

**Technical and Regulatory Committee Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2019 – Via Conference Call**

**Members present at meeting:**

|                  |                                           |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Tracy Brown      | BCA Secretariat                           |
| Nick Boxall      | Complete Coffee Ltd (Chair T&R Committee) |
| Deirdre McCooley | Bewley's                                  |
| Carla Politano   | Costa                                     |
| Jenny Breadmore  | Fine Foods International Ltd              |
| Rhodri Evans     | Finlays                                   |
| Chris Coates     | Taylor's of Harrogate                     |

**1. Apologies for absence:**

|                  |            |
|------------------|------------|
| Mike Saltmarsh   | AVA        |
| Sarah Harrington | Masteroast |

**2. Competition Law Compliance**

It was confirmed that the conference call would run under the FDF competition law compliance rules, as per the Golden Rules previously distributed.

**3. Minutes of last meeting**

Minutes of the last meeting were duly accepted without comment.

**Proposed – JB, Seconded – CC**

**4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

Matters arising in regard to the function of the Technical Working Group and its workload.

JB noted that she is really struggling to be able to read in a timely manner everything that is coming through from the BCA, and feels that TB is not getting the responses required in a quick enough turnaround from the Technical Working Group. JB asked if there could perhaps be a rota of people picking things up. All felt that the current system, is not working, and the volume is just too much. CC noted that perhaps we can review what are currently the most important topics, perhaps this will allow us to trim down and have approximately 2 subjects per Technical Working Group Member, to be able to manage and become the 'mini expert' on. It was felt that all the Technical information of the Association could not be outsourced, so a workaround or plan needs to be in place, prior to a new Executive Director being appointed.

It was agreed that the following Technical Working Group members would pick up the following topics moving forward:-

**Chris Coates**

- Diacetyl
- Mineral Hydro Carbons
- Food Authenticity BRCv8

**Rhod Evans**

- Furan
- Caffeine Related Health Claims

**Jenny Breadmore**

- Acrylamide
- OTA
- Origin Labelling

**Nick Boxall**

- Heavy Metals
- Pesticides
- ISO

NB thanked everyone for their cooperation with this.

RE volunteered to attend the next ECF Technical Committee Meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October in Brussels, again NB extended his thanks. TB to contact the ECF and obtain all details for RE.

**Action: TB**

**5. Contaminants**

- OTA

NB noted that there has been nothing further to report since the last meeting, only a couple of instances within Europe but nothing for the UK.

- **Acrylamide (AA) Regulation**

NB noted that there has been nothing further of note since the last meeting.

TB confirmed that the ECF/BCA Code of Practice was circulated to the Technical Committee with the last meeting minutes from 25<sup>th</sup> June. TB to recirculate as a reminder.

**Action: TB**

- **Furan (and its methyl derivatives)**

NB asked if there was any further update in regard to Furan from the ECF, TB noted nothing further since the 'call for data' back in July. The ECF CONTAM Committee will be reviewing data received on the 12<sup>th</sup> September in order to make a recommendation to the ECF Executive Committee, to determine if the compiled data would be interesting enough to share with EFSA. The 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019 is the last day to submit data to EFSA.

**Action: TB to Follow-up with the ECF**

- **Diacetyl**

CC noted that things seem to have gone on the back burner, since CC last feed comments from the BCA back into Warren Pennington at the HSE. Nothing further seems to have come out as a final notice, before being published, and as yet we are still waiting. CC asked if any Members on the call had seen anything further, or had further contact from the HSE, none had. CC noted that he would be happy to give general assistance if any Members had any specific queries or unsure if this could have an impact to their organisation. CC will again follow-up with Warren Pennington at the HSE, and come back to Technical & Regulatory Committee asap.

**Action: CC**

- **Heavy Metals & Chemicals**

No new update at this time.

- **Mineral Hydrocarbons**

No new update at this time, and nothing specific for Jute Sacks.

- **Pesticides**

### **Glyphosate**

NB asked if any Members on the call had received any further requests for testing, none had for coffee.

