



**Technical and Regulatory Committee Meeting Minutes  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

**Equatorial Traders, Unit 3 The Onyx, 102 Camley Street, Kings Cross, London, N1C 4PF & Via Teams**

**Present at meeting:**

|                          |                                                              |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Paul Rooke               | BCA Executive Director                                       |
| Tracy Brown              | BCA Secretariat                                              |
| Jenny Breadmore          | (Cafea UK) (Technical & Regulatory Chair) <b>(Via Teams)</b> |
| Abbie Manning            | (Caravela Coffee) <b>(Via Teams)</b>                         |
| Pradeep Mahale           | (Costa Coffee) <b>Via Teams</b>                              |
| Brigid McKeivith         | (Costa Coffee)                                               |
| Sei-Wai Tse              | (Finlays) <b>(Via Teams)</b>                                 |
| Carole Liminiana         | (Filhet-Allard Maritime) <b>(Via Teams)</b>                  |
| Isobel Giles             | (Lavazza) <b>(Via Teams)</b>                                 |
| Sandara Holmes           | (Nestlé) <b>(Via Teams)</b>                                  |
| Elaine Kok               | (Ringtons) <b>(Via Teams)</b>                                |
| Kristine Breminer-Isgren | (Sucafina UK Ltd) <b>(Via Teams)</b>                         |

**1. Apologies for absence:**

|                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Mike Saltmarsh    | (AVA)                  |
| Andrew Stephenson | (Henry Bath)           |
| Chris Coates      | (Taylors of Harrogate) |

**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**

No matters arising.

**(Presentation Attached Separately)**

**5. Glyphosate**

• **Update on UK & EU Positions**

PR noted since the last meeting, we now know the EU has re-registered Glyphosate as an active ingredient. But unlike the last registration of just 5 years, they have reverted back to 10 years. As far as the EU is concerned it is now registered until December 2033.

PR stated that following a meeting at the ECF there is still some confusion as to where the MRLs now sit. The EU had put a proposal forward to half the current MRL levels with no justification. The ECF have been lobbying and putting the point forward that this would eliminate up to 2 million tonnes of coffee. In the last couple of years, we have seen improvements in levels from such origins as Brazil and Vietnam.

The ECF have spoken to Bayer the lead registration for Glyphosate, we will hopefully see the results of the import tolerance work that has come out of trials being run in Brazil in the not-too-distant future.

PR noted that the political landscape is likely to change with a new European Parliament later this year, suggestions seem to be that it will be a less green parliament, but we await to see!

PR added that processing studies were being undertaken by ISIC, on residual levels following processing, we hope to have a report on this for the next meeting.

PR noted as far as the UK is concerned there is nothing much new, the UK gave an automatic extension to Glyphosate when we left the EU to December 2025. At that point there will be a review. PR added that we stay in contact with Bayer to understand the work that is ongoing here. It should be an easier process, with the UK taking a more pragmatic view. However, the UK did ask for data back at the end of 2022 regarding a review of MRLs, there does not seem to be a set timetable for results.

The immediate concern that we had with products coming into the EU seems to have abated for now.

## 6. Contaminants

- **OTA**

Nothing further to report at this time.

- **Acrylamide (AA)**

PR noted that we are still awaiting details from the FSA regarding the call for data gathering, this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> data gathering that the FSA is undertaking. Regarding the data call from T2/HT2 they are still learning lessons from data received.

PR noted that his understanding is that the FSA's major concern are the products targeting children or young adults, such as chips and crisps etc, with coffee much less of a concern as not targeted at the younger person.

When the call for data comes out from the FSA, they have stated that they are more than happy to talk with people directly as to the format that data collections is required.

PR stated that there is due to be a seminar in the autumn, coffee is unlikely to be the focus.

- **Furan & Methyl Furans**

PR stated nothing to really note for this meeting.

- **Diacetyl**

PR noted that we have circulated the updated Position Statement on Diacetyl, PR added that he has not had any feedback on this and would like to get this signed off. If Members do have any comments, please do come back to us within the next 2-3 weeks to allow us to issue as a **Reactive Only** document.

**Action: ALL**

- **DCM**

PR added that the ECHA were considering reclassification. As you may recall this was also a focus in the US as well as the EU. It was around workers being directly in contact, direct use rather than indirect. The ECF has been working with the Solvents Association to work on a response. This is now back with the ECHA, we don't expect to see anything from this review until around 2025. PR added that there is also a concern with the tea sector and the European Associations have been working on this together.

