenda points : action points

In previous WG meeting (09 June 2020), eight action points were defined within the WG. In this WG meeting the state of play of each action point was discussed (Table 1). The working group only discussed the Guidance on Risk Assessment for Animal welfare (AW2012, <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2513>).

10.1. Figure 1: workflow to conduct a risk assessment in animal welfare

The flow chart in the guidance document (Figure 1) was discussed and transferred into a new figure taking into account the clarity needed for Risk & Benefit analysis in the risk assessment part. The benefit assessment was added into the figure (see Figure below) and a narrative text should be taken up (in caption of the figure). Further it was discussed how the conceptual model fits into the elements of 'target population', 'exposure assessment' and 'welfare consequences'. It was agreed to adopt the figure according that all interactions between these three elements constitute the conceptual model in the risk assessment. The figure was agreed within the working group.



10.2. Revise Glossary on animal welfare risk assessment

The glossary (document Glossary_AW2020.0802 HS_CW_including AV_VM) that contained all feedback from the welfare experts of the AHAW panel was discussed thoroughly. The following terms were adopted: ABM, conceptual model, Exposure and exposure assessment, Exposure scenario, qualitative and quantitative risk and benefit assessment & characterisation, factors, welfare consequences, welfare criteria, welfare measures (ABM, resource based and management based)

and corrective and preventive welfare measures. A new definition of welfare (Anses), adapted by the WG, was proposed. It was agreed that an attempt will be undertaken to list most encountered welfare consequences and ABM's in the guidance document. If these list would exist this would guide the risk assessors to use the same terminology for WC and ABM's. However, it was argued that it will be difficult to be exhaustive as possible with these lists.

10.3. Illustrative examples and figures

A list of example (qualitative and quantitative methods: e.g. pregnant cows, LAPS, slaughter of sheep in EU, EKE's in welfare) could not be discussed in this WG group meeting due to time constrains. This will be discussed in next WG meeting.

10.4. Other action points in guidance document

The following topics still should be addressed in the following working group: harmonise the glossary between AW and AH guidance documents (task nr. 4 as defined in WG of 9 June 2020), Data collection section (task nr 6), improve the description of qualitative and quantitative assessment in welfare (task nr. 7), integrate uncertainty checklist in AW assessment (task nr.8).

11. Distribution of tasks

Table 1: State of play of action points (22 September 2020) to update guidance document (AW 2012):

Nr	Topic discussed	Description	Discussion. How to tackle it in the guidance document	Who?	By when?
1	Integrate the Concept of benefit assessment	Update the procedural guidelines for proper integration of modelling into Working Group operational procedures	Partly done: Figure 1. To be finetuned	Dominique & Antonio	1 Nov
2	Integrate concept of risk mitigation	Integrate possible measures for decreasing the risk and increasing the benefits; prevention, correction and mitigation options	Done in the glossary		
3	Terminology and glossary on risk and beneficial factors and animal welfare consequences	Update the terminology and glossary on all risk and beneficial factors and animal welfare consequences	Partly done - To be taken up in the next guidance document	Yves	15 Nov
4	Harmonizing terminology and glossary between AH and AW	Explore to which extend terminology and glossary can be harmonized (similarities & differences) between animal health and animal welfare	To be finetuned in next guidance document	Dominique & Yves	15 Nov
5	Problem formulation	Review the "problem formulation" to include both the "risk problem" and the "benefit formulation"	Done: see figure 1 and point 1		
6	Data collection section	Review the data collection section (systematic literature reviews, expert's opinion)	To be done in next guidance document	Antonio, Virginie	15 Nov

7	Qualitative and quantitative assessment	Improve the description of qualitative and quantitative assessment. Inputs from AMU. Include examples of both risk and benefit. Statistical methods, and interpretation of data.	To be done in next guidance document	Antonio, Virginie	15 Nov
8	Uncertainty checklist and guidance	Integrate in the guidance the checklist in relation to the assessment and handling of uncertainty and variability	To be done in next guidance document	Dominique	1 Nov
9	Illustrative examples and figures	Which type of example to integrate in the guidance documents	To be discussed in next WG	Yves – to send the example file to WG	1 Oct 2020

