

International Food Protection Issues PDG

Attendees: Leon Gorris (Chair), Ian Jenson (Vice Chair), Ayojesutomu Abiodun-Solanke, Bassam Annous, Steve Arave, Hussam Azzam Mohammed, Pierre Olivier Beal, Peter Ben Embarek, DeAnn Benesh, Roy Biggs, Ernest Bonah, Leslie Bourquin, Robert Brackett, Marion Castle, Roger Cook, Duncan Craig, Sally Crowley, Heidy Den Besten, Maria Teresa Destro, Francisco Diez, Kevin Edwards, Patrick Fach, Jeffrey Farber, Fereidoun Forghani, Elise Forward, Balasubramanian Ganesan, Francisco Garces Vega, Ted Gatesy, Rusty Gildner, Lawrence Goodridge, Judy Greig, Jesus Guzman, Gina Hall, Janette Handley, Diana Hao, Arie Havelaar, Evan Henke, Sunee Himathongkham, Christine Jampo, John Jarosh, Hidehito Kai, Janell Kause, Mark Kazmierczak, Amit Kheradia, Karim Khinouche, Ahyoon Kim, Vane Komolprasert, Bobby Krishna, Keith Lampel, Mariza Landgraf, Yale Lary, Jeong-Eun Lee, Jeffrey LeJeune, Kory Longhurst, Gilma Luna, Deon Mahoney, Conor McGauran, Mark Moorman, Charles Muyanja, John Mwangi, Roza Nguyen, Andrew Pearson, Ruth Petran, Jeffrey Read, Allen Saylor, Jenny Scott, Amarat Simonne, Manpreet Singh, Thierry Sofia, Marianne Solomotis, Varalakshmi Sudagar, Dimitri Tavernarakis, Anna Theil-Gangl, Deepa Thiagarajan, Harshavardhan Thippareddi, Virginia Till, Ewen Todd, Isabel Walls, Frances Widjaja, Pamela Wilger, Anett Winkler, Guodong Zhang, Wen Zou, and Marcel Zwietering.

Number of Attendees: 84.

Meeting Called to Order: 2:31 p.m., Saturday, July 7, 2018 by Leon Gorris, Chairperson.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Ian Jenson, Vice Chairperson.

Note: copies of the slides presented during the meeting can be requested from the Chairpersons.

Welcome and introductions

Leon opened the meeting and welcomed the PDG members and guests to the meeting. He reminded the participants of the purpose of the meeting and presented the anti-trust guidelines and the proposed agenda.

Greetings and comments from IAFP Board Member were presented by Roger Cook. Some key points:

- Expected 2018 Annual Meeting participation 3800 (up from 3642 in 2017) and IAFP membership now 4,300 Members (20% outside of North America).
- 90 out of 200 symposia proposals were accepted by the Program Committee this year. Consider not-accepted quality proposals for webinars.
- PDGs have been encouraged to consider activities to recognize student achievements.
- IAFP International: 2018 European Symposium held in Stockholm (April, 370 participants). Forthcoming: Latin America Symposium: September 25 to 27, 2018, Buenos Aires, Argentina; Dubai International Food Safety Conference (DIFSC): October 29 to 31, 2018, Dubai, UAE. China International Food Safety and Quality Conference (CIFSQ), November 7 – 8, Shanghai, China. IAFP Europe: April 24–26, 2019, Nantes, France.

Attendees briefly introduced themselves.

Review of Agenda – Call for additional items

- Leon called for any additional items for the agenda. The need to discuss election of a Vice Chair for the PDG was added to the agenda.

Old Business:

Discussion/Adoption of the 2017 PDG Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of the 2017 PDG meeting were accepted as printed in *FPT*. (Moved M. T. Destro, seconded by J. Farber).

New Business:

Overview of IAFP 2018 program (Symposia and other Sessions of PDG relevance)

- Five suggestions from this PDG last year were accepted for this year's program – and 11 others can be considered for resubmission for next year or as webinar subjects.
- An overview of the program was provided by Leon. Items of international interest were highlighted.

Short Updates on Food Safety developments from around the world

- The Chairpersons had invited PDG members on the roster prior to the meeting to present an update and a large number of members responded.