- **MOAH/MOSH**

PR noted the discussion at the last ECF meeting, if companies were switching to vegetable oils there has been a slight reduction seen. Mineral Oils have also been used for lubricating the machinery as well as with the production of jute bags which could have an impact on contamination. Much of work with jute bag manufacturers is being done at a company level.

PR added that there is little transfer following processing to both R&G and Soluble.

PR added that this may be the subject of a seminar by the EU later this year, the ECF will be a part of that. In the UK the FSA is a little further behind on this, and unlikely any discussion on benchmark or maximum levels to be set in the not-too-distant future.

PM asked about the recent EU Rapid Alert on Roasted Coffee from Ethiopia into France. PR noted this was for notification only.

It was noted that there are several Member States who are introducing their own levels, including the likes of France and The Netherlands, PR added some Member States are ahead of what the EU are doing. From the middle of next month to the end of September the EU system goes into paralyses due to the elections, things will likely therefore get delayed.

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

PR noted that since the last meeting there has been some reaction on the subject. There are some concerns around the definitions of a pesticide as it has an impact on substances that may have other uses that may not be pesticides, from a coffee perspective some are created from the roasting process.

Now the UK has autonomy the UK can look at this separately. PR stated that we wrote to Defra, FSA and HSE – who recognised the concerns that we had. We have had a response back from Defra, and essentially it rejects changing the definition but offers scope for data led specific exemptions. An exemption might be that you get a footnote in the legislation.

PR asked do we think that this is off sufficient concern to people that we take action or is this not a concern for action. PR asked if people are not seeing this as an issue and that we let sleeping dogs lie. JB noted that perhaps we keep on the agenda but no action as this current time. PR asked that if Members what to go away and discuss and come back with any concerns that they may, or happy to leave at this time.

**Action: ALL**

It was noted there were other organisations within FDF who felt there should be a push-back to Defra although nothing further had happened to date.

## **8. ECF Additional Points**

- **Dichloromethane**

PR noted that we have really covered everything from the ECF T&R Committee.

## **9. FDF Update**

- **Additional Issues from the Recent FDF Contaminant Committee**

No additional points.

## **10. Product Environmental Footprint (PEF)**

PR noted that we covered this at our recently Sustainability Meeting, Simon Fox of JDE gave an update on ECF PEF Working Group activity.

For those that may not know the mission is to develop a common methodology and guidelines to measure, report and communicate the environmental performance of coffee.

Several years ago it was thought it could be a tool to say one product is better than the other, but there is now a more mature way to work together as an industry, to have a common methodology and guidelines around this.

PR added in the Sustainability Committee we have discussed Environmental Labelling, with trials being run by IGD. The concerns we had were not being worked on the per consumption basis.

PR noted that processes that you would be looking at both pre and post harvesting, detailed in the presentation. PEF should take you all the way through to the final product possibly including the coffee machine.

PR asked those on the call if there was an interest in having an update on this in a couple of meetings time, PR was sure that Simon Fox would be happy to do this.

PR noted that output from the PEF working group output was to demonstrate that it covers the whole of the coffee sector.

### 11. Cold Brew Working Group

PR noted that now we have set-up a Cold Brew Working Group, the Group have put together an initial draft document, some amendments have been given and this needs to now be fed into the document to then be recirculated. The aim is to put together a flow diagram that will help to drive best practice, and to give an understanding of not what might be cold brew and what isn't. PR asked SWT if there was anything else we need to cover off, SWT noted just the update of the text to then be circulated to wider group for further input. PR noted that if anyone would like to join this group just drop PR a line.

**Action: BCA/ALL**

### 12. Technical & Regulatory Priorities & Risk Register

JB ran through the risk register. Glyphosate remains as Amber due to the ongoing Bayer work and the potential MRL review.

JB asked if there were any further developments around Ethylene Oxide, PR noted that he has not seen anything specific for coffee for several months now.

### 13. Dates and Times of the 2024 Technical & Regulatory Meetings

| Date                                    | Meeting                                                                                                                                         | Location                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2024     | BCA Technical Committee<br>11.00a.m. – 1.00p.m.<br><b>Teams Meeting</b>                                                                         | <b>Teams</b>                                                                                                    |
| Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2024 | BCA Board Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical</li> <li>• Board</li> </ul> 11.00a.m. – 3.00p.m.<br><b>Hybrid Meeting</b> | <b>Equatorial Traders, Unit 3 The Onyx, 102 Camley Street, Kings Cross, London, N1C 4PF<br/>&amp; Via Teams</b> |

PR asked those on the call if there were any T&R matters that they would like covered or help with, please do contact us.

**Action: ALL**