

ANNEX VIII

Minutes of the plenary meetings

Minutes of the First Plenary Meeting of the DAFNE IV Project
Institute of Nutritional Sciences
Vienna, Austria
November 15-16, 2002

Participants

The list of participants is included as Annex I.

November 15th, 2002:

- **“Welcome”** by H. Chamouillet, I. Elmadfa, F. Sicard, and A. Trichopoulou.
The project coordinator conveyed the apologies of Dr. Maria-Daniel Vaz de Almeida (University of Porto) for not being able to attend.

- **“Adoption of the Agenda”** The agenda was adopted as such, and is included as Annex II.

- **“The DAFNE Initiative”** by A. Trichopoulou
The project coordinator introduced participants to the DAFNE initiative, presenting the participating centers and providing a general overview of the methodology followed in the development of the DAFNE food database. The presented overheads are included as Annex III. Special reference was made in the list of variables concerning the data collection and the standard procedures of grouping:
 - food items into 56 and ultimately into 15 common between countries food groups, and
 - four socio-demographic characteristics of the households (locality of the dwelling, education of the household head, household composition and occupation of the household head). Discussion followed on whether the effect of education should be studied on the basis of the educational level of the head or of the household member responsible for shopping, responsible for cooking or both. Participants are expected to keep this issue in mind while devising the classification schemes, and discuss it in future meetings.

□ **“The DAFNE Databank”** by A. Naska

A selection of results based on DAFNE data were presented. The overheads displayed are included in Annex IV.

○ Issues Discussed:

1. The calculation of nutrient availability from Household Budget Survey (HBS) food data.
2. Distinct inter-country differences pertaining to the type of households.

□ **“The DAFNE IV Project”** by A. Trichopoulou

The project coordinator introduced participants to the current DAFNE IV project. Relevant overheads are included as Annex V.

□ **“Presentation of the Datasets”**

○ **Austria** by I. Elmadfa and B. Wasserbacher

The Austrian HBS undertaken in 1999/2000 was presented. This dataset will be integrated in the DAFNE database. The presented overheads are included as Annex VI.

- Issue Raised: Cost of HBS data exceeds budget amount allocated for data collection.
- Decision Made: The Austrian participants will send a letter to the coordinating center seeking a budget re-allocation, in order to be able to cover the cost of the data provision.

○ **Finland** by M. Berg and A. Pajunen

Three Finnish HBSs undertaken in 1985, 1990 and 1998 were presented. These datasets will be integrated in the DAFNE database. The presented overheads are included in Annex VII.

- Issue Raised: For some food items, only information on expenses is available while data on purchased quantities were not collected. The Finnish colleagues however clarified that these food items were not commonly purchased and thus of limited dietary value.

- **Germany** by K. Gedrich.

The German HBSs undertaken in 1988, 1993 and 1998 were presented. Since however the 1988 survey is already integrated in the DAFNE database, the option of including the 1983 HBS was raised. The overheads presented by the German participant are included in Annex VIII.

- **Sweden** by E. Poortvliet and A. Yngve.

Data collected in the surveys undertaken in 1989 and in 1995-6 are available. Nevertheless, only data collected in 1995-6 provide a detailed description of the purchased food quantities. The 1989 data refer only to the households' total food expenses. By the end of November 2002, the Swedish participants will contact Statistics Sweden again, in order to clarify several issues that emerged during the discussion and they will inform the coordinating centre accordingly. The presented overheads are included as Annex IX (overheads were presented, but not provided).

November 16th, 2002

- **“Description of Tasks”** by A. Naska.

The sequence of tasks in order to proceed to the data provision, cleaning, management and storage was described. The presented overheads are included as Annex X.

- Issues Raised:

1. Change in the categorization of *educational level of the household head* to three levels ('Elementary education', 'Secondary education', and 'Higher education') instead of the five levels ('Illiterate/Elementary education not completed', 'Elementary education completed', 'Secondary education not completed', 'Secondary education completed' and 'College/University') previously used in the DAFNE initiative

Concerns:

- a) Whether categorization would be based on the completed education cycle or on the years of schooling.
- b) Whether, because of inter-country differences in the educational structure, comparability of education cycles can be preserved.

Decision Made:

Participants will seek the assistance of EUROSTAT, before reaching a final decision.

2. Whether the subcategory of the *occupation of the household head*, currently labeled as 'Other' (including students, unemployed, housewives, and invalids), ought to be maintained or further classified.

Decision Made:

Current categorization will be maintained for the time being and the issue will again be discussed in the next plenary meeting.

3. Concerns were raised on:

- the interpretability of the following two household composition subgroups: *households of adult and elderly members* and *households of children, adults and elderly*.
- the compatibility of availability values between households with and without children. Not considering age differences when estimating individual availability might result in underestimations in households where children are present.

Decision Made:

These issues will be discussed in the next plenary meeting, after participants have experienced the application of the DAFNE classification schemes in their national data.

□ **“The example of Austria”** by E. Critselis.

The Austrian HBS dataset was received prior to the Vienna meeting. Hence, the problems and limitations encountered while processing the Austrian dataset were presented. The related overheads are included as Annex XI.

□ **“Presentation of the DafneSoft v1.0”** by E. Oikonomou

The data analysed in the context of the DAFNE I and II projects are integrated in the DAFNE software (DafneSoft v 1.0), which was developed by the coordinating center. The DafneSoft can be freely downloaded at www.nut.uoa.gr and will soon be updated with data analysed in the context of the recently concluded DAFNE III project.

□ **“Setting the operational timetable”**

• **The DAFNE databank**

For the period up to August 2003, work will focus on the data provision and cleaning. In addition, preliminary classifications of food and socio-demographic data under the DAFNE groupings will be attempted. The limitations, concerns and comments will be discussed in the next plenary meeting.

Participants were further urged to hold their bilateral sessions during this period, in order to facilitate the data integration and classification. Participants were further asked to send, at their earliest convenience, a letter to the coordinating center informing on optional dates for holding these sessions (either at the Athens coordinating center or at their premises).

• **“Protocol for data collection on meals taken outside the household”,**

Experts from research institutes with experience in the field of collecting data on the type of meals consumed outside the household (e.g. the French AFSSA, the British DEFRA) will collaborate with the coordinating center in order to develop a protocol for collection of such data at a European level. The project coordinator further invited the attendants to also participate in this endeavor.

- **“Estimating nutrient availability”**

The coordinating center will undertake the responsibility of developing the first draft of the approach for estimating the availability of macro and selected micro-nutrients, based on HBS food data. This first draft will be presented in the next plenary meeting.

- **“Administrative Issues”**

- Future meetings**

- The second plenary meeting of the DAFNE IV project will be held in Rome, Italy on 29th-30th September, 2003. The meeting is scheduled prior to the 9th European Nutrition Conference, taking place on October 1st – 4th, 2003 at Rome (www.fens2003.org).

