

International Food Protection Issues PDG

Members Present: Deon Mahoney, DeAnn Benesh, Christine Aleski, Andrew Benson, Robert Buchanan, Alessandra Chiareli, Roger Cook, Maria Teresa Destro, Harold Ewell, Jeffrey Farber, Judy Greig, Ian Jenson, Bobby Krishna, Keith Lampel, Linda Leake, Jenny Scott, Caroline Smith DeWaal, Christopher Snabes, Ewen Todd, Pamela Wilger and George Wilson.

Board/Staff Members Present: Isabel Walls, Don Zink and Katherine Swanson.

New Members: Jeff Tazelaar, Salina Parveen, Catherine Hart, Colin Barthel, Marilyn Lee, Rong Murphy, Duncan Craig, Jack Cooper, Craig Thornley, Jennifer Quinlan, Hua Helen Wang, Ynes Ortega, Marta Segarra, Craig Henry, Cathy Bureau, Charles Muyanja, Sufian Alkhalidi, Muhammad Ihsanullah Qamar, Leslie Bourquin and Patrice Arbault.

Visitors/Guests: Ernest Julian, Frederick Adzitey, Hamish Gow, Geoffrey Morell and Brian Bedard.

Meeting Called to Order: 2:30 p.m., Saturday July 21, 2012.

Recording Secretary of Minutes: Caroline Smith DeWaal.

Chair Deon Mahoney welcomed attendees and introduced Caroline Smith DeWaal as the newly elected Vice Chair of the PDG. The Vice Chair position had recently been resolved through a web-based ballot. The Chair then invited IAFP President Isabel Walls to make some introductory comments. Isabel welcomed members, new members and visitors to the meeting and highlighted the launch of the new IAFP strategic plan and the goal of enhancing communication between PDG members through the use of media such as google groups. She encouraged attendees to join various committees and to actively engage in the IAFP Annual Meeting.

Members were reminded of the need to adhere to Antitrust Guidelines during all Association meetings.

Old Business: Minutes 2011 PDG Meeting – the meeting adopted the minutes as written.

New Business:

1. As in previous years, the PDG hosted a guest speaker to address issues of international relevance. This year's speaker was Dr. Brian Bedard (Senior Livestock/Food Safety Specialist, World Bank) who spoke on the topic ***New Global Food Safety Capacity Building Partnership***. During his informative presentation, Dr. Bedard highlighted an exciting global programming initiative designed to enhance food safety in developing countries. The programme is

being supported by a multi-donor trust fund involving the World Bank, international development partners, and corporations. The goal is to develop a knowledge platform which can be utilized to support training and technical assistance in developing country situations. The presentation was well-received and attracted a number of questions and comments from the audience. Importantly it highlighted the opportunity for IAFP members to support the partnership through the provision of advice and as service providers.

2. Deon highlighted several forthcoming sessions during the Annual Meeting that may be of interest to PDG members. This included symposia initiated by the PDG, and included the following:

S4 Impact of Climate Change on Food Safety: Using Korea as an Example

S5 Today Their Problem – Tomorrow Ours: Impact of International Trade on Food Safety

S15 Food Safety and International Trade: Opportunities and Challenges

S22 China: Food Safety in an Emerging Market Economy

RT3 China – Food Safety for an Integrated World

S23 Food Safety Modernization Act: Implementing the Provisions on Imported Foods

S27 Food Defense: Where are We and Where Do We Have to Go?

S30 Drivers for Global Food Safety: Aligning Public, Private and Government Resources

S40 Future Challenges in Food Safety: An International Perspective

3. Roundtable Updates:

Jeff Farber presented an update on activities of the International Commission on Microbiological Specifications for Food (ICMSF). Book 8 on the Use of Data for Assessing Process Control and Product Acceptance has been released and Book 7 is undergoing revision. Upcoming meetings will be held in China and Argentina.

Jeff provided an overview of some activities being undertaken by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization. This included upcoming consultations on histamine and foodborne parasites; publications on good hygienic practice along the food chain and risk management tools for *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* in poultry meat; food policy work in Uganda integrating disease burden data generated by WHO; risk assessment and risk management of the use of nanotechnology in the food industry; development of food safety emergency/incident tools and national food recall support; and surveillance of antimicrobial resistance.

Caroline Smith DeWaal provided information on Codex Alimentarius activities, and highlighted that 2013 would be the 50th anniversary of the creation of Codex.

Attendees were also informed of upcoming international meetings and conferences with an international food safety focus.

4. IAFP Symposia/Workshops for 2013: In preparation for 2013, the PDG discussed a series of potential symposia topics as follows:
 - One Health – its application to food safety: Proposed by Jeff Farber with speakers listed from Health Canada, WHO and FAO. The symposia would provide an overview of One Health and highlight some current national initiatives.
 - 50 years of CODEX and international food law: Its impact on food safety and security: Proposed by Caroline Smith DeWaal. The symposium would provide an overview of 50 years of CODEX and its past, current and future roles in the development of international food laws, standards and guidelines.
 - Lessons learned from food safety initiatives in developing countries: Proposed by Linda Leake. This session would be best presented as a roundtable where a stocktake of what has worked, what problems were faced, and how capacity building in food safety can be enhanced. During discussion it was suggested that the roundtable could be presented as a series of Case Studies providing examples of food safety capacity building successes. It was also proposed that content could adopt a template approach with the standardized outputs published.
 - Food safety challenges and priorities in the Middle East: Proposed by Isabel Walls. Involves engagement of speakers from Middle East countries to address local development and issues.
 - International food safety support programs: An overview of activities undertaken through agencies including FAO, WHO (including INFOSAN), IFT, APEC, the European Union, the food industry, etc.
 - Global food safety capacity building: Looking at the progress with the World Bank ***New Global Food Safety Capacity Building Partnership***.
 - Other topics for symposia were briefly discussed included: Public and private food standards; food safety in Pacific-rim countries; and safe production of raw milk.

Attendees were encouraged to work up proposals and to take advantage of opportunities to consolidate some of the above topics, as well as to engage with other PDGs to facilitate a multi-disciplinary approach to developing symposia content.

5. Election of Vice Chair: The Chair invited nominations for the election of a Vice Chair to assume the post at the IAFP Annual Meeting in 2013. Alessandra Chiareli was nominated by Jeff Farber and seconded by Maria Teresa Destro. Attendees then suggested that a general call for nominations be made via email to PDG members.
6. Other Business: Members discussed the merits of establishing a Google Group. While there were suggestions to utilize the LinkedIn platform, it was agreed to

follow the board suggestion to trial a Google Group. Discussions highlighted a lack of experience with Google Groups and Bobby Krishna, Dubai Municipality, reported that he has been using Google Groups and Google Plus since 2007 and offered to present a webinar outlining how this platform could be operated and utilized to benefit the PDG.

Board members requested nominations from PDG members to join a Task Force designed to provide the Association with advice and guidance on international meetings of the IAFP. The following members indicated their willingness to be involved: Harold Ewell, Maria Teresa Destro, Alessandra Chiareli, Ian Jenson, Caroline Smith DeWaal and Deon Mahoney.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Recommend acceptance of Caroline Smith DeWaal as new PDG Vice Chairperson.
2. Support the hosting of a Google Group Training Webinar by the PDG and if possible, hosting across the PDG membership, facilitating consistent and efficient use of Google Groups for PDG members.

Next Meeting Date: July 27, 2013.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:00 p.m.

Chairperson: Deon Mahoney.