12. Workplan (next working group) and timelines

The next meeting dates and timelines were agreed:

24 November 2020 (PM): TEAMS meeting (whole day with both subgroups: Animal welfare and Animal Health).

Upcoming meetings:

Tuesday 19 January 2021 (whole day)

Tuesday 23 February 2021 (whole day)

ANIMAL HEALTH AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

MINUTES OF THE 2nd MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON AHAW Panel guidance documents (Self Mandate): Animal Health Guidance

M-2020-0033

Held on 11 June 2020 (Web-meeting): 14-17h

(Agreed on 18 June 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:⁹
Dominique BICOUT (chair)
Julio ALVARES
Arvo VILTROP
- Hearing Experts¹⁰:
Not applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not applicable
- EFSA:
Yves VAN DER STEDE (Secretariat)

13. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants.

All working group members connected via Teams.

14. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

15. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

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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. No interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

16. Discussion: Action points

The working group only discussed the Guidance on Conducting Scientific Assessments in Animal Health using Modelling (AH2009) <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/1419>

The table (Table 1) below represents the specific topics that needs update and how these will be tackled in the guidance document.

Table 1: Overview of topics discussed to update guidance document (AH2009):

Nr	Topic	How?	Discussion. How to tackle it in the guidance document	Who?
1	Integration of Modelling	Update the procedural guidelines for proper integration of modelling into Working Group operational procedures	The starting point of the guidance document is that it is clear that the request (mandate) requires a model.	Dominique to review the chart on page 16
2	Data limitations	Improve the section on data limitations and to link to the EFSA guidance on uncertainty	Data helps to define the model; depending on the data you have your parameters may be quiet noisy or not.	<u>Under Figure 1:</u> Julio: to add some lines on data limitations (and that this may influence the outcome of the model).
3	Uncertainty checklist and guidance	Integrate in the guidance the checklist in relation to the assessment and handling of uncertainty and variability		Dominique: Account the uncertainty associated to the model? How do you assess the uncertainty associated to the model from one model to another.
4	Terminology and glossary	Update Section 2.2: wiki based glossary to harmonise with glossary in Appendix B Update the terminology and glossary on the use of mathematical and statistical models	A terminology and glossary in wiki allow it to update fast and easy once it is online. Two options were discussed 1) the glossary only related to the guidance document 2) the glossary should contain all terms related to AH modelling. Option 1 was agreed during the WG meeting. The glossary and terminology should be aligned with the one of the welfare guidance document in case there is	Yves will ask Simon More and EFSA Staff about the wiki-glossary (been done, useful?) YVES will provide the list of terminology and glossary to be checked by AMU.

			<p>common glossary and terminology.</p> <p>Terminology in appendix A should also be checked by AMU and AHAW.</p>	
5	Model transparency	Update the section on model transparency	Model transparency should be explained more in function of communication and reproducibility of the output.	Yves to add part where transparency is highlighted in the guidance document (e.g. good practices on to make of Transparency of the modelling- sharing scripts Appendix: scripts Foresee also for part in Appendix A)
6	Workflow	Update the workflow presented on page 16		Dominique to review the chart on page 16 (see topic 1)
7	Illustrative examples and figures	<p>Align the document with practical examples</p> <p>Examples: ASF → relation with the model, ...</p>	<p>3 Example were agreed in the WG meeting where the application of the guidance could apply:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) RVF opinion: mint risk model (made of combination of knowledge (decision tool modeling). 2) RVF, LSD spread model 3) IFN-gamma on bTB 	Yves: check with kind of models have been used by AHAW as described in current guidance between 2002 & 2009 and between 2009 and 2019.
8	Editorial	Editing the manuscript (deleting some parts, updating other parts and rearranging some)		Arvo: Comments of Arvo needs to be implemented in the document. Dominique: integrate Arvo's comments

17. Distribution of tasks

See Table 1

18. Workplan (next working group) and timelines

The next meeting dates and timelines were agreed:

