

Wednesday, 14 April 2021

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NOVEL FOODS AND PROCESSES

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY SIXTH MEETING HELD ON 3rd March 2021

ACNFP Secretariat
6th Floor
Clive House
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These minutes are subject to confirmation by the Committee.

Members are required to declare any personal interest in matters under discussion. Where Members have a particularly close association with any item, the Chairman will limit their involvement in the discussion. In cases where an item is to be discussed in their absence, a Member may make a statement before leaving.

MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY SIXTH MEETING OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NOVEL FOODS AND PROCESSES, HELD ON 3rd MARCH 2021, ONLINE USING MICROSOFT TEAMS.

ATTENDANCE

Committee	Dr Camilla Alexander-White	Chair
	Dr Anton Alldrick	Member
	Dr Mark Berry	Member
	Professor Susan Duthie	Member
	Professor Susan-Fairweather-Tait	Member
	Professor Paul Fraser	Member
	Dr Hamid Ghodduji	Member
	Professor Wendy Harwood	Member
	Professor Huw Jones	Member
	Ms Nichola Lund	Member
	Dr Rohini Manuel	Member
	Professor Harry McArdle	Member
	Mrs Rebecca McKenzie	Member
	Dr David Mela	Member
Professor Clare Mills	Member	
Dr Maureen Wakefield	Member	
Assessor	Mr Paul Tossell	Head of Radiological, GM, Novel Foods & Feed Additives
Observers	Mrs Claire Nicholson	Science Council Member
	Dr Sabrina Roberts	Senior GM Policy Advisor
	Mr Hoa Chang	GM Policy Advisor
	Ms Chun-Han Chan	Science Assurance Team Lead
	Ms Ivy Wellman	DEFRA Observer
	Dr Martin Cannell	DEFRA Observer
	Mr Shaun Jacobs	Senior Novel Foods Policy Advisor
	Mr Andrew Dodd	Novel Foods Policy Officer
	Ms Gemma Jones	Novel Foods Policy Advisor
	Mr Adam McDowell	FSA Wales
	Ms Alexia Sully Karlis	FSA Wales
	Ms Georgina Finch	Food Standards Scotland
	Mr Neil Douglas	Food Standards Scotland
Ms Siobhan Watt	Food Standards Scotland	

Secretariat

Mrs Frances Hill
Mrs Ruth Willis
Mrs Erin Oliver
Mr Richard Uchotski
Dr Francisco Matilla-Garcia
Dr Rachael J Oakenfull
Ms Beth Rendle

Technical Secretary
Technical Secretary
Senior Secretariat
Secretariat
Secretariat
Secretariat
Administrative Secretariat

1. Apologies and announcements

1.1 N/A – full plenary of ACNFP members present.

2. Meeting Minutes for 145th Meeting

ACNFP/145/MINS

2.1 The Committee had agreed the minutes via correspondence of the 145th meeting of the ACNFP held on 27th January 2021 and these were published on the ACNFP's website on 17th March 2021.

3. Matters Arising from the last meeting.

ACNFP/146/MA

3.1 The Committee reviewed a CBD application received under the novel food's authorisation processes. The Secretariat thank the Committee for their comments which will be collated, and a summary produced. This will first be signed off by the Committee and then sent back to the applicant.

3.2 The Committee were provided with an update on ongoing work between the FSA, UKAS and LGC. The FSA will be meeting with its partners to discuss this work further in a couple of weeks.

3.3 Members were invited to consider and provide feedback on the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) consultation on the regulation of genetic technologies. A GM working group was formed and their response was an Agenda item for this meeting.

4. DEFRA consultation on the Regulation of Genetic Technologies

ACNFP/146/01

4.1 Between the 145th and 146th ACNFP meeting the ACNFP members formed a 5-member GE technologies working group which produced a draft response to the consultation.

4.2 Members were asked to consider the draft response to the DEFRA genetic technologies consultation provided by the working group and to provide feedback.

The Comments

- 4.3 The Committee expect GE products to be regulated. This could, in some cases, be outside the existing GMO regulation if it could be demonstrated that the product produced through genome editing could have been produced through traditional breeding.
- 4.4 The Committee advised that GE products (even if outside of GMO regulation) must continue to be assessed for consumer safety on a case-by-case basis.
- 4.5 The Committee discussed the fact that the current novel foods regulation includes a risk assessment process that could potentially be modified to create an appropriate risk assessment structure for genome edited products. However, specific new guidance would need to be developed.
- 4.6 The Committee considered that, as a new and transformative technology, GE and its outputs will need to be considered carefully for safety.
- 4.7 The final ACNFP response to the DEFRA consultation will be made publicly available.

Action: These comments will be collated and used by the FSA Secretariat to edit and re-write the consultation letter in line with the Committee's comments.

5. Items for Information

5.1 Novel Food Policy Update

Oral

6.1.1 The Committee was provided with an oral update on the issues under consideration regarding novel foods.

5.2 GM Policy Update

Oral

6.1.2 The Committee was provided with an oral update on the issues under consideration regarding GM.

5.3 SACS Update

Written

6.1.3 The Committee was provided with a written update on the activities of the different SACS.

7 Date of next meeting:

7.1 The next meeting is scheduled for 21st April 2021. The meeting will be online due to concerns surrounding Covid-19.