1. FAO (Jeff Lajeune) discussed a number of topics of current work by FAO, including: Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli*, water quality (primary production; re-use in food industry), Antimicrobial Resistance, capacity building for foodborne disease surveillance (details and links in addendum 1 which will be posted on the website).
2. WHO (Peter Ben-Embarek) noted recent work by WHO, including: Whole Genome Sequencing, INFOSAN network, *Listeria* outbreak in South Africa. FAO/WHO food safety conference next April to be held in Geneva. Details/links in addendum 2 which will be posted on the website).
3. Australia (Deon Mahoney) discussed country of origin labelling, health star rating for consumer nutrition advice, compendium of process hygiene criteria being developed and loaded on the Food Standards Australia New Zealand website. *Listeria* outbreak traced to Rock Melons (cantaloupes) including exported product. Hepatitis A traced to imported frozen pomegranate.
4. Food Safety Preventative Controls Alliance (Bob Brackett) update: training documentation and translations available. Over 60,000 people have been trained, including internationally. Greater uptake of training by international suppliers is expected in future. More lead trainers may be required outside of North America.
5. Canada (Jeff Farber). Health Canada releasing guidance on *C. botulinum* in mushroom products; another on fish products. All microbiological criteria are being reviewed. Risk assessments completed: *E. coli* O157 in Gouda cheese. *S. Enteritidis* in frozen chicken products (will require *Salmonella* to be undetectable in final product). MRA on *E. coli* O121 in flour is under investigation. ISOPOL *Listeria* conference will be in Toronto in September 2019.
6. New Zealand (Marion Castle). Restructure in the Ministry for Primary Industries. Implementation of traceability requirements. NZ published a total dietary survey (important for chemical risk assessment). Case-control study on campylobacteriosis. Issuing a guide for senior managers and company directors on the importance of food safety culture. Commencing work on vibrios in seafood.
7. Dubai (Bobby Krishna). Successful DIFSC in November 2017. *S. Enteritidis*, two outbreaks, using genetic fingerprinting to define the outbreak. Working on digital information on all food business including providing tools to food safety businesses. UAE Food Security Ministry has been formed. Ban on import of fruit from India due to concerns about Nipah virus. DIFSC 2018 will be held 29–31 October.
8. AOAC International (DeAnn Benesh). Focus on harmonization of methods globally, originally part of FDA. Geographical AOAC sections and meetings are becoming more important – opportunities to discuss issues and identify need for methods. Tripartite group with ISO and IDF. Working with Indian and Chinese institutions.
9. Wageningen University (Marcel Zwietering). Growing student numbers, becoming more international and also digitalizing their offering. Distance learning modules offered in English. Used in Wageningen and as part of private/public collaborations. Public resources include, Food Safety and other MOOCs. Supporting ICMSF to produce video clips.
10. FSIS (Janell Kause) continuing to modernize and seek to do a better job. Information systems support inspectors. Poultry inspection is changing based on microbiological risk assessment. Swine slaughter is changing based on risk assessment. Egg products are coming under HACCP requirements. Three labs are conducting WGS for pathogens and data being uploaded to a public database.
11. Industry (Pamela Wilger). International differences in regulation cause enormous problems. Industry needs more trained applied microbiologists. Methods need to be validated for all sample types being tested. Industry needs to share more with each other, including validation of control measures/processes, etc.
12. Food Safety Institute, University of Florida (Arie Havelaar). Gates Foundation has become interested in foodborne disease. Foodborne disease has significant long-term health and economic impacts. Food safety and livestock systems – increasing the safe consumption of animal protein.

13. Brazil (Maria Teresa Destro). Introduced Latin America IAFP meeting later this year in Buenos Aires.
14. Center for Food Safety, University of Georgia (Francesco Diez-Gonzales). Working on many research projects, particularly *Salmonella* serotyping and WGS. Increasing international activities. Next Annual Meeting in March 2019.
15. ComBase (Mark Tamplin): invitation to visit booth #208 in the Exhibition Hall.

Leon noted that members should send interesting news items to Jeff Farber for inclusion in the *IAFP Report*.