Provided that participants present the DAFNE work to the Conference, the DAFNE IV project will:

- Cover the Registration Fee for one person per country
 - Provide per diem for 6 days, in order to attend the DAFNE Satellite meeting and the 9th European Nutrition Conference.

The deadline for abstract submission is set to **March 31st, 2003**. In all abstracts and papers related and supported by the DAFNE initiative, the contribution of the European Commission should be acknowledged by adding the following text:

Acknowledgment

This study was conducted in the context of the DAFNE IV project, entitled “European food availability databank based on Household Budget Surveys”, of DG-SANCO of the European Union.

The third plenary meeting will be held in Athens, Greece, either in May or September 2004.

- **“Miscellaneous”**

- The national DAFNE teams should consist of one nutritionist and one person from the national statistical offices, involved in the data collection and process. Hence, the attendance of both persons should be sought in future meetings.

- The coordinating center, with the help of Henriette Chamouillet, will trace the names of national representatives in EUROSTAT in relation to the household budget surveys. The list of names will be forwarded to the DAFNE participants, who will contact the national representatives in order to inform them on the DAFNE initiative.

- The type and the quantity of food consumed by children, in the context of their school meal, are not recorded in the HBS and concern was expressed with respect to the lack of this information. Austria and Sweden have studied the effect of school meals on the daily food consumption and their findings will be presented and discussed in the next DAFNE meeting.

Minutes of the Second Plenary Meeting of the DAFNE IV Project Hotel San Anselmo

Rome, Italy

September 28-30, 2003

Participants

The list of participants is included as Annex 1.

September 28th, 2003:

□ “Preparatory meeting”

Issues related to data provision, reading, cleaning, management and analysis were discussed. The decisions taken for each participating country are included in the section of country-specific presentations of the following day (September 29).

The meeting was not attended by the German (due to his late arrival) and the Finnish colleagues. To compensate, two early working sessions with the Finnish and German participants took place on September 29 and 30, respectively.

September 29th, 2003:

□ “Welcome” by A. Trichopoulou

The project coordinator welcomed the participants and briefly reminded them of the objectives, the timetable, the milestones and the deliverables of the DAFNE IV project. Antonia Trichopoulou particularly stressed the importance of respecting the project’s timetable and the deadlines set. She further reminded participants of the support available for young colleagues in each participating country (under the personnel section of the budget), who can follow the project’s developments on a daily basis. The overheads presented are included as Annex 2.

The coordinator further commented that only a few participants forwarded invoices related to DAFNE IV expenses and she informed participants that no invoices will be accepted after the finalisation of the project.

□ **“Adoption of the Agenda”** Following the suggestion of Professor Ibrahim Elmadfa to organise a DAFNE workshop in the 2005 IUNS Conference (Durban, South Africa), it was decided that in the last section of today’s meeting a short proposal will be drafted, in order to be forwarded to the Conference Organisers.

The project coordinator further noted that the Portuguese colleagues and the DAFNE coordinating centre mutually decided to cancel Portugal’s participation in this meeting. Because of misunderstanding with the Portuguese Statistical Office, some data files were delivered, but not the one including information on the food quantities, and thus procedures for data cleaning and management were not yet initiated. The DAFNE coordinator suggested to save the money allocated for Portugal’s participation in this meeting, in order to be used for a bilateral session in Athens that would accelerate procedures, as soon as the data are received.

The finally accepted agenda is included as Annex 3.

□ **The General Work progress”** by A. Naska

Androniki Naska, from the Athens coordinating centre, informed participants on the work progress, in comparison to what should have been accomplished according to the project’s timetable. She further commented on the classification schemes for socio-economic variables. The presented overheads are included as Annex 4.

According to the project’s timetable, the cleaning and analysis of the national HBS data should have been completed, in order to derive estimates on the daily individual availability of the DAFNE food groups. Up to the end of September 2003, preliminary results have been produced for the Austrian, Finnish and German data, but not for the Portuguese (see above) and the Swedish data, since the latter arrived two weeks before the Rome meeting (see below). The importance of speeding up procedures was particularly stressed and participants agreed that the estimation and validation of food availability values should be completed as early as possible, and not later than December 2003.

With respect to possible amendments in the classification schemes for socio-economic variables, the following decisions were taken:

Education of the household head

(classified as elementary; secondary; and higher)

Concern on the classification criteria arose with respect to whether completion of 9-year schooling should be considered as elementary or secondary education.

Nowadays, 9 years of schooling are compulsory, whereas in the past compulsory education used to vary among countries. Proposals to overcome this problem included the addition of new educational groups or changing the classification criteria in order to be solely based on the accomplished years of schooling. The coordinating centre will go through the guidelines for classifying educational status, given in the “Monitoring socio-economic inequalities in health in the European Union: guidelines and illustrations” report of the Health Monitoring Program of the European Commission and inform participants accordingly.

Occupation of the household head

(classified as manual; non-manual; retired; and unemployed/student/housewives/invalid persons)

Because of the importance of unemployment in terms of public health nutrition, participants decided to separately study households of unemployed heads in a new occupational group. Furthermore, since all the remaining households are classified in the last heterogenous group, participants decided to label this category as *Others*. Lastly, if the latter group corresponds to more than 5% of the total survey sample, details will be sought with respect to the type of households classified.

Household composition

(classified as single adult; two-adult; lone parent; adults with children; adults with elderly; adults with children and elderly; single elderly and two-elderly households)

Because of the small number of households classified in some of the above groups, participants decided that data on daily food availability will be reported only if:

- The group corresponds to at least 0.5% of the total survey sample

AND

- More than 100 households are classified under this group.

Lastly, one group will be added including all households that are left unclassified and will be labeled as *Others*.

□ **“Work progress: Austria”** by A. Suchomel

Alexandra Suchomel from the Austrian participating centre presented the work progress with respect to the Austrian data. Since only one dataset has been provided to the Athens centre, the project coordinator asked whether the Austrian participants investigated the possibility of additional datasets. Alexandra Suchomel replied that due to recent changes in methodology, previous datasets are not directly comparable to the one provided. The Austrian HBS of 2004-5 will be carried out with comparable methodology. She furthermore commented that Professor Elmadfa asked to be involved in the new HBS, so that the DAFNE experience will be conveyed in undertaking the new survey. The overheads displayed are included in Annex 5.

📍 Issues Discussed (during the preparatory meeting):

1. The interpretation of zero and missing values in the food codes.

After questions raised by the Athens coordinating centre, participants contacted the Austrian Statistical Office, who informed them on the following:

In cases, where households reported the consumption of a food code, but no particular information was available on the consumed quantity, a zero value is given in this food code.

