

ACAF/17/11

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL FEEDINGSTUFFS

73rd Meeting of ACAF on 14 June 2017

Information Paper

Update on the Work of other Advisory Committees

Secretariat

May 2017

UPDATE ON THE WORK OF OTHER ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Purpose

1. This paper outlines issues from other advisory committees that may be of interest to ACAF.

Advisory Committee on Microbiological Safety of Food (ACMSF)

2. The Committee last met on 26 January 2017 (see paper ACAF 17/04);

Subgroups

3. The ACMSF's Antimicrobial Resistance Working Group met on 15 March 2017. There were 2 main items on the agenda:
 - a presentation from Prof John Threlfall on EFSA/EMA's Scientific Opinion on measures to reduce the need to use antimicrobial agents in animal husbandry in the European Union, and the resulting impact on food safety; and
 - a discussion about enlarging the working group to carry out a short-term task on antimicrobial resistance requested by the FSA Board. It is proposed the new group will hold its first meeting in May.
4. The ACMSF Ad Hoc Group on Campylobacter met on 31 March to progress their report.
5. The full Committee will meet on 29 June 2017.

Advisory Committee on Novel Foods and Processes (ACNFP)

6. The last meeting of the ACNFP took place on 27 April 2017 and the next meeting is scheduled on 13 July 2017. Details of both meetings will be available on the ACNFP website: <https://acnfp.food.gov.uk/>

The Advisory Committee on Releases to the Environment (ACRE)

7. The Advisory Committee on Releases to the Environment (ACRE) held an 'open' meeting in on 14 March 2017 in London.
8. The meeting in March was a joint one with the HSE's Scientific Advisory Committee on Genetic Modification which focused on the development and field application of gene drive modified organisms.
9. The next meeting of ACRE is scheduled to take place on 20 June 2017.
10. More information about ACRE is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/advisory-committee-on-releases-to-the-environment>

The Committee on Carcinogenicity (COC)

11. The COC met on 23 March 2017, and items discussed included:
 - Draft statement on possible carcinogenic hazard to consumers from insulin-like-growth factor (IGF-I) in the diet.
 - Synthesising epidemiological evidence subgroup – draft report.
 - Guidance statements:
 - Draft Lay introduction to COC guidance statement series.
 - Draft updated General introduction to G07 Alternatives to the 2-year bioassay.
 - First draft statement on COC/G07: Part c) emerging technologies: omics and high-throughput screening.
 - OECD Guidelines: Standard project submission form for the ToxTracker assay.
 - Scoping paper for evaluation of heat-not-burn tobacco products (reserved business).
 - Horizon Scanning Topics.
 - Draft 2016 COC annual report.
12. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on 20 July 2017 and provisional agenda items include:
 - Continuing work on the guidance statement series.
 - Scoping out the area of nanomaterials for future discussion.

- Revised draft statement on dietary IGF-I and cancer risk.

The Committee on Mutagenicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment (COM)

13. Items discussed at the last meeting held on 23 February 2017 included:
- Draft Scoping paper – Toxicological evaluation of novel heat-not-burn commercial products: overview summary of genotoxicity data submitted (reserved business).
 - Quantitative approaches to the assessment of genotoxicity data II.
 - Quantitative approaches to the assessment of genotoxicity data II – evaluation of benchmark dose software.
 - Draft annual report 2016.
 - Horizon Scanning.
14. The next meeting of the COM is scheduled for 22 June 2017. Provisional agenda items for the meeting include:
- Complete summary of the work on germ-cell mutagens.
 - Draft statement on quantitative methods in genotoxicity.

The Committee on Toxicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment (COT)

15. COT met on 28 March 2017 to discuss the following items:
- reports of the COT-COC Synthesising Epidemiological Evidence Subgroup (SEES);
 - review of potential risks from cadmium in the diet of infants aged 0 to 12 months and children aged 1 to 5 years;
 - second draft statement on the potential risks from iodine in the diets of infants aged 0-12 months and children aged 1 to 5 years;
 - Second draft statement on potential risks from nickel in the diet of infants aged 0 to 12 months and children aged 1 to 5 years;
 - updated discussion paper on the results of the 2014 survey of metals and other elements in infant foods;
 - CS Skin Absorption Study;
 - EFSA¹ consultation on draft guidance on the risk assessment of substances present in food intended for infants below 16 weeks of age;

¹ European Food Safety Authority

- draft EFSA protocol for a systematic review on health outcomes related to the age of introduction of complementary food for the scientific assessment of the appropriate age of introduction of complementary feeding into an infant's diet – an update;
- EFSA consultation on draft guidance on biological relevance; and
- EFSA consultation on draft guidance on the use of the weight of evidence approach in scientific assessments.

16. The next COT meeting will be on 16 May 2017.

General Advisory Committee on Science (GACS)

17. The General Advisory Committee on Science (GACS) was formally dissolved on 31 March 2017. The dissolution comes following the Triennial Review of six Food Standards Agency Scientific Advisory Committees, which concluded that the GACS be replaced by a new, high level Science Council. The last meeting of the GACS was held on 24 March 2016. The Committee's annual report covering the two year period up to March 2017 has been published.

Science Council

18. The new FSA Science Council came into being on 1 April 2017. Appointments to the Council have been announced.

Workshop of SAC Chairs

19. An FSA workshop of the Chairs of the FSA's SACs took place on 22 February 2017. This was the first in a planned ongoing series of meetings to maintain and develop co-ordination between SACs and their engagement with FSA. These meetings build on the communication between SAC Chairs which took place through their being ex officio members of GACS. The workshop minutes will be published in due course.

Appointments

ACMSF

The current Chair reached the end of her term at the end of March 2017 and preparations are being made to re-advertise the post.

ACAF Secretariat

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