



**Technical Representatives Quarterly Meeting**  
December 18, 2013; *Meeting Minutes*

**Welcome and Introductions**

The Interagency Risk Assessment Consortium (IRAC) held its 2013 fall quarterly meeting of the Technical Committee December 18, 2013. The meeting was hosted by FDA/CFSAN in College Park, MD. Technical and policy representatives and guests from various agencies (Table 1) participated on site or by phone.

**“5 minute” Agency Updates**

Representatives in attendance gave a brief overview of food safety risk analysis projects and issues in their agencies that may be of interest to other agencies.

Department of Health and Human Services

*Food and Drug Administration Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (FDA/CFSAN)*  
Reported by Judi Spungen.

*Food and Drug Administration Center for Tobacco Products*  
Reported by Phil Yeager.

*Food and Drug Administration Center for Veterinary Medicine*  
Reported by Mary Bartholomew.

*Food and Drug Administration National Center for Toxicological Research*  
Reported by Wen Zou.

*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)*  
Reported by Marguerite Pappaioanou.

*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (CDC/NIOSH)*  
Reported by Frank Hearl.

*National Institutes of Health*  
Reported by Robert Hall.

## United States Department of Agriculture

### *Food Safety Inspection Service (USDA/FSIS)*

Reported by Rachel Johnson-DeRycke.

### *Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA/APHIS)*

Reported by Wendy Hall.

### *Economic Research Service (USDA/ERS)*

Reported by Sandra Hoffmann..

### *Food and Nutrition Service (USDA/FNS)*

Reported by Margaret Venuto.

### *Office of Risk Assessment and Cost Benefit Analysis (USDA/OCE/ORACBA)*

Reported by Mark Powell.

### *Office of the Chief Scientist (USDA/OSEC)*

Reported by Isabel Walls, on detail as the Senior Advisor for Food Safety, Nutrition and Health.

## Environmental Protection Agency

### *Office of Research and Development (EPA/ORD)*

Reported by Michael Broder.

## Codex Alimentarius Update

Johnson-DeRycke shared information provided by Kerry Dearfield, including major issues addressed at the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH) completed in November 2013, and those to be addressed at the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Food (CCCF) in March/April 2014.

## **Discussions of New Activities**

### New workgroups

Workgroup proposals will be posted on the IRAC website. Workgroup chairs provided brief updates on progress and plans.

- A. *Risk Communication: Improving Internal Processes and Outcomes* – Rachel Johnson (USDA/FSIS). Kickoff meeting included participants from USDA/FSIS, USDA/ARS, USDA/APHIS, and FDA/CFSAN. Each agency preparing a description of their risk communication process and identifying barriers/stumbling blocks.
- B. *Food Access, Nutrition, and Risk of Foodborne Illness* – Janell Kause (USDA/FSIS), Robert Hall (NIH/NIAID), and Linda Abbott (USDA/ORACBA) will be tri-chairs. Additional participation from USDA/OSEC, USDA/ERS, USDA/ARS, and USDA/NIFA.

- C. *Evaluation of Dietary Assessment Tools* –Alex Domesle (USDA/FSIS) reported that the group includes participants from USDA/ARS, USDA/AMS, ORACBA, USDA/FSIS, USDA/NIFA, FDA/CFASN, and FDA/CVM. First efforts are focused on scoping the project, identifying data sources, computational models and software, and information on how each agency uses dietary assessments. The planned deliverable will be a practical guide.

#### IRAC Symposium in conjunction with Summer Meeting (planned for June 2014)

The Committee decided the theme would be cumulative/aggregate risk. Deborah Burgin (CDC/ATSDR) volunteered to be Chair. Potential contributions include presentations from CDC/ATSDR, CDC/NIOSH, EPA/NCEA, USDA/FSIS, and FDA/CFSAN.

#### IRAC Member Survey

Link to final survey will be sent to IRAC participants early 2014 with deadline. Participation is essential.

#### **Presentation**

“Advancing the Next Generation of Risk Assessment”, Ila Cote, Senior Science Advisor, National Center for Environmental Assessment. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Dr. Cote discussed the NexGen Program including its goals, timeline, and development of general strategies/prototypes for different types of risk management needs. The presentation concluded with discussion of lessons learned, challenges identified, and next steps planned. IRAC participants engaged in a lively discussion and communicated their thanks for an interesting and important talk.

**Table 1. Attendance (participated onsite or by phone)**

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>
Bartholomew	Mary	FDA CVM
Broder	Mike	EPA
Burgin	Deborah	CDC ATSDR
Catlin	Michelle	USDA FSIS
Chen	Yuhuan	FDA CFSAN
Cote	Ila	EPA NCEA
Dennis	Sherri	FDA CSFAN
Domesle	Alexander	USDA FSIS
Hall	Robert	NIH NIAID
Hall	Wendy	USDA FSIS
Hearl	Frank	CDC NIOSH
Hoffmann	Sandra	USDA ERS
Johnson -DeRycke	Rachel	USDA FSIS
Kause	Janell	USDA FSIS
Kim	Grace	FDA CFSAN
Miller	David	EPA OPP
Pappaioanou	Marguerite	FDA CFSAN
Powell	Mark	USDA ORACBA
Smegal	Deborah	FDA CFSAN
Spungen	Judith	FDA CSFAN
Van Doren	Jane	FDA CFSAN
Venuto	Margaret	USDA FNS
Walls	Isabel	USDA OSEC
Wang-Cahill	Fan	USDA APHIS
Wirtz	Mark	FDA CFSAN
Yaeger	Phil	FDA CTP
Zou	Wen	FDA NCTR