

International Food Protection Issues PDG

Members Present: Caroline Smith DeWaal (Chair), Patrice Arbault, Peter Ben Embarek, DeAnn Benesh, Julia Bradsher, Bob Buchanan, Roger Cook, Maria Teresa Destro, Tong-Jen Fu, Leon Gorris, John Guzewich, Ian Jenson, Keith Lampel, Linda Leake, Deon Mahoney, Charles Muyanja, Xiangwu Nou, James O'Donnell, Kathleen Rajkowski, Ram Rao, Jenny Scott, Christopher Snabes, Isabel Walls, Pamela Wilger and Elizabeth Williams.

Board/Staff Members Present: Don Zink, Alejandro Mazzota, Mickey Parish and Katie Swanson.

New Members: Bassam Annous, Claudio Bauza, Pamela Coleman, Tony Flood, Bob Gravani, Heather Jordan, Luciana Luz, Lee-Yan Sheen, Marianne Solomotis, Sultan Al Taher and Ewen Todd.

Visitors/Guests: Rishi Banerjee, Deepa Bhajekar, Solomon Gebru and Jimmy Liu.

Meeting Called to Order: 2:30 p.m., Saturday, August 2, 2014.

Recording Secretary of Minutes: Bobby Krishna.

Caroline Smith DeWaal, Chair, opened the meeting welcoming the members and guests. She reminded the participants of the purpose of the meeting, announced the results of the vote for Vice Chair and welcomed the guest speaker. The Chair introduced the newly elected Vice Chair, Bobby Krishna, who was elected by polling the members prior to the meeting. Mr. Krishna works for the Food Control Department of Dubai Municipality. He is the coordinator of the Dubai International Food Safety Conference (DIFSC), an annual food safety event held in Dubai. Bobby is a recipient of the NSF International Food Safety Leadership Award as a Trendsetter (2013) and a recipient of the Hygiene Champion Award (2013) from the Pro Chef Magazine.

Old Business:

1. Minutes from 2013 PDG Meeting were adopted as written.

New Business:

1. Don Zink welcomed the members on behalf of IAFP and said that this was anticipated to be a record breaking year. He mentioned that next year in Portland, Oregon, the annual conference would start one day earlier than usual.
2. The Chair identified relevant 2014 Program Highlights and encouraged Members to attend those sessions.
3. As in past years, the International PDG hosted a guest speaker who was introduced by the Chair. Ms. Amy Evans is the head of the Global Food Safety Partnership (GFSP) Secretariat based at the World Bank Headquarters in Washington, D.C. She brings more than 30 years of experience in international development to the position. Evans informed the members that this was the first partnership where the World Bank has utilized a public and private partnership model. The GFSP is administered through a trust fund where donors from public, private sector and foundations contribute. She described the structure of the GFSP and its desire to expand their partnerships, including with IAFP. She described the objectives of the GFSP as aiming towards promoting the harmonization of training, ensuring best practices, developing baseline for training standards and discussed the goals for next year, including targeting a number of country pilots. She also answered questions from the PDG members.

4. Updates from the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, Codex Alimentarius and ICMSF.

The reports from WHO and FAO were provided by Peter Ben Embarek. He mentioned that a series of high profile events including food issues will be organized in the coming month. Among others, the 2nd International Conference on Food Security and Nutrition in November 2014 in Rome will likely recognize a greater issue around water, sanitation, parasites, and the role of food safety in food security as part of a final declaration on food security and nutrition. WHO and FAO will be hosting a side event on food safety. It is also the 10-year anniversary of INFSOSAN. Upcoming activities include a review of early warning systems and horizon scanning; piloting activities in east Africa and supporting African initiative on food safety and regional authorities; and developing a platform for sharing data and information. FAO and WHO are also working on an international assessment of the global burden of foodborne disease; risk based approaches to inspection and control; and developing practical guides to the statistical aspects of micro criteria and food safety risk communication. Finally Peter discussed the WHO's work on antibiotic resistance, including the WHO Advisory Group on Integrated Surveillance of Antibiotic Resistance; a global action plan for antibiotic use that covers animal use, human use; and emerging pathogens, like avian influenza, and MERS.

The report on Codex Alimentarius was provided by the Chair, who discussed new work in the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene on controlling *Salmonella* in beef and pork, and new work in the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems on a guide to implement the Principles and Guidelines for National Food Control Systems and on emergency communications between national governments.

The report on the ICMSF was provided by Leon Gorris, who discussed that the latest ICMSF guides are being translated into several additional languages, including Chinese, Japanese, and Spanish. The ICMSF is also developing a new subgroup working in the African region.

5. Discussion of proposals for 2015:
 - Trade Issues Raised by FSMA – Julia Bradshear
 - Safe Food For the Entire Family: The Global Pet Food Frontier – Linda Leake, Bob Buchanan and Abani Pradhan.
 - 20 Years of the World Trade Organization: Successes and Challenges – Ian Jensen.
 - International Food Outbreaks and the Impact of Internet and Online Sales – Peter Ben Embarek and Roger Cook.
 - Outbreak Investigations and Reporting 2.0 (including new tools for outbreak investigations, integrated surveillance models, rapid communication of surveillance and new media) – Caroline Smith DeWaal and Peter Ben Embarek.
 - Rewriting the Lab Training Model: What is Working in Developing Countries – Bob Buchanan
 - Bushmeat: What is Lurking in the Airline Cargo? – Keith Lampel.
 - The WHO Report on the Global Burden of Disease – Arie Havelaar, Caroline Smith DeWaal, Peter Ben Embarek and Bob Buchanan.

Regional Reports

1. Roger Cook, New Zealand Food Safety Authority Fonterra milk event resulted in numerous ministerial enquires; the FSA is also working on rebuilding infant formula standards and a new food control law. Raw milk has also proven to be highly

- controversial with over 4000 comments collected on their policy.
2. Charles Muyanja, Makerere University, Kampala Uganda
Uganda is trying to establish and improve its food quality and safety policy. While policies and a food authority are in place, structures for implementation are not available. Trade is also an important issue for the country. Finally, street vended foods are a very important food safety issue for consumers.
 3. Maria Teresa Destro, Brazil
There was no major event around the World Cup, though there were two outbreaks officially reported. Milk fraud has emerged as a major issue, as it is being diluted with well water and agricultural urea.
 4. Deon Mahoney, Australian Dairy Association
Listeria recalls are occurring and Australia adopted new standards for microcriteria for LM in milk products and adopted the Codex standard for RTE products.
They are also considering new standards for nutrition and health claims, and for raw bovine milk.
 5. Patrice Arbault, France
STECs are becoming a bigger problem in France. In addition to showing up in meat, they are also showing up in raw milk cheeses. They have conducted risk profiles for ground beef and are considering a zero tolerance. The rapid alert system is showing many rejections for STECs in imported products. There is also focus on new labeling regulations, consumer information on where their food is coming from and food allergens.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Approve Bobby Krishna as the new Vice Chair, with the term of Chair to begin in 2015.
2. Investigate the potential for partnership with the World Bank on the Global Food Safety Partnership.
3. Consider inviting a speaker to give the Ivan Parkin lecture on the topic of the 20th anniversary of the World Trade Organization.

Next Meeting Date: July 24, 2015.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:00 p.m.

Chairperson: Caroline Smith DeWaal.