



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

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

18TH MEETING OF THE INDEPENDENT ADVISORY PANEL ON CHARACTERISING FLAVOURS IN TOBACCO PRODUCTS (IAP)

PLACE: RUE FROISSART 101, 1040 BRUSSELS

3 February 2020

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 interests declared.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting were discussed and would be adopted in written. Subsequent it will be published on the website of the IAP.¹

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

The IAP briefly discussed the documents and information received prior to the meeting from the Technical Group of Sensory and Chemical Assessors (TG). This included revised drafts of the reports on Tasks 1.2 and 2 (incorporating comments provided by the IAP members following the teleconference of 7 November) and the revised decision tree flowchart. These were considered satisfactory with some minor outstanding issues to be clarified with the TG.

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

The Consortium EUREST-FLAVOURS, organizing the work of the TG, explained its approach and provided the motivation for the latest modifications. Subsequently the partial technical reports were jointly reviewed by all participants and the best format was discussed for a consolidated methodological report. The final revision, asked from TG, will concern in particular further refinement and better description of chemical testing procedures and the statistical analysis and to determine whether a

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

tobacco product has a characterising flavour (task 2), including considerations for specific product categories within the group of reference products.

IAP discussed a specific category of products flagged as having a characterising flavour for the attribute “smoky” which have distinct sensory characteristics in both the descriptive profiling and PCA analysis. It was agreed to include those among the reference products on the basis that they belong to a specific sub-group with characterising “smoky” flavours and in this respect shall be used only when a test product has a specific “smoky” aroma.

TG was further encouraged to move ahead with testing of an informative sample (15-20) of menthol products currently on the market for possible future reference. IAP further considered whether other additives with analogous properties may simulate some of the menthol effects in cigarettes.

7. FUTURE WORK/NEXT STEPS

It was agreed that the TG would modify the draft consolidated report (including key elements of Task 1.1, 1.2 and 2) by 3 March. This report should provide a comprehensible overview of the IAP methodology for determination of characterising flavour. It is foreseen that this 40-50 page technical document would be agreed with the IAP at the next meeting, scheduled for 18 March 2020.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

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 B2)

Katja Bromen
Matus Ferech
Laerke Petersen

Other Commission services - DG JRC F4

Thomas Wenzl

Representatives from the EUREST-FLAVOURS consortium