- **Chlorpyrifos**

### **Chlorpyrifos: EFSA assessment identifies human health effects.**

The ECF has been made aware that the approval period for **Chlorpyrifos** expires in **January 2020**, and the manufacturers' application for renewal is currently being evaluated under the EU's peer review system for approval of pesticides (just like will happen with Glyphosate). Following the procedure, they requested EFSA to provide a statement on the available results of the human health assessment. As a result [EFSA has identified concerns](#) about possible genotoxic effects as well as neurological effects during development, supported by epidemiological data indicating effects in children. This means that no safe exposure level – or toxicological reference value – can be set for the substance. It is therefore most likely that the coffee Chlorpyrifos MRL goes from 0.05 mg/kg to 0.01 mg/kg. To be noted that the use of this particular pesticide has been banned in Germany since 2009!

During 2-week period participants have checked their findings, concluding that they do find pesticide residue when testing green coffee for Chlorpyrifos. The findings are not of concern but nevertheless it is important that all Members are aware of the potential EU non-renewal.

The ECF have noted, it would be interesting to take this dossier as a case study for Glyphosate. The main differences are twofold. On one hand, exposure to Chlorpyrifos has been identified by EFSA as a health concern, whilst Glyphosate has not. On the other hand, Glyphosate is a widely used and known by all pesticide whilst Chlorpyrifos is a word that not many have ever come across and will most likely not attract any media attention.

The ECF T&R Committee will be monitoring closely, the BCA will ensure that any update will be communicated to the BCA T&R Committee.

## **6. BRCv7(8) – Food Authenticity**

NB asked if any Members on the call had undergone an audit since v8 came into force this earlier year, and was the BCA Guide of use? Only one Member had undergone an audit, and on this occasion the BCA Food Authenticity Guide was not required. CC stated that this was a good tool for Members to have in place, even if auditors do not request to see it.

There was a discussion to remove this from the agenda, but it was decided to review the BCA Priorities List to have something like a traffic light system/document in place, even if not a 'Hot Topic/Issue' or 'Red' priority it could remain on the document and be coded as Green.

## **7. ISO Activities**

NB noted nothing further to report at this time.

## **8. Sustainability and Foot Printing**

- **Regulatory – Deposit Return Schemes & Extended Producer Responsibility**

As discussed at the BCA Committee and Board Meetings yesterday.

- From the outside it might appear that the government/DEFRA are paralysed by Brexit/No Deal preparations, however beneath the surface the momentum behind the various proposals is continuing in earnest. 'Mini' inquiries e.g. on biodegradables (DEFRA), and recycled content in filled packaging (Treasury) have taken place over the Summer.
- Based on media/political attention, packaging waste remains a flagship issue, and not one where the government will want to be seen to have failed.
- Scotland are forcing the issue, with a consultation on charges on single use cups due later this year as part of the Circular Economy package. What it is proposing on DRS and charges have financial/cross-border implications and may force the Westminster government's hand.
- DEFRA seem very keen on a recycling target for disposable cups, and will likely explore this.

- Based on the consultation responses, there is still considerable evidence of misinformation/misunderstanding around cups that needs to be addressed.

In conclusion, focus on disposable coffee cups will only intensify in the months ahead thanks to activities in both Holyrood and Westminster.

## **9. Health Claims**

- **Caffeine Claims**

No new update at this time.

## **10. Consumer Information Legislation**

NB noted that in regard to both Rules of Origin and Labelling, with Brexit everything seems to be up in the air at this time. The BCA will of course will be paying close attention to this.

- **Rules of Origin (FIC)**
- **Labelling (Brexit)**

## **11. Technical & Regulatory Priorities**

NB noted that he liked the suggestion of having a traffic light system of priorities.

JB noted that OTA is no longer on the priorities list, but should be back on the list but as a green item.

NB and TB to make the initial start on revising the current document, this will then be circulated to the Technical Working Group for comment, before onward publication to the wider Technical & Regulatory Committee.

## **12. Position Statements**

It was agreed that Modern Slavery should now be removed from the Technical & Regulatory Committee agenda, as it was felt that this should really now sit within the Sustainability Committee. TB noted that at the next Sustainability Committee Meeting in December, the agenda topics would be covering Modern Slavery Reporting Best Practice / Supply Chain Transparency. TB to notify both SHED Communications and the Sustainability Committee Joint Chairs as to these comments.

**Action: TB**

RE noted that do we need to have a BCA Position in regard to Diacetyl, CC stated that he would be happy to draw up something to start with, or happy to work with other Members on this. CC and RE agreed that they would be happy to catch up outside the meeting to make a start on this.

**Action: CC/RE**

## **13. Date of the next 2019 Technical meeting**

- **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019 - FDF**