



45TH MEETING OF THE INDEPENDENT ADVISORY PANEL ON CHARACTERISING FLAVOURS IN TOBACCO PRODUCTS (IAP)

20 OCTOBER 2022

**VENUE: BRUSSELS, F101 01/89
- MEETING MINUTES -**

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

The Chair 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 declarations of interests.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting were adopted and subsequently, they will be published on the website of the IAP.¹

5. REGULATORY UPDATES

DG SANTE informed the panel on the upcoming publication of the delegated act concerning the “change of circumstances”, resulting in a characterising flavour ban for HTPs as of Q4 2023. DG SANTE updated the panel on the status of procedures initiated by MSs in line with Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/779. Two IAP members attended the relevant session of the Subgroup of ingredients meeting, which took place on 26 September, and briefed the panel on the policy updates provided by MSs, including on methodological approaches applied at national level.

6. GENERAL DISCUSSION ON METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES OF INTEREST

In the light of the upcoming inclusion of the HTPs in the scope of characterising flavour ban, the panel further discussed relevant aspects of determination of characterising flavours in these products and terms of the study commissioned with the Technical Group.

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

DG SANTE further informed the panel on the upcoming tender on the new TG framework which should ensure smooth service continuation following the expiration of the current contract in 2023. While the basic structure shall remain similar to the current contract, the tasks and technical requirements may be further specified in the light of the approved IAP methodology and the extensive set of background documentation published on the IAP website.

The panel reviewed the validity of the various comments received from the manufacturers and agreed the outline of a document to be provided to a concerned MS in response to such comments. The document will be finalised in writing after the meeting.

7. INPUT FROM THE TECHNICAL GROUP

The Technical Group presented the analysis of the HTP market and performed an initial review on product composition as declared in EUCEG. On this basis the TG will prepare the initial list of HTPs for testing and submit for approval by IAP by the end of October. This should allow to set the appropriate sensory panel sessions in order to provide the initial results in the next IAP meeting. The priority should be given to products with relatively lower flavouring content, not containing capsules and without any advertised reference to non-tobacco flavours. Some of the capsules may be however analysed on their chemical composition.

As no further regulatory tests are foreseen until the next IAP meeting, the TG may focus primarily on the HTP study and provide initial outcomes in advance of the next IAP meeting.

8. FUTURE WORK/NEXT STEPS

The next meeting has been scheduled for 29 November. Its format will be further specified subject to the agenda and progress of the TG with the HTP study. The Chair thanked the participants and looked forward to the next meeting of the Panel.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No additional points were raised.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Members of the IAP

Alberto Del Rio
Garnt Dijksterhuis
Jan van Amsterdam
Emmanuel Vanzeveren
Wouter Visser
Efthimios Zervas (Chair)

IAP Secretariat (DG SANTE B4)

Technical group

JRC Geel, unit F4

HADEA, unit A1