

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NOVEL FOODS AND PROCESSES

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEES UPDATE

This paper provides Members with an update on the work of the Food Standard Agency's Scientific Advisory Committees and other items of general interest to the advisory committees.

Committee on Toxicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment

The Committee met on 20 May 2008. The agenda is attached (**Annex A**)

Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition (SACN)

The 1st meeting of the Carbohydrates Working Group took place on 16 April. Professor Ian Macdonald is the Chair of the Working Group. Professor Alan Jackson, Professor Tim Key, Professor Annie Anderson, Dr David Mela and Mrs Christine Gratus are members. The minutes of the meeting are currently unavailable. The agenda items included discussions on:

- The FAO/WHO Scientific update on carbohydrate in human nutrition (2007) and how this can be used to inform the working group. The agenda item included a definition of fibre and the scope of the carbohydrate review.
- The process for systematic review of carbohydrate and cardiometabolic health section.
- A progress report from Human Nutrition Research on narrative synthesis and health effects of potential dietary fibre components. This included cardiovascular disease, colonic function, weight and metabolic health, colorectal cancer and prebiotic effects.

The proposed date of the next meeting is 26 September 2008.

Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs (ACAF)

The Committee has announced the appointment of Dr Ian Brown, as Chair of ACAF. Dr Brown is a Consultant Physician in Occupational Medicine and Toxicology at Southampton Universities NHS Trust. Barrie Fleming, Professor David Givens and Mr Edwin Snow have been appointed as new members. The next Committee meeting will be taking place in Belfast on 3 June 2008.

Advisory Committee on Microbiological Safety of Food (ACMSF)

The Committee has announced the appointment of Rosie Glazebrook as a new member. The date of the next meeting will be 5 June

Social Science Research Committee (SSRC)

The Committee has announced the appointment of Professor Sir Roger Jowel as Chair of the Committee. Professor Jowel is the founding Director for the Centre for Comparative Social Surveys at London City University. The Committee has also announced the appointment the remaining 11 new members: Mary Brennan, Dr Steven Cummins, Joy Dobbs, Professor Ben Fine, Dr Arthur Fleiss, Dr Michael Howard, Professor Peter Jackson, Professor Richard Shepherd, Ann Williams, Laura Willoughby, and Dr Wendy Wills.

The Committee's first meeting will be held on Wednesday 23 July.

**Secretariat
May 2008**

Annexes attached:

Annex 1: COT agenda – 20 May 2008