



Technical and Regulatory Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday 14th June 2023
Via Teams

Present at meeting:

Paul Rooke	BCA Executive Director
Thomas de Freitas	Media & PA Manager
Tracy Brown	BCA Secretariat
Jenny Breadmore	Cafea UK (Technical & Regulatory Chair)
Carla Politano	Costa Coffee
Barbara Usak	Finlays
Julie Foster	Nestlé
Elaine Kok Xin Yi	Ringtons
Kristine Breminer Isgren	Sucafina UK Limited
Chris Coates	Taylors of Harrogate

1. Apologies for absence:

Mike Inglehurst	AVA
Carole Liminiana	Filhet-Allard Maritime
Sei-Wai Tse	Finlays
Stephanie Jordan	JDE
Rachel Vennard	Nestlé

2. Competition Law Compliance

It was confirmed that this meeting 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.

4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

PR noted that regarding single serve units, we are awaiting feedback from some of the Members regarding our draft position paper ahead of wider circulation.

5. Glyphosate (*Presentation Attached Separately*)

• **Update on UK & EU Positions**

PR noted that there are few developments at both the UK and EU level since our meeting in March. EU re-registration is still forecast to be before end 2023 with the EFSA report expected by the end of July. Alongside this the ECF is involved in a processing study, the Commission have suggested that this would be interesting to understand what happens with levels processed vs green, and perhaps it would reassure that reduction may not be required from an MRL point of view.

PR added that EFSA have published their pesticide residues in food survey and for glyphosate only 0.15 % exceeded the MRL, and nothing was noticed for coffee. MRL exceedances have reduced significantly since the last survey.

For the UK MRL review, manufacturers were asked to submit their data by end of 2022, currently there is no feedback from HSE/CRD. From conversations with registrants, it seems very likely there would be no proposed changes for coffee MRLs.

CP asked if there was any update on the letter from the FDE to the Commission on the impacts of the Farm to Fork project, has there been any updates from the ECF. PR referenced that a letter has been put through to the Commission by FDE on behalf of several signatories/Associations in the Commodity Sectors, seeking a meeting on the review. PR noted that we are not aware of any response yet to the FDE on this meeting request. If we get to that point any coffee specific matters would be raised at this meeting through the FDE.

6. Contaminants

- **OTA**

PR noted that the position since the last meeting remains the same, and the slide is as a reminder of what is now in force at EU level. PR added that this is not a first priority for the FSA to review and they just continue to monitor levels through their normal process. The most recent feedback received, they are not planning to follow the EU change at this time. PR referenced the ECF guidelines for the prevention of OTA available from the ECF website. [ECF OTA Guidance Document](#)

- **Acrylamide (AA)**

PR stated that there is the continuation of the debate at EU level on Benchmark vs Maximum levels, there is no real timetable for this debate to conclude. PR added that the ECF continue to gather data on a regular basis and have put a recent call for data to Members.

Regarding the UK, at the recent FDF Residues and Contaminants Committee call there was a presenter Mark Willis from the FSA – there is no further update! FSA noted that AA to follow T2/HT2 in priority. There will likely be a call for data on this in the second half of 2023, the expectation is that the call for data on AA will follow at some point. PR noted that Mark Willis of the FSA reiterated the importance of data, either fed in collectively by Associations or by individual companies, but it will be a less rigorous format that they want than the EU.

- **Furan & Methyl Furans**

PR added that the ECF are also undertaking a call for data on Furan.

- **Diacetyl**

PR asked that Members please feed in comments of the draft BCA Diacetyl position paper that has been previously circulated. If you require an additional copy, please let the Secretariat know.

Action: ALL

- **Mineral Hydrocarbons**

CC noted that there are still questions around the accuracy of results, but businesses should be doing testing. PR added the UK they do have concerns that there are no standard methods, and they are trying to establish testing methodology.

PR added that there has been the draft EFSA scientific opinion on Mineral Oils and it is expected to be adopted in July 2023. From the ECF work undertaken there were very few what were considered high levels of MOAH in coffee, but continuation of liaison by companies with manufacturers of jute bags continues.