The code will appear as missing, if the household has not acquired the respective food item, during the survey period.

It was decided that participants will contact the Statistical Office, in order to investigate how these zero values are treated in analyses.

2. Food Classifications

Participants provided the coordinating centre with splitting factors allowing the classification of fruit under the respective DAFNE groups. The Austrian colleagues will again check the classification schemes to correct for possible double-recording, especially in the cases where splitting factors are applied. Discussion was also related to food items (e.g tea) with missing information. The use of expenses data to estimate quantities will be investigated by the Austrian colleagues.

□ **“Work progress: Finland”** by A. Pajunen

Airi Pajunen presented the tasks undertaken during the previous months, with respect to the three Finnish datasets. She further commented that for the classification

schemes, assistance was sought from the Finnish National Public Health Institute (KTL). The relevant overhead is included as Annex 6.

🕒 Issues Discussed (during the preparatory meeting):

Discussions were referring to the finalisation of the classifications of food and socio-economic variables.

□ **“Work progress: Germany”** by K. Gedrich

Kurt Gedrich presented the work undertaken using the German datasets. He further presented examples of splitting factors, important for the application of the DAFNE classification scheme and he presented the methodology for estimating food quantities from expenses data. Kurt Gedrich commented that this methodology was only applied in the 1998 dataset provided to the Athens centre. In order to assure comparability, 1988 and 1993 HBS data handled with the same methodology will be provided to the Athens centre. The presented overheads are included as Annex 7.

The project coordinator commented on the sophisticated approach used to estimate food quantities from expenses and she invited participants to undertake the exercise of comparing values estimated with the application of a simple procedure (Friel S et al Public Health Nutrition 2001;4 (5B):1143-1147) with values estimated using the German sophisticated approach. Interested participants should inform the coordinating centre by the end of October 2003. This task, if undertaken, will be carried out during the period of January – June 2003.

🕒 Issues Discussed (during the preparatory meeting):

Discussions were referring to the food and socio-economic classifications. The classification of occupation that remained pending was finalised. Some issues were raised with respect to food classifications and will be addressed, by the end of October 2003.

□ **“Work progress: Sweden”** by E. Poortvliet

Eric Poortvliet presented the Swedish datasets that will be integrated in the DAFNE databank. He used the 1995/6 HBS to comment on the variables that will be used in the analysis and on the areas of discussion (e.g. definition of household head,

conversion of expenses to quantites). He concluded with a list of tasks to be undertaken in the near future. His overheads are included as Annex 8.

The project coordinator took the opportunity to stress the importance of bringing the Statistical Offices on board and she further urged participants to invite their Statistical Officers to the DAFNE meetings. With respect to Statistics Sweden, Eric Poortvliet commented that they are in contact with the Office, but, because Statistics Sweden is changing the national HBS to a yearly basis, they have a substantial workload that prevents them from being more actively involved.

Issues Discussed (during the preparatory meeting):

The 1995/6 HBS raw data were sent to the Athens centre two weeks before the Rome meeting. Thus discussions were mainly referring to comments from the DAFNE data managers and to the application of the DAFNE classification schemes.

Participants decided on a list of actions to be taken in October-November 2003, in order to be able to finalise work for both the 1995/6 and the 1989 datasets. The following three important issues were however raised and will be addressed by the Swedish participants, in collaboration with Statistics Sweden:

1. Definition of the household head in the Swedish HBS.

According to the survey methodology, an individual was sampled in each household and participated in the survey. The question is whether this person can be referred to as the household head.

2. Application of weighting factors.

The Swedish participants will clarify the issue of data weighting, since such factor was not available in the provided dataset.

3. Conversion of expenses to quantites

The data collected in the 1995/6 HBS refer only to expenses incurred. The methodology for converting expenses to quantites was discussed. Data on food quantities were collected in the 1989 HBS.

□ **“Comments on the preliminary results: Austria”** by H. Friesling

Based on preliminary results on the daily individual availability of the 15 main DAFNE food groups, the Austrian participants run comparisons with data published by the Austrian Statistical Office; with data published in the Austrian food balance sheets (FBS); and with individual-based nutrition survey results. The presented overheads are included as Annex 9.

□ **“Comments on the preliminary results: Finland”** by A. Pajunen and T. Hirvonen

The Finnish colleagues presented graphs based on the preliminary results for selected food groups and socio-economic indicators (Annex 10). They further commented on the observed trends in food availability and noted that in certain cases data are not in accordance to trends observed using FBS data. A decrease in fruit availability among non-manual households was particularly noted. The Finnish colleagues commented that this observation may be explained by the fact that farmers, important fruit consumers, are classified under the manual category. It was decided that the classification of farmers needs to be re-considered.

Specific comments were also made on the increased food availability values recorded in households of retired individuals. The coordinating centre added that this is a picture unanimously observed in all the DAFNE countries and participants commented that this cross-generational effect may be attributed to the fact that elderly individuals do not frequently eat out and that they may be purchasing more food, in order to cook for younger relatives living in other households.

□ **“Comments on the preliminary results: Germany”** by K. Gedrich

Based on preliminary results, Kurt Gedrich presented overheads comparing the daily availability of the 15 main DAFNE food groups with published data from the respective German HBS and with data collected in the German VERA study, an individual-based nutrition survey undertaken in late 1980s. He commented that discrepancies were expected since the published HBS and VERA values include information on meals taken out of home. Furthermore, the published HBS data were estimated with the application of factors corresponding to losses during the food preparation, something that is not commonly considered in the DAFNE data.

Particular attention was put on the availability of vegetables, fish and seafood in 1998, since the values do not seem plausible. Kurt Gedrich commented that further analysis is needed to explore sources of errors. Androniki Naska, from the coordinating centre, added that exceptionally high values were also estimated for coffee and tea infusions and that these values also need to be explored. The presented overheads are included as Annex 11

□ **“General Comments on the preliminary results”** by the coordinating centre
The coordinating centre mentioned that the comparisons presented are important. However, one needs to be aware of the different nature of the food data, when running such comparisons. Food Balance Sheet data refer to food supply in the overall population and are generally expected to be higher than the HBS food data. With respect to comparing HBS with individual nutrition surveys, various sources of discrepancies operate from different routes and it is difficult to predict the direction and the magnitude of the observed differences. For example, HBS data are expected to be underestimated because of the lack of information on meals taken out of home; individual-based surveys, on the other hand, include this information, but they have often been accused of mis-reporting (under- or over-reporting) in specific food items.

One comparison is of particular importance and this is the comparison with the data published by the National Statistical Offices for the respective HBS. In order to avoid erroneous comparisons, however, the coordinating centre recommended participants to fully understand the nature of the published data and to further keep in mind that the DAFNE groups are derived after the application of the DAFNE methodology (classification criteria, splitting factors etc.). If important discrepancies between the DAFNE results and the published HBS data are observed, comparisons should be made at the code by code level, making sure that the same data handling is applied in both datasets.

