

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL FEEDINGSTUFFS

76th Meeting of ACAF on 28 June 2018

Information Paper

Update on the Work of other Advisory Committees

Secretariat

June 2018

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 ACMSF met on 10 May. The following topics were discussed:
 - a revised paper on raw drinking milk and certain raw milk products;
 - a paper on the use of raw pet food;
 - an update on the outcome of the Epidemiology of Foodborne Infections Group meeting held on 17 January; and
 - follow-up to the horizon scanning exercise held on 24 January.
3. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on 18 October – the agenda for this meeting is yet to be confirmed.

Advisory Committee on Novel Foods and Processes (ACNFP)

4. The ACNFP held a successful open workshop on 22 February which included a presentation on the new Novel Food Regulation (EU) 2015/2283 and smaller breakout discussion groups which included discussions on the risk assessment of insects of food and fermented food products.
5. The last meeting of the ACNFP was held on 25 April. Discussions included:
 - Risk assessment of traditional foods, which are novel in the European Union
 - Fonio (a traditional food application)
 - Blue honeysuckle berries (a traditional food application)
 - ACNFP Annual Report 2017
 - Review of open meeting

6. The next meeting of the ACNFP is scheduled to take place on 27 June 2018 - details of this and other meetings will be/are 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 on 23 March 2018.
 - ACRE is assessing an application to release GM camelina plants in a field trial. Further information about the proposed trial may be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/genetically-modified-organisms-applications-and-consents>
 - Updated general advice from ACRE on notifications for import and processing of seed/ grain derived from GM rice, cotton, soybeans, maize and oilseed rape has been published at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/advisory-reports>
8. More information about ACRE, including the advice it issues, is available at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/advisory-committee-on-releases-to-the-environment>

The Committee on Carcinogenicity (COC)

9. The COC meeting scheduled to take place in March 2018 did not take place, however, work has started on the annual report and the joint epigenetics statement which is currently collecting final comments. The IGF statement is being finalised for approval by Chair's action.
10. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on 12 July 2018. Provisional agenda items include:
 - Discussion of risk assessment of mixtures of chemical carcinogens
 - Presentation on immunological and stromal cell modulations which affect cancer risk

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

11. Items discussed at the last meeting held on 22 February included:

- Joint committee meeting epigenetics paper.
- QSAR – update/scoping.
- COM Testing Guidance document – review and update if necessary.
- Quantitative methods in genotoxicity – 2nd draft statement.
- Annual report 2017.
- Horizon scan output.

12. COM are scheduled to meet on 26 June 2018 and items on the agenda for this meeting include:

- Update of COM Guidance
- Discussion of the CRISPR technology
- Referral from COT on e-Cigarettes
- OECD Updates on mini Ames and Pig-A (oral updates no papers)

13. The statement on quantitative assessment of genotoxicity data has now been published.

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

14. COT met on 20 March and on 8 May, items discussed at the May meeting included:

- Potential toxicological risks from electronic nicotine (and non-nicotine) delivery systems (e-cigarettes):
 - Toxicological review of the main constituents, propylene glycol (PG) and vegetable glycerine (VG, glycerol)
 - Additional information on reports describing the presence of silicon/silicates in the aerosol of E(N)NDS

- A presentation by Professor Boobis on the Risk Assessment in the 21st Century (RISK21) approach
- second draft statement on potential risks from methylmercury in the diet of infants age 0 to 12 months and children aged 1 to 5 years.

15. Further details on the work of COT can be found at the Committee's website:

<https://cot.food.gov.uk/cot-meetings>.

FSA Science Council

16. The Science Council held its second meeting on 13 December 2017, and the following items were discussed:
- The meeting included reports and discussion on the three working groups of the Science Council on: science capability and assurance; risk and uncertainty; food systems risks and horizon scanning.
 - The Council discussed its future work programme, and its engagement with the FSA's Scientific Advisory Committees. There is an action for the Council Chair and CSA to discuss further how the Council could engage with the SACs.
 - The meeting papers and draft minutes are published on the Science Council website at <https://science-council.food.gov.uk/>
17. the three Science Council Working Groups are progressing phase 2 of their work and will report at the Council's next open meeting on 27 June.
18. The Science Council Chair, Professor Sandy Thomas, presented her annual report to the FSA Board at the open meeting on 14 March 2018. The report and summary of the Board discussions are available at the following links:
- <https://www.food.gov.uk/sites/default/files/fsa180306.pdf>
- <https://www.food.gov.uk/news-updates/news/2018/16986/summary-of-discussions-at-fsa-board-meeting-14-march-2018>
19. The Science Council will publish an Annual Report for 2017/18 in April/May.
20. The Science Council's third and fourth plenary meetings are planned for 27 June 2018 and 12 December 2018 in London.

Advisory Committee for Social Sciences

21. The first meeting of the newly formed Advisory Committee for Social Sciences (ACSS) was held on 15 May, in Clive House, London.

22. Formally established in April this year to implement a key recommendation from the Triennial Review of the FSA's Scientific Advisory Committees, its purpose is to provide expert strategic advice to the FSA on its use of the social sciences.

23. During the meeting, members were formally introduced to the FSA Executive Management Team and welcomed by the Chief Scientific Advisor, Prof. Guy Poppy who set out key priorities for FSA. Members were also welcomed by representatives from the FSA Analytics Unit who provided an overview of ACSS work priorities and a summary of how the group will operate.

24. The Committee agreed to set up 3 working groups to deliver its top three work priorities. The outputs from which will shape the future direction of FSAs behavioural science work, a new framework for risk communication and steer both content and mode of the flagship social survey Food and You – a key investment for FSA and an official statistic.

25. Further details of the meeting and full member biographies can be found using the link: <https://acss.food.gov.uk/>

Appointments

ACMSF

The post of ACMSF Chair is currently being re-advertised with a closing date of 18 June.

ACAF Secretariat

June 2018