



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

**24 FEBRUARY 2021 (09:30-13:00)**

**VENUE: TEAMS VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**- 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 adopted subject to minor editorial modifications. Subsequent it will be published on the website of the IAP.<sup>1</sup>

**5. UPDATE ON THE REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS**

The panel was informed on actions taken by some Member States which indicated presence of products with suspect characterising flavour on their markets and are considering further regulatory steps. However, no formal request has been submitted to consult the independent advisory panel. Concerning the procedure of the methodology approval by the Director-General of DG SANTE, the IAP methodology has been approved in principle and at the moment only the formal aspects of the Commission decision publication need to be confirmed.

**6. DRAFT TEMPLATE OF A PANEL OPINION**

In absence of any specific product request IAP discussed practical aspects of the opinion forming and its formal aspects. In this respect, a reference was made to relevant provisions of the Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/786 and of the IAP Rules of procedure. While the actual sensory and chemical test are performed by the TG, the IAP conclusions whether or not a tobacco product has a characterising

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<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)

flavour should be primarily based on the IAP own considerations. The opinion template would be based on one of the products processed by the TG in the context of maintenance sessions. The appointed rapporteur would take the lead on the drafting with the input of all IAP members and assistance from the Secretariat.

**7. UPDATE FROM THE TECHNICAL GROUP OF SENSORY AND CHEMICAL ASSESSORS**

TG presented additional consideration on the informal tests carried recently with 4 product samples in the context of the routine panel maintenance.

Sensory test of additional 4 products will take place in early March and IAP expressed interest in supplementary chemical analysis of those products, TG to deliver preliminary results by 16 March for IAP consideration.

**8. FUTURE WORK/NEXT STEPS**

Unless there is a specific request reaching IAP in the coming weeks, the IAP will focus on the development of a generic template for future IAP opinions. IAP also discussed further practical aspects of the future requests for opinions including the IPA interaction with TG.

The next meeting has been tentatively scheduled for 21 April 2021.

**9. 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  
Anna Wozniak

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

Thomas Wenzl

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