It should further be borne in mind that after the validity of the data is assured, the final DAFNE results are expected to marginally differ from the published results of the National Statistical Offices. DAFNE’s objective is not to replicate published data, but to re-analyse and post-harmonise the data in order to assure between countries comparability in the final results.

□ **“The national reports”** by A. Naska

Androniki Naska, from the coordinating centre, reminded participants of the preparation of reports presenting country-specific results. She further proposed a possible structure for these reports, which was accepted by the participants. The project coordinator commented that it is important to respect the presented guidelines, but small deviations may be acceptable if participants consider them as necessary. Lastly, participants were informed on the site where they can download the national and final reports of the previous DAFNE III project. Annex 12 includes the presented overheads.

□ **“Publication Strategy”** by A. Trichopoulou

The project coordinator presented a series of overheads related to the publication strategy of the DAFNE IV project. These overheads are included as Annex 13. Participants will consider this proposal and final decisions on the project’s publication strategy will be taken during the next plenary meeting.

□ **“Setting the timetable”**

Following Prof. Elmadfa’s proposal, it was considered important to give participants the opportunity to attend the European Academy of Nutritional Sciences (EANS) meeting in Vienna, which will take place on May 14-15. Thus participants were asked to choose between the following two options for the third plenary meeting and inform the coordinating centre by October 17, 2003.

THIRD PLENARY MEETING

Option 1: Athens, May 6-9, 2004

OR

Option 2: Vienna, May 16-18, 2004.

Given the work progress and the timetable of the project, participants decided on a work schedule (Annex 14), in order to finalise the national reports as early as possible and before the end of 2003. A slight deviation was agreed in the case of Germany, since data on food codes that were converted from expenses to quantities still need to be provided. The German national report will be finalized in February 2004.

Lastly, participants drafted a proposal for organizing a DAFNE workshop in the 2005 IUNS Conference, that will be held in Durban, South Africa. The proposal is included as Annex 15.

If this proposal is accepted by the Organizing Committee of the IUNS Conference, an effort will be made by the participants to acquire support for their participation from their Institutes or/and the European Commission.

September 30th, 2003

- **“Introduction”** by A.Trichopoulou.

The project coordinator welcomed the three invited experts from the Department of Food and Rural Affairs, UK and from the FAO Economic and Social Department, Statistics Division (ESSA) and invited all participants to introduce themselves. She further made a short presentation on the project’s objectives, putting particular emphasis on the importance of gaining from other people’s experience on estimating nutrient availability and on dealing with missing information on meals taken out of home.

- **“Presentations”** by FAO Officers.

The presented slides are included as Annexes 16 and 17.

Discussion followed particularly in relation to estimating energy intake in eating out occasions using data on money spent in these occasions. Participants expressed their concern, given the fact that the cost of energy for in-house food consumption is lower to the out-of-house one (service for example is included in the cost of food when eating out). The FAO Officers commented that their main interest is in deprived populations, where expenses in eating out are low.

- **“Nutrient estimations based on German HBS data”** by K. Gedrich.

Kurt Gedrich presented the rationale and the methodology for estimating nutrient intakes, based on data collected through the national HBS. The presented overheads are included as Annex 18. The project coordinator commented that since the

methodology presented makes use of data collected through individual-based nutrition surveys, it can only be applied to countries where such data are available.

□ **“Nutrient estimations based on the UK HBS data”** by D. Rimmer.

David Rimmer provided background information on the UK National Food Survey (running yearly until 2000) and on the new Expenditure and Food Survey (running since 2001 on a yearly basis). He further described the approach for estimating nutrient intake based on data collected in these surveys. A summary of his presentation is included as Annex 19.

□ **“Preparatory work undertaken by the Greek coordinating centre”** by A. Naska.

During the previous months, the coordinating centre undertook some preparatory work in estimating the daily intake of energy and macro-nutrients, assuming a setting where no individual-based nutrition survey data are available. The problems encountered, the applied solutions and preliminary results were presented and are included as Annex 20.

Participants suggested that sucrose may be added in the list of nutrients and further commented on the selection of nutrient intake data that can be used for validation purposes.

□ **“Future tasks”** by A. Trichopoulou.

The project coordinator informed participants that, according to the project’s objectives, the Athens centre will finalise the simple approach for estimating nutrient availability and further apply it in the three Greek datasets of the DAFNE databank. She further invited participants to also proceed to nutrient estimations, although this task is not included in the project’s objectives. The end of October has been set as the deadline for participants to express their interest in undertaking this task. The German and Swedish colleagues already agreed to proceed to nutrient estimations.

During the session, two approaches for nutrient estimations were presented. The simple one, applied by the coordinating centre and the more sophisticated one

applied by the German centre. It was therefore suggested to undertake an exercise in comparing the two approaches using both Greek and German data. Provided that funding is available, a bilateral session will be organized between German and Greek colleagues, with this objective.

- **“Collecting information on meals taken out of home: the UK experience”** by D. Rimmer.

Data on meals taken out of home have been collected in the UK HBS data since 1994. However, the recording system was amended in the new Expenditure and Food Survey. David Rimmer provided background information, described the applied methodology and commented on the preliminary results of the new survey, in relation to eating out. A summary of his presentation and attachments are included as Annexes 21, 21a and 21b respectively.

- **“The German study on meals out of home”** by K. Gedrich.

Kurt Gedrich presented the EVA Study, on nutritional behavior away from home, undertaken in 1998. His overheads commenting on the study’s results and future perspective are included as Annex 22.

- **“Work plan”**

Summarizing discussions on meals taken out of home, Antonia Trichopoulou proposed that the project’s deliverables should include a report with the following 4 chapters:

1. Chapter 1 will describe the type of information currently collected in the participating countries. In this context, it was agreed that participants will provide the coordinating centre with translations of the questionnaire sections that refer to meals taken out of home. Furthermore, participants agreed on a definition and on a list of issues that will be addressed when going through the questionnaire sections (Annex 23).
2. Chapter 2 will describe methodologies that can be applied, in order to estimate the food and nutrient intake of eating out.
3. Chapter 3 will present the UK experience.
4. Chapter 4 will provide guidelines on how to collect information on meals out of home that will be useful for nutritional purposes.

**Minutes of the Third Plenary Meeting of the DAFNE IV Project
Institute of Nutritional Sciences**

Vienna, Austria

May 15-17, 2004

Participants

The list of participants is included as Annex 1.

May 15th, 2004:

“Preparatory meeting”

The main meeting was preceded by a “preparatory one”, in order to discuss technical issues in small working groups. Issues related to data provision, reading and cleaning, as well as to data management and analysis were discussed. In particular, discussions with the participating countries referred to the following:

Austria: Discussion on the problem that had recently occurred in relation to the data reading. In the context of the validation procedures, undertaken by the coordinating centre after the derivation of results, it became apparent that the file which was recommended to be used for reading the expense data was not the correct one.

