



## **22<sup>ND</sup> MEETING OF THE INDEPENDENT ADVISORY PANEL ON CHARACTERISING FLAVOURS IN TOBACCO PRODUCTS (IAP)**

**PLACE: WEBEX VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**2 SEPTEMBER 2020 (15:00-18:00)**

**- 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.

Alberto Del Rio informed about a phone contact from the L'Agenzia delle Dogane e dei Monopoli (ADM). He referred them to DG SANTE for more information.

### **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.<sup>1</sup>

### **5. UPDATE ON THE REGULATORY PROCEDURE:**

Since the expiration of the transition period exempting products with certain flavours a number of member states indicated presence of suspected products on their national markets. A number of member states approached manufacturers of such products and some of them have already received initial responses. However, no formal request has been submitted to consult the independent advisory panel.

In this respect, the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/779 lays down uniform rules as regards the procedures for determining whether a tobacco product has a characterising flavour. It describes the procedure to be followed if the Commission or a Member State intends to carry out the assessment procedure on a product and the subsequent decision making process.

IAP discussed practical implications of various procedural arrangements and addressed logistical aspects of such requests. This included arrangements for

---

<sup>1</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/health/tobacco/products/characterising\\_flavours/panel\\_en#fragment0](https://ec.europa.eu/health/tobacco/products/characterising_flavours/panel_en#fragment0)

shipment of test products when input is requested from the technical group. In this respect a preference was expressed for samples purchased randomly in regular retail sales outlets in line with standard enforcement techniques.

DG SANTE presented outcomes of a high level analysis of the EUCEG data focussing on products with significant presence of additives associated with possible menthol flavour.

**6. INPUT FROM THE TECHNICAL GROUP OF SENSORY AND CHEMICAL ASSESSORS (TG)**

TG updated IAP on the operation of sensory and chemical assessors. In absence of a formal request for an IAP opinion, TG was asked to consider obtaining of certain products identified as relevant on the basis of the EU-CEG data and provide the results for consideration in the next meeting.

**7. FUTURE WORK/NEXT STEPS**

The final version of the draft methodology report (with minor editorial) was endorsed by IAP and will be sent for approval by SANTE Director General.

The next meeting will take place on 30 September 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)

Matus Ferech  
Antti Maunu

### **Other Commission services - DG JRC F4**

Thomas Wenzl

### **Representatives from the EUREST-FLAVOURS consortium**