



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Health systems, medical products and innovation
Cross-border healthcare and tobacco control

9TH MEETING OF THE INDEPENDENT ADVISORY PANEL ON CHARACTERISING FLAVOURS IN TOBACCO PRODUCTS (IAP)

PLACE: RUE FROISSART 101, 1040 BRUSSELS

27 November 2018

MINUTES

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

The Acting Chair (Vice-Chair of the Panel) welcomed the members of the panel. There were no apologies.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as proposed.

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no new interests declared.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting were adopted and would be published on the website of the IAP subsequent to the meeting.¹

5. DISCUSSION ON THE PROGRESS OF THE TASKS CARRIED OUT BY THE TECHNICAL GROUP OF SENSORY AND CHEMICAL ASSESSORS

- Initial training of the group of sensory assessors (task 5);
- Test the products and establish the reference group (task 1.2);
- Methodology to support the decision whether a tobacco product has a characterising flavour (task 2).

The IAP briefly discussed the documents and information previously received and reflected on feedback to be provided to the TG.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/health/tobacco/products/characterising_flavours/panel_en#fragment0

6. EXCHANGE WITH THE TECHNICAL GROUP OF SENSORY AND CHEMICAL ASSESSORS

The Consortium EUREST-FLAVOURS organizing the work of the Technical Group of Sensory and Chemical Assessors (TG) presented the work carried out since the last exchange, in particular:

- the follow-up of the initial training of assessors (task 5),
- testing in order to establish the group of reference products (task 1.2), and
- a preliminary procedure for determining whether a tobacco product has a characterising flavour including decision criteria (task 2).

The IAP discussed the approach presented by the TG and provided feedback.

The IAP acknowledged the progress made by the TG. In line with established practice from earlier meetings, the TG would share presentations and relevant documents including work-plans with the IAP for comments and feedback by the IAP.

7. FUTURE WORK/NEXT STEPS

On the basis of the previous discussion, the IAP outlined the list of complementary explanations required from TG in advance of the actual products testing:

- 1) One graphic workflow for each of the two ongoing testing procedures (sensory/chemical) and one showing their complementarity.
- 2) Detailed description of the reference space and procedure to establish it (including graphical flow)
- 3) Detailed description of the proposed decision process, including graphical description of the decision tree:
 - for the decision whether or not a product proposed as a reference product will become part of the final group of reference products as a result of testing,
 - for the determination of products with characterizing flavours. This should include the statistical analysis used and the decision criteria (methodology to take a decision on a test product) – as far as currently available. This procedure must be applied in both ranking and scoring methods.
- 4) Update on the progress in the establishment of the chemical testing procedure, including copies of the standard operating procedure and the method validation report. If method validation has not been completed yet, a copy of the method validation plan would be appreciated for the time being. The ISO17025 method should be taken into consideration for this validation.
- 5) A template for a report produced per reference product as a result of its sensory testing, providing an overview of all recorded parameters. In a second step, the idea would be to create one single fiche per product including both sensory and chemical results which could serve as the full product reference.

The Secretariat will facilitate final edits of the list and communicate the request to the TG.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A discussion took place on the nomination of the most suitable candidate from the reserve list to fill the present vacant position. The Secretariat will launch the process to replace the member resigning from the IAP.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Members of the IAP

Garnt Dijksterhuis
Jan van Amsterdam
Emmanuel Vanzeveren
Wouter Visser
Efthimios Zervas

IAP secretariat (DG SANTE B2)

Katja Bromen
Matus Ferech
Rikke Karlsson

Other Commission services - DG JRC F4

Thomas Wenzl

Representatives from the EUREST-FLAVOURS consortium