Additionally, the methodology of converting food expenses to food quantities was discussed and two different approaches were selected. Information necessary for the application of the second approach is still missing for three food items. The Austrian participants will see to this issue and inform the coordinating center accordingly.

Finland: Comments and discussions on the national report

Germany: The analysis of the German data has been completed and the German participants delivered their report to the coordinating center. Brief discussions followed.

Portugal: Discussion on data provision (necessity for the provision of additional variables) and finalization of the classification tables.

Sweden: The Swedish participants did not attend the meeting.

May 16th, 2004:

□ **“Welcome”** by A. Trichopoulou

The project coordinator welcomed the participants and thanked the Austrian team for their hospitality.

□ **“Adoption of the Agenda”**

The Athens coordinating center suggested adding in the *General Work Progress* section, a discussion on “Financial issues”. It was further proposed to add three small presentations of the PhD theses of Alexandra Suchomel (AUS), Kornelius Wagner (GER) and Sara Rodrigues (PT), all undertaking their theses using HBS/DAFNE data.

In addition, the Finnish participant Tero Hirvonen kindly asked, because of his early departure on May 17th, for a change in the series of topics of the Monday session. He thus requested to inverse the first session (From foods to nutrients) with the second one (Collecting information on meals taken outside the household). His request was accepted. The finally accepted agenda is included as Annex 2.

The project coordinator, Antonia Trichopoulou, commented that the coordinating centre has not been aware that no Swedish participant will be present at the meeting and mentioned that the Swedish team will be contacted to clarify the situation.

Furthermore, the DAFNE coordinator informed participants that data from the DAFNE databank have been included in a EUROSTAT’s publication entitled *Health Statistics** and about the successful proposal to DG-SANCO, in order to expand the DAFNE databank to new Member States (MS). The next phase of the DAFNE project includes the integration of secular data from 5 new MS (Cyprus, Latvia, Malta, Slovenia and the Slovak Republic). Furthermore, Lithuania is exploring the possibility of also joining the DAFNE team.

Antonia Trichopoulou further mentioned that a representative from the Slovenian team intended to attend the current meeting in Vienna, but he became ill and could not travel. An excuse was sent to the coordinator, explaining the situation.

* http://europa.eu.int/comm/eurostat/Public/datashop/print-product/EN?catalogue=Eurostat&product=KS-08-02-002-____-N-EN&mode=download

The coordinator further commented on the importance of keeping the dynamics of the DAFNE network and, in this context, she informed participants on the coordinating centre's intention to more closely evaluate the lack of information on eating out from the HBS data and to further explore the possibility of undertaking individual surveys, benefiting from the HBS sample and data collection. In the next trimester, participants will receive detailed information and will possibly be invited to join related grant proposals.

Lastly, Antonia Trichopoulou thanked all the DAFNE IV participants for their kind and prompt reply to Dr. Sjostrom's invitation to submit a proposal for funding in the DG-SANCO's recent call for proposals.

□ **The General Work progress**” by A. Naska

Androniki Naska, from the coordinating center, informed participants on the work progress, in comparison to what should have been accomplished according to the project's timetable. The presented overheads are included as Annex 3.

Due attention was given to the problems encountered with the Austrian data. In the validation process, the coordinating centre observed low values for the mean daily availability of some food groups. These low values were due to a substantial proportion of missing food quantities. Thus the necessity to convert food expenses to quantities became imperative. In the process, however, it was realized that a number of zero values appeared in the expense data. The Austrian colleagues were informed on the finding and contacted the Austrian Statistical Office. Following their reply, it became evident that initial recommendations on data reading were incorrect and the whole procedure needed to be replicated. Lastly, the two approaches for converting expenses to quantities were presented and discussed. In this context, it was decided to change in the second approach the term National Annual Production to National Annual Market Availability, which better describes the nature of the data. The Austrian colleagues further assumed the responsibility of clarifying with the Statistical Office the nature of the National Annual Market Availability data, particularly in relation to whether market losses are taken into account.

According to the project's timetable, the cleaning and analysis of the national HBS data should have been completed for all countries, in order to derive estimates on the daily individual availability of the DAFNE food groups. Up to mid May 2004, preliminary results and national reports have been produced for Finland and Germany. With respect to the Portuguese data, some variables are still missing. Also for the Swedish data, several details remain unclear and variables are still missing. As far as the Austrian data are concerned, the DAFNE procedures will again be applied.

The importance of speeding up procedures especially with the Austrian and the Swedish data sets was particularly stressed by the project coordinator and participants agreed that the estimation and validation of food availability values should be completed as early as possible.

Following discussions on the conversion of food expenses to purchased quantities, a proposal was made to study whether there is a socioeconomic gradient on the food prices' preference. The project coordinator invited participants interested in further exploring this proposal, and Germany and Portugal responded positively.

As a closing remark, Antonia Trichopoulou commented on how important is for people to be familiar with the data they provide and also to be in close contact with the national Statistical Offices, in order to be influential in data collection procedures.

□ **“Financial Issues”** by A. Trichopoulou

The project coordinator presented the economical status of each one of the DAFNE IV participating countries. The presented table is included as Annex 4.

The coordinator further commented that only a few participants forwarded invoices related to their DAFNE IV expenses and the Austrian and Swedish colleagues have not sent any invoice to the coordinating center. The coordinator informed participants that no invoices would be accepted after the closing date of the project.

The discussion and related decisions were summarised in the following text :

- Participants are kindly requested to send by May 30, 2004 a forecast on how they plan to spend their remaining national budget.

- If no indication on money that will be needed is given on a specific chapter, then the coordinating center will consider the specific chapter closed and will use the residual sum for the benefit of the project (e.g. dissemination or other plans).
- Any remaining amount of money will be used for the benefit of the project.

The above were approved by all participants and were disseminated to all participants to ensure immediate action with the administration offices. The decision was also to put these decisions in force from May 15, 2004.

□ **“Work progress: Austria”** by A. Suchomel and H.Freisling

Heinz Freisling from the Austrian participating center presented the work progress with respect to the Austrian data. A reference was made to the food classification tables, the interpretation of zero and missing values in the food codes and the need to convert expenses values into quantity ones.

Alexandra Suchomel from the Austrian participating center continued by presenting examples on expenses data and the difference of those results after reading them from different data tables.

In order to speed up procedures and provided that funding is available, a bilateral session will be organized between Austrian and Greek colleagues, possibly at the beginning of the next month.

The displayed overheads are included as Annex 5.