22 September 2020 (AM + PM): TEAMS meeting (whole day with both subgroups: Animal welfare and Animal Health)

24 November 2020 (PM): TEAMS meeting (whole day with both subgroups: Animal welfare and Animal Health)

ANIMAL HEALTH AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

MINUTES OF THE 2nd MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON AHAW Panel guidance documents (Self Mandate): Animal Welfare Guidance

M-2020-0033

Held on 9 June 2020 (Web-meeting): 14-17h

(Agreed on 18 June 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:¹³
 - Dominique BICOUT (chair)
 - Virginie MICHEL
 - Anonio VELARDE
- Hearing Experts¹⁴:
 - Not applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
 - Not applicable
- EFSA:
 - Yves VAN DER STEDE (Secretariat)

19. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants.

All working group members connected via Teams.

20. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

21. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence¹⁵ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management¹⁶, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by

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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. No interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

22. Discussion: Action points

The working group only discussed the Guidance on Risk Assessment for Animal welfare (AW2012, <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2513>). The table (Table 1) below represents the specific topics that needs update and how these will be tackled in the guidance document.

Table 1: Overview of topics discussed to update guidance document (AW2012):

	Topic	How?	Discussion. How to tackle it in the guidance document	Who?
1	Integrate the Concept of benefit assessment	New title could be "Guidance on risk and benefit assessment for animal welfare". Subdivide the document into two parts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidance on risk assessment (update) Guidance on benefit assessment (how to perform it → inputs from an extended group might needed) 	Structure the document: negative factors and positive factors (welfare consequences) should be taken up. In the problem formulation it should be made clear what kind of questions we may receive for RA in welfare (WC approach and factor approach). This should be made clear from the beginning and integrated in Figure 1. Make a problem framing: make the question as clear as possible: at the end of RA we have beneficial and bad effects (WC approach or factor approach): see comment in word file. Include in Figure 1.	Antonio to change Figure 1 and be updated by Dominique. Dominique: Provide new Figure 1 aligned with protocol development. (ppt, visio, etc).
2	Integrate Concept of risk mitigation	Integrate possible measures for decreasing the risk and increasing the benefits; prevention, correction and mitigation options	Include in Figure 1: see topic 1	
3	Terminology and glossary on risk and beneficial factors and animal welfare consequences	Update the terminology and glossary on all risk and beneficial factors and animal welfare consequences	<u>Terms to be discussed or revised are listed below.</u> It was agreed that these terms will be discussed first. This list can be discussed and commented over Summer. In function of this feedback an extra WG meeting can be planned in July 2020 (if needed). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ABM: take from opinion on use of ABM and list of ABMs* Benefit: same wording as risk Conceptual model Consequence characterisation: to compare with AH Delete or discuss Endpoint Expert elicitation Welfare consequence and list of welfare consequence* What are FACTORS? List of factors and factor origin Add poor/negative welfare Delete 'Need' Qualitative risk assessment: tailor for Welfare Quantitative risk assessment: tailor for Welfare 	Yves to prepare list of terms for discussion with AW expert of Panel in Teams → by 20 June 2020. *for ABMs and for WCs it was considered to make a list of WCs and then a list of ABMs (see Figure 2). In addition a list of factors and factor origin could be added to this Figure/list.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semi-quantitative risk assessment: tailor for Welfare • Uncertainty: integrate definition with current guidance documents on uncertainty • Welfare: needs to undifferentiated from the factors (reference: welfare domains, welfare quality). • Welfare measure: to reconsider in function of welfare discussion <p><u>Terms to be added are listed below.:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Exposure</u> in Welfare is missing • <u>Welfare criteria</u> and link with • <u>Negative welfare consequence and positive welfare consequence;</u> • Welfare preventive measures; • Welfare corrective measures; • Hazard origin • Prevalence/likelihood in context of welfare (prevalence of factor & prevalence of WC) • For a given factor in a given scenario: Risk == magnitude of WC x prevalence of WC x Exposure to factor • For an exposure scenario (you may have many WCs): Needs to be clearer explained in Box3. 	
4	Harmonizing terminology and glossary between AH and AW	Explore to which extend terminology and glossary can be harmonized (similarities & differences) between animal health and animal welfare	Based on Topic 3: harmonise with AH but some terms need to be tailored to AW	Yves (see topic 3)
5	Problem formulation	Review the "problem formulation" to include both the "risk problem" and the "benefit formulation"	Include in Figure 1	See Topic 1
6	Data collection section	Review the data collection section (systematic literature reviews, expert's opinion)	Align with the protocol assessment : guidance on data collection in function of the scenario we have for Welfare (Figure 1); Consider the factors, WC, ABMs for the systematic literature review given the scenario at stake and foresee synonyms for these three terms.	See Topic 1
7	Qualitative and quantitative assessment	Improve the description of qualitative and quantitative assessment. Inputs from AMU. Include examples of both risk and benefit. Statistical methods, and interpretation of data.	Needs to be tailored for welfare	Dominique
8	Uncertainty checklist and guidance	Integrate in the guidance the checklist in relation to the assessment and handling of	Needs to be tailored for welfare (with AMU)	Dominique

