

Overview of the Expert Committee for the Testing of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy

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(Objective)

Article 1 To provide guidance and advice concerning tests of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, and contribute to safety measures for meat concerning Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, Director-General of the Department of Food Safety, Pharmaceutical and Food Safety Bureau, organizes the Expert Committee for the Testing of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (hereinafter referred to as “Expert Committee”).

(Discussion)

Article 2 The Expert Committee shall discuss:

- 1) Technical guidance and advice concerning tests of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy;
- 2) Evaluation of test results based on “Implementation Guideline for Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Tests”; and
- 3) Other necessary issues concerning tests of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy.

(Organization)

Article 3 The Expert Committee shall be consisted of members listed in a separate table.

- 2 Term of the member experts shall be until the discussion concludes.
- 3 The Expert Committee shall be headed by Chairman and Deputy Chairman.
- 4 Chairman shall be selected by mutual voting of the member experts. Deputy Chairman shall be assigned by Chairman from the other members of the Expert Committee.
- 5 Chairman represents the Expert Committee, and chairs the Committee affairs.
- 6 Deputy Chairman supports Chairman, and surrogates him in case of accident.

(Committee session)

Article 4 Sessions of the Expert Committee shall be called by Chairman.

- 2 The Expert Committee sessions shall not be opened without a turnout of majority of member experts. In case of emergency, however, members may be regarded as present, by submitting their opinions in prior reports, etc.
- 3 The Expert Committee sessions shall be opened to the public. However, sessions may be held behind closed doors if so determined by the Expert Committee.
- 4 Minutes of the Expert Committee sessions shall be disclosed.
- 5 The Expert Committee may ask for attendance of related parties, and listen to their opinions, if they regard it necessary.

(General affairs)

Article 5 General affairs of the Expert Committee shall be handled by the Inspection and Safety Division, Department of Food Safety, Pharmaceutical and Food Safety Bureau.

(Miscellanea)

Article 6 Other issues necessary for the operation of the Expert Committee, in addition to the provisions of this overview, shall be determined by Chairman.