□ **“Work progress: Finland”** by T. Hirvonen

Tero Hirvonen presented the issues that have emerged in relation to the first draft of the report. Although the presentation of results was scheduled later in the agenda, it was decided to proceed to the presentation of methodological issues and of the final Finnish results.

The mean daily availability of vegetables, juices, and alcoholic beverages has increased, while that of eggs and potatoes has decreased, milk products and potato availability is lower in highly educated households as compared to the less educated ones, milk products and potato availability is higher in rural households and unemployed households increased their meat availability between 1990 and 1998. A

decrease in fruit availability among non-manual households was particularly noted. This observation might be explained by the fact that farmers, important fruit consumers, are classified under the manual category. In the 1990 survey, households of unemployed heads reported eating three times more fish than manual, non-manual and retired ones.

Tero Hirvonen expressed his concern on the lack of information on foods eaten out of home and on secular changes in the composition of the households. Antonia Trichopoulou commented that the latter may be bypassed by comparing similar types of households.

Specific comments were also made on the higher food availability values recorded in households of retired individuals. This may be attributed to the fact that elderly individuals do not frequently eat out and that they may be purchasing more food, in order to cook for younger relatives living in other households (cross-generation food transfer).

Lastly, the Finnish colleague expressed his concern on the continuation of the DAFNE activities, upon conclusion of the current project, mainly because of lack of manpower in the KTL Institute and Statistics Finland. The project coordinator asked about the possibility of contacting another team of nutrition researchers in Finland. Tero Hirvonen agreed to try to locate interested researchers at the KTL Institute or any other Institute in Finland. If his attempts are not successful, the coordinating centre will make necessary contacts.

The presented overheads are included as Annex 6.

□ **“Work progress: Germany”** by K. Gedrich

Kurt Gedrich delivered the German national report. He further presented the methodological and analytical procedures followed, as well as trends in the availability of different food items, based on various socio demographic characteristics available in the DAFNE database.

A substantial increase on non - alcoholic beverages was noted from 1993 to 1998. The food items under this group will be studied in detail, in order to further explore the finding. Particular attention should also be given in comparing German data collected before and after the reunification. The presented overheads are included as Annex 7.

Antonia Trichopoulou congratulated Kurt Gedrich on his presentation and urged participants to consult the German presentation before writing their national reports and/or presenting their national DAFNE results.

□ **“Work progress: Portugal ”** by S. Rodrigues

Sara Rodrigues presented the issues that were discussed during the preparatory meeting. In particular, the:

- Finalization of the food and socio-demographic classification tables.
- Finalization of data provision.
- Units of measurement. Some food items are recorded in units and have to be transformed into grams or ml. It was decided that for food codes for which retrieving the average unit weight is impossible, they will appear in units and will be classified under miscellaneous.

□ **“The updated *Dafnesoft v2.1*”** by A. Naska

Androniki Naska from the coordinating center presented the updated version of DafneSoft, a software application which include the data analyzed in the context of the DAFNE I, II and III projects. This updated version also includes data from Finland and Germany. This version will be further updated, thoroughly tested and validated and will then be uploaded to the internet to be available to the general public.

□ **“Setting the timetable”**

Given the work progress and the timetable of the project, participants asked to finalize their data analysis and national reports as early as possible

Following the current situation with the Austrian data and the severe delays with the Swedish data, the coordinating center will explore the possibility of submitting a request to the European Commission for a two month extension of the DAFNE IV project.

Given the circumstances, participants will be informed about the place and the time of the final DAFNE IV meeting. Two hosting Institutes have been proposed: the Munich Technical University (TUM) in Germany and the University of Porto, in Portugal.

□ **“Publication Strategy”** by A. Trichopoulou

The project coordinator presented the series of overheads which have again been presented in the September DAFNE meeting in Rome, Italy. Participants were then asked to comment and reach final decisions in the course of the present meeting. The Strategy was unanimously agreed and it was further decided that the number of authors should provisionally be up to six, with the indication *on behalf of the DAFNE group* in case of international papers. The indication will be followed by an asterisk which will correspond to the participants’ names, whose national data are included in the manuscript. The publication strategy of the DAFNE IV project is included as Annex 8.

□ **“General issues”** by A. Suchomel, K. Wagner, S.Rodrigues, and K. Gedrich.

- “PhDs’ Theses based on HBS/DAFNE data”, by A. Suchomel, K. Wagner and S.Rodrigues.

The three colleagues briefly presented the subject of their PHD thesis. The respective titles are the following:

Alexandra Suchomel (Austria): Food and nutrient availability in Austria, based on household budget survey data.

Kornelius Wagner (Germany): Time series analyses using German household budget survey data.

Sara Rodrigues (Portugal): Trends in household food and nutrient availability during the last decade (1990 – 2000) in Portugal – socio-demographic and regional disparities in association with mortality patterns.

➤ The application of weight factors in the HBS data, by K. Gedrich
Kurt Gedrich expressed his concern on the application of weighting factors, as recommended by the national Statistical Offices. In this context, he presented the distribution of the German weighting factor and results based on comparison between weighted and unweighted mean daily availability for a number of food items. The conclusion was that the mean daily availability in weighted data is in all cases lower than in the case of the unweighted ones.

Participants commented that weighting is applied to ensure national representativeness and it should thus be maintained. Antonia Trichopoulou proposed to Kurt Gedrich to send a letter to the German Statistical Office presenting his findings and asking for clarifications.

The presented overheads are included as Annex 9.

May 17th, 2004

Collecting information on meals taken outside the household

□ **“Introduction”** by A.Trichopoulou.

The project coordinator made a brief introduction on the importance of meals eaten outside the household. She further repeated the plans of the coordinating centre to probe on the effect of missing this type of information in the HBS data and on the plans to possibly submit a proposal for supporting research activities.

□ **“Eating out: What type of information is available in the HBS?”** by E.Oikonomou.

Eleni Oikonomou from the coordinating center presented the information provided by the participating countries concerning information on meals out of home, currently collected in the context of the HBS.

The Finnish and the Portuguese participants provided the coordinating center with their HBS questionnaires. The presented slides are included as Annex 10.

- **“Developing a protocol for collecting information on eating out”** by A. Trichopoulou.

Antonia Trichopoulou reminded participants that one of the objectives of our project is to provide the EC with a proposal on what type of information on meals out of home could become available and on how it could be collected. Androniki Naska presented some suggestions to spark the discussion. Participants finally agreed on the first draft of the protocol, which is included as Annex 11 and is included as Annex VI.

Antonia Trichopoulou invited participants to further explore the currently available information on meals out of home, starting with the more recent survey in each country. Participants were also invited to think of the possibility of a conversion factor to be commonly applied, at least in the 15 main food groups. As a first step it would be good to know how much money is spent on meals out of home.