		uncertainty and variability		
9	Illustrative examples and figures	<p>Update figures and examples according to the new topics and assessment procedures. Some of the figures are currently focus on health (e.g., Box 1 page 7)</p> <p>Review and include examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal welfare consequences and their measurement (e.g. level, duration and intensity). • Animal based measures to assess the welfare consequences • Multiple interactions between welfare factors and welfare consequences <p>Examples: LAPS, ...</p>	<p><u>Agreed Examples to be put in document:</u></p> <p>-Pregnant opinion or tail biting: example of WC approach (scenario)</p> <p>-LAPS: example of factor approach/scenario (comparing three stunning methods)</p> <p>- Example General opinion: Slaughter or sheep: (Welfare of sheep → what are the different scenario's, production systems, etc; for each scenario RF identified and associated with the WC)</p> <p>-Example of Qualitative assessment</p> <p>-Example of (semi)-Quantitative assessment including EKE</p>	Yves to prepare in guidance document the structure on how to integrate these examples.
10	Communication on risks, benefits and animal welfare	Integrate a part on communication on risks, benefits and animal welfare. Inputs from the Communication Unit from EFSA	Guidance of communication should be used and tailored to the scenario's at stake for welfare.	Antonio
11	Risk characterization section	Risk characterization section and Box 3 need to be revised: consider combining distributions of intensities, of durations and the probability of occurrence (prevalence) rather than multiplying the mean. Add uncertainty analysis. Consider adding a Box 4 (similar to Box 3) for modelling in qualitative assessment (see ANSES document)	Endpoint == magnitude (combination of intensity/severity and duration); Conclusion is based on the magnitude for each WC (used to rank the WCs); the combination of different WCs needs to be clearer explained in Box3; Consider this point with point 7 and 8 (mainly quantitative assessment)	Dominique

23. Distribution of tasks

See Table 1

24. Workplan (next working group) and timelines

The next meeting dates and timelines were agreed:

22 September 2020 (AM + PM): TEAMS meeting (whole day with both subgroups: Animal welfare and Animal Health)

24 November 2020 (PM): TEAMS meeting (whole day with both subgroups: Animal welfare and Animal Health)

ANIMAL HEALTH AND PLANT HEALTH UNIT

MINUTES OF THE 1st MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON AHAW Panel guidance documents (Self Mandate):

M-2020-0033

Held on 4 March 2020 (Web-meeting)

(Agreed on 11 March 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:¹⁷
 - Dominique BICOUT (chair)
 - Virginie MICHEL
 - Anonio VELARDE
 - Julio ALVAREZ
 - Arvo VILTROP

- Hearing Experts¹⁸:
 - Not applicable

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

- EFSA:
 - Yves VAN DER STEDE (Secretariat)

25. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the participants.

All working group members connected via Teams.

26. Adoption of agenda

¹⁷ Indicate first full name and then surname (John Smith) all throughout the document.

¹⁸ As defined in Article 17 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/en/keydocs/docs/expertselection.pdf>.

The agenda was adopted without changes.

27. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence¹⁹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management²⁰, 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. No interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

28. Discussion: Scope of the WG

The chair presented the scope of the WG and the reasons for the self-mandate. The two guidance documents at stake are considered out-dated for conducting comprehensive risk assessments in the field of animal health and animals welfare. Good practice is to review and update existing guidance documents by taking account of the latest scientific developments and knowledge. In addition, it is likely that the European Commission and Member States would submit mandates to EFSA on various questions related to animal welfare.

The TORs were explained and highlighted. The two main TORs are:

- Guidance on Good Practice in Conducting Scientific Assessments in Animal Health using Modelling (**AH2009**) <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/1419>
- Guidance on Risk Assessment for Animal welfare (**AW2012**) <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2513>

It was agreed that this working group would have 4 outputs (2 updated guidance documents and 2 technical reports from public consultation). The timing of the mandate is flexible and if needed – in function of the workload for other mandates – this self-mandate can be deprioritised. Four to five working group meetings are planned for this mandate. It was discussed and agreed that the major task of the WG is to update the current documents as they stand in TOR1 and TOR2 with the latest scientific developments. If needed, extra working group members within EFSA (AMU, COMMS) could be consulted in particular for the update on quantitative risk assessment and the integration of the risk communication (prevention, correction and mitigation measures in animal welfare guidance document) could be considered.

29. Discussion and interpretation of the TORs

The origin and the TORs were explained and discussed in the working group. The TORs were agreed according the comment made during the AHAW panel in November 2019. If needed, the working group agreed to add specific TORs or required sections, currently missing, as additional tasks (see point 7).

30. Integration of uncertainty in both documents

It was agreed that a uncertainty will be tackled in each section where uncertainty is already integrated. Beside this, a separate section on uncertainty should be foreseen in each guidance document integrating the most recent documents in EFSA: the references are i) EFSA Scientific Committee, Benford D, Halldorsson T, Jeger MJ, Knutsen HK, More S, Naegeli H, Noteborn H,

¹⁹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

²⁰ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

Ockleford C, Ricci A, Rychen G, Schlatter JR, Silano V, Solecki R, Turck D, Younes M, Craig P, Hart A, Von Goetz N, Koutsoumanis K, Mortensen A, Ossendorp B, Martino L, Merten C, Mosbach-Schulz O and Hardy A, 2018. Guidance on Uncertainty Analysis in Scientific Assessments. EFSA Journal 2018;16(1):5123, 39 pp. <https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2018.5123> and ii) the related Checklist version 3.1 developed by AHAW panel after training on uncertainty.

31. Identify the sections (What?) in each Guidance document to be updated

The table below list the sections that should be updated for each TOR:

For AW 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clarify the scope of the document and the audience for the document - Update on section 2.2: factor identification and clarification on inputs - Glossary update page 28-29 - Section 3.1: factor identification and welfare consequence and animal based measures (consistent use of the words) - Box 3 page 15 should be updated in relation to uncertainty and in relation to both types: qualitative and quantitative risk assessment - Appendix: update of case studies (possibility to include 2 examples are tail docking and LAPS)
For AH 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Section 2.2: wiki based glossary to harmonise with glossary in Appendix B - Update Figure 2 and integrate uncertainty assessment - Add examples in Appendix

32. Discussion: structure of the documents

It was agreed that the main structure of the documents would be kept as such. The appendices will be updated and revisited. The terminology used in the AH 2009 and AW 2012 needs to be aligned and harmonised.

33. Distribution of tasks

It was agreed that the experts would provide a detailed list of actions to be performed. Their feedback is expected by within 2 weeks

34. Workplan (next working groups) and timelines

The following meetings and timelines were proposed by the working group:

Date (2020)	Times	Meeting	Actions
March 4	15h - 17h30	Joint meeting - web meeting	1st WG meeting
April 24	-	Mailing feedback	Progress check
June 9	14h - 17h	AW group - web meeting	1st workup
June 23	14h - 17h	AH group - physical meeting	1st workup
Sept 22 (dbp)	9h - 17h	Joint meeting - physical meeting	2 nd workup
Nov 24 (dbp)	9h - 17h	Joint meeting - physical meeting	3 rd workup

dbp = day before the panel plenary meeting

35. Next meeting

Next meeting is

24 April 2020: point on progress (by mail)

9 June 2020: web-meeting for AW subgroup