CC noted that jute sacks remain potentially the biggest cross contaminator, has the ECF been in contact with manufacturers of these jute bags or is there a mechanism to do this. PR noted that he will need to follow up with the ECF on their progress but added that there is not an Association of Jute Bag Manufacturers which makes things more difficult. JB noted at the last ECF T&R meeting there was a presentation from Cocoa and noted that there is no legislation in India regarding manufacture of jute bags, and they are one of the largest producers. Cocoa are contacting manufacturers directly and appeared to be taking the lead on this.

Action: PR

7. FDF – Multiple Source Substances (e.g. 2-Phenylphenol)

PR noted that we ran through this at the last meeting, the definition of pesticide residues appears in the Reg 396/2005. The definition captures other products such as biocides, disinfectants, and environmental contaminants. PR noted that the work being undertaken by Specialty Nutrition Association was raised at a recent FDF meeting, and the point was

made that the scope needs to be widened out and put under an FDF umbrella. The FSA were likely to be supportive of any change. The two products from a coffee perspective are 2-Phenylphenol and Furan. PR noted that the letter the FDF is producing is getting quite lengthy as several other commodities are involved, the UKTIA are also heavily involved. PR added that he will circulate the draft letter to Members for comments and noted if any other products needed to be added please do let us know. Likewise, if anyone has any concerns on us supporting this, please do let us know.

Action: PR/ALL

8. ECF Additional Items

PR and JB noted that there were not any additional points that would not be picked up in this meeting.

9. FSA Update

• Recent Presentation to FDF Contaminant Committee

PR noted that there is concern at the FDF with the lack of activity from the FSA. For some sectors there is an immediate concern due to issues.

PR added that there is a new starter guide for bio-based materials if anyone was interested in this please drop PR a line.

PR noted that there was a lot of activity around ethylene oxide and asked if Members were getting demanded for EO information.

10. Plant Health – Transboundary Movement of Pests

PR noted that this is being driven from the BCA Trade & Logistics Committee, it was raised by the PHSI at a conference in London in 2022. It relates to the potential movement of pests from one container to another, not coffee specific, but across the board. A representative from the BCA Trade & Logistics Committee was a speaker at the conference. Out of this we have as an industry an opportunity to take the initiative and provide some wider guidance. PR added that we have circulated the updated document, and once we have finalised, we would widen out to other stakeholders/bodies including the USA etc. PR asked if anyone has any comments at this time or if they would like to feedback.

CC noted that if there is any interest in joining this group to feed in comments, it would be great if you could join a call for about an hour. PR noted that we will send round a doodle poll to establish a time for a meeting.

Action: PR/ALL

PR noted that there is a concern that with certification it could potentially be over the top, and our aim is to put a suitable draft of best practice guidance in place. CC agreed that best practice guidance is the best option.

11. Cold Brew Coffee

PR noted since our last meeting, we have been in touch with the NCA and TdF is liaising with them, and happy to confirm that we will be running a webinar on **13th July that Bill Murray Executive Director of the NCA** will be giving. PR noted that there are some concerns around food safety, and currently there are no food safety regulation that fit around it. There has been work done by the NCA on shelf life and the results are imminent.

PR asked Members if this webinar should be limited to BCA Members or do we open up to the wider public. PR asked if BU could feedback in any comments, it would be appreciated. CP noted that she would not have an issue with the invite being extended out.

Action: BU/ALL

JB asked if the invite has gone out, TdF noted that we do have a webinar running tomorrow with Trade in Space, and the invite will go out after that so as not to confuse registrations.

12. Technical & Regulatory Priorities & Risk Register

PR noted that we did update this register following the last meeting, and from his point of view he does believe there is any changes to make but appreciated if anyone has any comments.

JB asked why Furan is Amber and AA is Green, perhaps Furan could now go to Green.

JB added that Diacetyl is currently Amber, PR noted that we do need to update that we are still working on this position paper. CC agreed.

Action: BCA

PR asked those on the call if there was anything that we might need to add to the agenda for the next meeting please do let us know. JB and PR stated that they would love to see people in person at the FDF for the next meeting.

Action: ALL

13. Date and Time of the next 2023 Technical & Regulatory Meeting

Date	Meeting	Location
Wednesday 29 th November 2023	BCA Board Meetings • Technical • Board 11.00a.m. – 3.00p.m. Hybrid Meeting (Teams & FDF)	FDF, 10 Bloomsbury Way, London, WC1A 2SL – Room Cleminson