From Foods to Nutrients

- **“Introduction”** by A. Trichopoulou

The project coordinator made a brief introduction, stressing the importance of developing a common and harmonized methodology to estimate nutrient availability from HBS data. The issue of a common food composition table was raised and concerns were expressed either in the use of the same composition data for all the countries or in the magnitude of errors that will be introduced in case the use of different national tables is the choice. Participants also acknowledged that the conclusion of running projects related to food composition data for international comparisons will prove useful in the DAFNE nutrient estimations.

The project coordinator concluded the discussion by mentioning that the objective of our team would be a DAFNE Food Composition Table. She further informed participants that several tasks on nutrient estimations have been undertaken after the Rome meeting and a bilateral session took place one month ago in Athens to evaluate

the findings. The related results will be presented by the German and Greek colleagues in the two following presentations.

- **“Nutrient estimations based on German HBS data”** by K. Wagner.

Kornelius Wagner presented the rationale and the methodology for estimating nutrient intakes, based on data collected through the national HBS. He presented the methodological details of four different approaches for estimating nutrient intake from the HBS data, and he further compared his findings with nutrient intake data collected in specially designed dietary surveys. The presented overheads are included as Annex 12.

- **“Nutrient estimations based on the Greek HBS data”** by A.Naska.

Androniki Naska presented the results of the same four different approaches, applied in the Greek HBS data. The presented overheads are included as Annex 13.

- **“Future tasks”** by A.Trichopoulou.

According to the projects objectives, the followings tasks would have to be concluded as soon as possible:

- Finalisation of data reading, cleaning and harmonisation (food, demographic and socio-economic) (Portugal, Sweden)
- Conversion of expenses to quantities (Austria, Sweden)
- Estimation and validation of availability values (Austria, Portugal, Sweden)
- Compilation of national reports (Austria, Portugal, Sweden)
- Integration of the documented HBS data in the Athens databank and update of the DafneSoft (Co-ordinating centre)

Given the delays in the derivation of results, two bilateral sessions will take place in Athens: the first with the Austrian colleagues during June and the second with Swedish colleagues during July.

In the light of results on nutrient estimations, the project coordinator invited the two parties, Greece and Germany, to start developing publications presenting their findings. During the discussions, it also became apparent that the German colleagues

have developed a methodology for taking into account food quantities consumed outside the household and the project coordinator strongly urged them to have their methodological approach published.

In addition the following list for future publications was proposed and accepted by all participants (in the parenthesis the centre responsible for drafting the manuscript is indicated):

- **Dietary patterns in the DAFNE countries.** (identified through Principal Component Analysis) (Coordinating Centre)
- **Trends in the consumption of soft drinks, within the household.** (Coordinating Centre)
- **Comparisons in the total lipid availability.** (Austria)
- **Variations in cereal availability** (Austria)
- **Socio-economic disparities in purchasing practices** (Germany)

Prior to the last meeting, the coordinating centre will send a draft text summarizing decisions on the proposed protocol for collecting information on meals out of home. Participants will be asked to comment and reach final decisions, during the final meeting.

It was lastly decided that analyses undertaken in the context of the previous DAFNE projects will be replicated in the datasets analysed in the context of the DAFNE IV project.

**Minutes of the Final Plenary Meeting of the DAFNE IV Project
Technische Universität München (TUM),**

Friesing Germany

Saturday December 4, 2004

Participants

The list of participants is included as Annex 1.

Saturday December 4th, 2004:

□ **“Welcome”**

The representative of the hosting Institute (Kurt Gedrich) and the project coordinator (Antonia Trichopoulou) welcomed the attendees. Antonia Trichopoulou thanked the German team for their hospitality and further invited colleagues to introduce themselves.

In her introduction, Antonia Trichopoulou commented on the value of the enlarged database, the continuation and expansion of the DAFNE initiative. She further commented on the importance of this meeting, which brings together old and new members of the Network (participants of the DAFNE IV and V projects). She further pointed out that the presence of Officers from the National Statistical Institutes of the new DAFNE countries provides a unique opportunity for the new participants to be introduced to the DAFNE methodology and, at the same time, be informed on the outcomes of a closing project. The Coordinator concluded by inviting the new members to benefit from the presentation of the DAFNE IV results, in order to better understand the project's scope and requirements and get useful information in order to further improve their National household budget surveys (HBS).

Apologies were received by the Swedish colleagues who could not attend the meeting.

□ **“Adoption of the Agenda”**

The adopted Agenda is included as Annex 2.

□ **The Work progress**” by A. Trichopoulou

Antonia Trichopoulou referred to the completion of the majority of the DAFNE IV objectives. In accordance the project’s timetable, the cleaning and analysis of the national HBS data have been completed for all countries (with the exception of Sweden), in order to derive estimates on the daily individual availability of the DAFNE food groups. The results from Austria, Finland and Germany have been integrated in the DafneSoft programme and upon completion; the updated DafneSoft will become available to the general public.

The overheads on the work progress presented by the project Coordinator are included as Annex 3. The tasks remaining for accomplishing the project’s objectives are:

- Finalization of data cleaning and harmonization of the demographic and socio-economic variables of the Swedish datasets
- Conversion of expenses to food quantities (for the Swedish data of 1996)
- Estimation of daily food availability and validation of results (for the Swedish data)
- Compilation of national reports (Portugal and Sweden)
- Integration of the documented HBS data in the Athens databank and update of the DafneSoft (Portugal and Sweden)

Since, several tasks related to the analysis of the Swedish datasets still remain pending, the project Coordinator mentioned that the collaboration has not always been simple, no matter of the willingness of our colleagues to smoothly run the corresponding tasks. Given the presence of new colleagues, the Coordinator particularly commented on the importance to adhere to the project’s objectives and time schedule and she further mentioned that if there is no coherence to the rules of the contract signed with the EC, money from the project’s budget would be asked back by the Commission Officers.

Lastly, Antonia Trichopoulou informed participants on recent developments related to:

- contributing with a chapter entitled “Food Availability at the Household Level in the European Union” to the *European Nutrition and Health Report*, the compilation of which was coordinated by the Institute of Nutritional Sciences, University of Vienna (Co-ordinator: Prof. Ibrahim Elmadfa).
- organizing a DAFNE workshop in the forthcoming IUNS Conference (18th International Nutrition Congress, ICC Durban South Africa, September 19-23, 2005). The proposal of the DAFNE IV group to the Conference Organizers was accepted and the workshop is scheduled for September 19, 2005. The Coordinator presented the workshop’s preliminary agenda and informed participants that the EC cannot support participation through the project’s budget. Thus the DAFNE members, who accepted to make a presentation, were invited to allocate external resources, which could financially support their attendance. Kurt Gedrich, Sara Rodrigues and Heinz Freisling informed on their plans to attend the IUNS Conference.
- the intention of the DAFNE coordinating centre to more closely evaluate the lack of information on eating out from the HBS data and the plans to submit a proposal for funding through the Sixth Framework Programme of the EC. In the forthcoming weeks, participants will receive detailed information and an invitation to join the proposal for *meals out of home* that will be sent to the Commission with deadline February 8th, 2005.