Outcomes of member survey

- Ian Jenson presented the results of the member survey held in June 2018.
 1. About 60 members responded out of 250 on the roster, including a number who were not able to attend the PDG meeting each year.
 2. About 45% of respondents preferred to maintain the PDG meeting on Saturday afternoon. Attendees spoke to the value of this PDG not overlapping with other PDGs. Leon suggested it would be an opportunity to ask the IAFP Board for more time as this year's PDG Agenda was so packed.
 3. A number of responses were made to requests for suggestions for symposia and other PDG activities that were discussed later in the meeting.

IAFP 2019 Symposia

- Preparing submissions to the Program Committee for IAFP's 2019 Annual meeting in Louisville, KY (21–24 July 2019) were discussed after highlighting what formats (Symposia, Roundtables, Technical Sessions, workshops) were available. Ideally, proposals were on topics new and timely for IAFP and supported by multiple PDGs. Leon and Ian to start networking with other PDGs on Tuesday (breakfast of PDG leads). IAFP's deadline for full online submissions is 2 October 2018.
- There was discussion of what topics not accepted from last year and suggestions from membership survey could be taken forward as well as what new ideas were possible.
- The following proposals were suggested.
 1. Progress in Food Safety Education and Training Internationally – learnings from tailored small group offerings to running massive open online courses (Marcel Zwietering; Leon Gorris; with WHO, e.g., Francoise Fontennaz); could also be a webinar topic/theme.
 2. Impact of Robotics and Artificial Intelligence on food safety (Peter Ben-Embarek, Ian Jenson, Leon Gorris).
 3. Impact of International changes in meat inspection practices (Ian Jenson), also proposed by PMMRA PDG.
 4. Dealing with food safety related to health and nutrition improvements in low- and middle-income countries around the world (Arie Havelaar).
 5. International allergen labelling issues and impact on food safety (Kevin Edwards).
 6. International food safety during trade wars (Bob Buchanan).
 7. Move back from risk-based to hazard-based food safety decision making (Roger Cook; Pam Wilger; Leon Gorris).
 8. New approaches and learnings regarding incident root cause analysis (Ewen Todd).

9. International perspective on effective small-scale food safety programs for small-scale producers (Kevin Edwards; Deepa Thiagarajan).
10. How can we best use geographical insights the new tools give us in distribution of pathogen clones (Peter Ben-Embarek).
11. International learnings communicating uncertainty in risk assessments to managers in government and industry (Mariem Ellouze; Leon Gorris), also proposed by PMMRA PDG.
12. Food safety in extreme environments (Linda Leake) (added after meeting).
13. International experiences and best practices communicating Risks and fighting Pseudoscience (Ian Jenson, Leon Gorris) (added after meeting).
14. Attendees were encouraged to work within the PDG and across PDG with others to join and develop the proposal idea.
15. Proposers were requested to inform Leon and Ian of their proposal (lead contact; other proposers; title; 2–3 line description; format; other relevant PDG) by Monday afternoon.

Inter Annual Meeting PDG activities

- The suggestions coming from the PDG survey were presented.
- Leon noted that there seemed to be a particular demand for webinars and noted the IAFP expectations for webinar registration fees in the absence of sponsorship, even for PDG members.
- Leon suggested a webinar on presenting new resources and approaches in food safety e-learning, which also would be of interest from the perspective of the Food Safety Committee of IUFoST that he leads. That Committee is interested to encourage the sharing of effective and quality resources. Further suggestions were left for discussion at another time.
- Ian noted that he would like the PDG to become more interactive between meetings, within the constraints of an international membership and time zones.

Any Other Business

- The need for the election of a new Vice Chair before the next Annual Meeting was discussed. The new Vice Chair will assume their position at the PDG meeting next year (20 July 2019), for a two year term, followed by two years as Chair. Leon requested members to consider (self-) nominating at the meeting or before October when an online poll would be held for the registered PDG members.
- Leon reminded members that they can directly update their PDG affiliations online. All they need to do is log into the IAFP Website; click Edit Profile on the Member Dashboard, then the Professional Info tab. Select the PDG to join.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. In view of the high attendance at the International Food Protection Issues PDG and the enthusiastic contributions of members, the PDG requests that the time allowed for the meeting be extended to 2–5 p.m. on the Saturday preceding the Annual Meeting.

Next meeting date: 20 July, 2019, Louisville, KY.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:00 p.m.

Chairperson: Leon Gorris.