Chairman: Mr Basil Mathioudakis

1. Discussion and possible approval on the Guidance on the implementation of Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006 on nutrition and health claims made on foods

Following the discussions in the previous meeting of the Committee of 24 October 2007 the revised draft was presented by the Commission which explained the latest modifications aimed to clarify the Guidance Document on the interpretation of the Regulation (EC) 1924/2006 on nutrition and health claims made on foods.

Member States welcomed the new version and suggested some further amendments that, in their majority, were taken into account in the final document.

The Committee approved the conclusions formulated in the Guidance Document, although three Member States expressed concerns on the issue of the notion of food categories in the context of comparative claims.

2. Exchange of views and possible approval of the EU guidelines on the conditions of use of the fluoride removal treatment for natural mineral water

The Commission submitted to the Committee draft guidelines on the use of activated alumina for the removal of fluoride, in view of providing operators and control authorities with clear indications on conditions for using this treatment for natural mineral water. It explained that for legal reasons it was not yet possible to submit relevant draft regulatory measures.

Some drafting comments were taken into consideration. One delegation raised the issue that the labelling requirement could become a potential obstacle to the free circulation of natural mineral waters if a Member State were to impose national rules.

It was concluded that in the context of the forthcoming draft regulatory measure, that the Commission will put forward as soon as possible, the issue of the labelling statement will be re-examined.
The Committee approved the conclusions formulated in the Guidelines, although the UK delegation expressed its concerns on the principle of using guidelines in the context mentioned above.


A draft decision to authorise alpha-cyclodextrin as novel food was discussed and comments, in particular, about specifications, labelling and scope of use were presented by several Member States.

It was concluded that the Commission will examine the issues raised and the draft decision will be presented for a possible opinion in the next meeting. Any linguistic corrections should be sent by 11 January 2008.


The draft codified version of Directive 94/54/EC was submitted to the Committee. A few Member States made some linguistic comments.

It was indicated by the Commission that linguistic comments should be sent in writing to it as soon as possible. It was also recalled that no substantial change could be made through codification.

The Standing Committee gave a favourable opinion by qualified majority (in favour: 314 votes; absent and not represented: 31 votes).