Lastly, Androniki Naska, from the coordinating center, thanked participants for their collaboration in the finalization of the DAFNE food aggregation tables, which are currently in print by the EC.

First session: Presentation of results: Daily Individual Food Availability

“Presentation of the Austrian results: Daily food availability” by A. Suchomel

Alexandra Suchomel from the Austrian participating center presented results on the mean individual daily availability of different food items, for the overall population and for population sub-groups.

The presented overheads are included as Annex 4.

“Presentation of the Finnish results: Daily food availability” by M.A. Berg

Mari-Anna Berg, from Statistics Finland, presented results on the mean daily food availability, focusing particularly on the food availability among various socio-demographic population groups. Mari Anna Berg presented parts of the Finnish national report (included in Annex 5) and further commented on the comparability of the DAFNE data with other sources of dietary data, available at national or international level. The comparisons between the HBS data and the FBS data for Finland showed partly similar trends and partly equal consumption levels. It should however be noted that, for several food items, these two data sets are not directly comparable, because of different classifications and concepts. The Finnish participant further commented that although the daily food availability, estimated through the HBS data, may be underestimated for some items (e.g. alcoholic beverages), the data are useful for comparing trends between different socio-economic groups.

Lastly, Mari-Anna Berg informed participants about the collaboration of Statistics Finland with nutritionists from the Finnish National Public Health Institute (KTL), in order to reformulate the HBS protocol, and evaluate the possibility of collecting information on meals out of home. In addition, the National Public Health Institute expressed a wish to enrich the information collected with data on the acquisition of fortified foods.

Antonia Trichopoulou expressed her concern about the impact of increasing the number of questions, but Mari Anna Berg replied that she is not concerned about this issue. As an outcome of the discussion, the project coordinator kindly asked participants to provide the Athens centre with the names of National Statistical Officers who are involved in the HBSs and regularly attend the HBS working group in EUROSTAT, in order to inform them on the project’s developments.

“Presentation of the German results: Daily food availability” by *K. Gedrich*

Kurt Gedrich presented methodological procedures related to the analysis of the data, as well as trends in the availability of different food items, for the overall population and for population sub-groups, based on their socio-demographic characteristics.

In relation to the German results, special reference was made on disparities in dietary habits observed between regions of East and West Germany and the project coordinator suggested to the German colleagues to consider presenting region-specific results in their national nutrition report published by the German Nutrition Society.

The presented overheads are included as Annex 6.

“Presentation of the Portuguese results: Daily food availability” by *S. Rodrigues*

Sara Rodrigues thanked the coordinating center for its collaboration and presented trends in the availability of different food items, for the whole population and on socio-demographic characteristics available in the DAFNE database. The presented overheads are included in Annex 7.

On the basis of a discussion initiated in the previous plenary meeting of the DAFNE IV project (Institute of Nutritional Sciences, Vienna, May 15-17, 2004), the Portuguese team evaluated associations between the households' income and the prices people accept to pay when purchasing food, and no significant correlation was observed. The German participants added that they reached similar conclusions in an analysis they undertook using the German data and commented that results may point to other factors, in addition to income, determining the way people make price choices.

“The updated Dafnesoft” by *E. Oikonomou*

Eleni Oikonomou, from the coordinating center, presented the updated version of DafneSoft, a software application which includes the data analyzed in the context of the DAFNE I, II and III projects, as well as data from Austria, Finland and Germany analysed through the DAFNE IV project. Upon conclusion of the DAFNE IV

project, the software will also include data from the Portuguese survey of 2000 and hopefully from two Swedish datasets (1989 and 1996). At the end of her presentation, Eleni Oikonomou informed participants that the presented version of DafneSoft will be further updated, thoroughly tested and will then be uploaded to the website of the Athens coordinating centre, in order to be freely available to the general public.

Second session: Presentation of results: Collecting information on meals taken outside the household

“Protocol for collecting information on eating out” by A. Naska

Based on discussions in the previous DAFNE IV plenary meeting (Institute of Nutritional Sciences, Vienna, May 15-17, 2004), the Athens coordinating centre prepared a working document, which was disseminated, to participants prior to the meeting. Androniki Naska from the coordinating center presented a summary of this working document and participants commented upon. Annex 8 includes the presented overheads, amended with the participants' comments as expressed during the meeting. Taking into consideration comments and suggestions, the coordinating centre will undertake the responsibility of compiling a draft of the protocol for collecting information on meals taken out of home. This draft will be sent to participants for commenting before being finalized and submitted to the EC.

Third session: Presentation of results: From foods to Nutrients

“Nutrient intake estimations based on household budget survey data: The examples of the German and Greece” by K. Wagner

Kornelius Wagner, from the German participating Institute, presented the methodological details for estimating the mean daily nutrient availability based on the HBS data and he further compared his findings with nutrient intake data collected in individual-based dietary surveys, undertaken in Germany and Greece. Participants commented upon the methodology and results and the German team will undertake the responsibility of incorporating participants' comments in the estimations.

The presented overheads are included as Annex 9.

Fourth session: Presentation of DAFNE publications

“Estimation of the food consumption away from home based on household budget survey data” by A. K.Gedrich

Kurt Gedrich presented a manuscript under preparation with the objective to describe the methodology for estimating food consumption away from home, based on expenditure data collected in the HBSs. He also presented results of the estimates, in terms of contribution of food consumption away from home to total food consumption. The German participant concluded that the estimated values for food consumption away from home are likely to be underestimated and that bias can be introduced by the data used, the estimation procedure applied, or both. Further analyses with different datasets are required for clarification.

Antonia Trichopoulou commented on the importance of dealing with the issue of food consumption away from home, especially in the case where a household's food intake is largely based on out of home consumption. A suggestion was made for splitting the data into age groups and excluding elderly and children from the estimates. The Portuguese colleague suggested to also consider FBS data in the evaluation of the estimated results.

“Dietary patterns and their socio-demographic determinants in DAFNE countries” by A.Naska.

Androniki Naska from the coordinating center presented a manuscript on the identification of dietary patterns and their socio-demographic determinants among DAFNE countries. Dietary patterns were presented in the form of radar graphs and were also extracted using Principal Component Analysis.

In concluding the meeting, the project coordinator Antonia Trichopoulou thanked the German colleagues for their hospitality and their invitation to host the last plenary meeting of the DAFNE IV project at their Institute. She lastly expressed her gratitude to participants for the smooth running of the DAFNE IV project and invited the Consortium to continue collaboration in future time.

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