Basic information

1998/2220(COS) COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	Procedure completed
Bovine spongiform encephalopathy BSE. 1998 2nd biannual report **Subject** 3.10.08.05 Animal diseases 4.60.04.04 Food safety	

Key players

	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
European Parliament	ENVI Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection	ROTH-BEHRENDT Dagmar (PSE) BÖGE Reimer (PPE)	26/11/1997 26/11/1997

	Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Council of the European Union	Health	2131	1998-11-12

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
12/11/1998	Debate in Council		
18/11/1998	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(1998)0598	Summary
11/01/1999	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
18/02/1999	Vote in committee		Summary
18/02/1999	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0083/1999	
14/04/1999	Debate in Parliament		
15/04/1999	End of procedure in Parliament		
30/07/1999	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1998/2220(COS)
Procedure type	COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)
Procedure subtype	Commission strategy paper

Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 148
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ENVI/4/10576

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0083/1999 OJ C 175 21.06.1999, p. 0005	18/02/1999	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0329/1999 OJ C 219 30.07.1999, p. 0370-0433	15/04/1999	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(1998)0598	18/11/1998	Summary

Bovine spongiform encephalopathy BSE. 1998 2nd biannual report

1998/2220(COS) - 15/04/1999 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The Parliament adopted a resolution, drafted by Mr. Reimer Böge (D, EPP) and Ms. Dagmar Roth-Behrendt (D, PES), calling for the comprehensive application of testing procedures throughout the EU. The resolution expresses Parliament's disappointment with respect to the fact that 13 Member States face legal proceedings following failures to comply with EU regulations introduced to improve controls. The resolution also takes up the situation of compensation claims in the UK and the need to settle this issue. One amendment expresses concern at the slow decline in BSE cases in the UK and calls on the Commission to investigate, while another takes the view that the increase in new CJD cases merits the compulsory notification of such cases in all Member States and the introduction of a European register.

Bovine spongiform encephalopathy BSE. 1998 2nd biannual report

1998/2220(COS) - 18/11/1998 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE : Second Bi-annual BSE Follow-up Report in the form of a Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. CONTENT : This is the second six-monthly report presented by the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers on progress made in the implementation of the follow up of recommendations on BSE. The first report, which was presented in May 1998, provided a broad overview of practical measures taken to combat BSE and to implement the new approach in the fields of scientific advice, risk analysis, risk management, control and inspection. This second report shows that a large part of the work has been completed. A synopsis of this is provided in Annex 1. Desired progress, however, has not been achieved on a few points such as the EU becoming a full member of the WHO and the International Office of Epizootics. The following points should be noted : - despite the Commission's efforts, the Council has still not agreed a common approach to removing 'specific risk material' from the food and feed chain; - some Member States have been slow in implementing Community law concerning the control of BSE; - the Commission has been pushing ahead with work on validating a post-mortem BSE test. Shortly, the validation results will show whether the EU currently has a test that can reduce consumer risk; - the introduction of new structures for the Scientific Committees and checks carried out by the Food and Veterinary Office have yielded important information on current working methods. This will be carefully evaluated; - the importance of effective follow-up of scientific recommendations and inspection visits has been demonstrated over the past year; - an important issue to be agreed at international level is how to implement the precautionary principle within the context of a scientifically based consumer-protection policy. In addition, the judgment of equivalence is the subject of discussion at international level, in particular in the Codex Alimentarius. These issues will need to be taken into consideration by the Commission in the draft negotiation mandate to be given by the Council for the forthcoming WTO discussions on the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) Agreement; - the EP's and Commission's joint conference on food safety will provide an opportunity to take stock of past progress and future challenges from a variety of angles; - the Commission is to push ahead with its response to the debate on the Green Paper on Food Law; - the Commission intends to take up a number of points in its 1999-2001 consumer protection action plan. Article 152 of the Amsterdam Treaty gives more impact to Community action in the field of health protection.