

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE MICROBIOLOGICAL SAFETY OF FOOD

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 19 JANUARY 2012 MEETING AND
MATTERS OUTSTANDING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The attached schedule records action taken on matters arising from the Committee's seventy-seventh meeting held on 19 January 2012. Outstanding action points from earlier meetings are also updated in this paper.

**Secretariat
May 2012**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE MICROBIOLOGICAL SAFETY OF FOOD

RECORD OF ACTION TAKEN ON MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE SEVENTY-SEVENTH MEETING (ACM/MIN/77) AND ACTIONS OUTSTANDING FROM EARLIER MEETINGS

ACM/MIN/ 77 para	Topic and action required	Action taken
4.1	<p>Minutes of 76th meeting</p> <p>Members approved minutes as a correct record of meeting. Secretariat asked to arrange for the minutes to be placed on the website.</p>	Actioned.
6.6	<p>Horizon scanning</p> <p>Following consideration of the ACMSF catering members' findings the Committee referred the issues that emerged from its discussions to a subgroup for further deliberation. The main issues include: extrapolation of data on pathogen survival at low temperature/time combinations (such as those used in water bath cooking), evidence on the microbiological safety of raw/rare foods and consumer perceptions of food safety.</p>	Actioned. Subgroup met on 15 May. Dr Roy Betts to update Members on the group's discussion under agenda item 11.
7.4	<p>ACMSF risk assessment</p> <p>Secretariat to send Members a copy of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control recent guidelines on rapid approaches to risk assessment methodology and to provide a paper on risk assessment output terminology to be considered at the May 2012 meeting.</p>	Actioned. ACM/1074 has been circulated to Members. Secretariat's paper on risk assessment output terminology to be considered under agenda item 7 (paper ACM/1065 refers).
8.4	<p>ACMSF response to the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) risk assessment on quality, safety and use of digestate in UK agriculture</p> <p>Members who made specific comments on the draft response considered at the 19 January 2012 meeting were requested to forward comments to Secretariat. Revised response to be agreed via correspondence and sent to WRAP.</p>	Actioned. Members sent comments and revised response was finalised via correspondence. This has been forwarded to WRAP (paper ACM/1079 refers).

9	<p>The microbiological safety of sprouted seeds</p> <p>The Committee was not in a position to rank the risks from sprouted seeds relative to other food safety risks as they were unable to review all the relevant data. Members agreed to have a teleconference to discuss the issue further and advise the FSA. Ms Hopwood, Prof McDowell, Mr Bassett, Dr Betts and Prof Coia were nominated to participate in the teleconference.</p>	<p>Actioned. Further discussion took place via teleconference on 23 January 2012. FSA was provided with advice, paper ACM/1077 refers.</p>
10.3	<p>ACMSF Work plan</p> <p>Secretariat to incorporate suggested changes to the Committee's 2012-13 work plan.</p>	<p>Actioned. Work plan was revised and published on ACMSF website. An updated version for May has been circulated to Members for information (paper ACM/1071 refers).</p>

ACTION POINTS CARRIED FORWARD FROM PREVIOUS ACMSF MEETINGS		
ACM/MIN/74 para	Topic and action required	Action taken
7.6	<p>Raw Milk</p> <p>Following evidence presented by the FSA on the health risks to consumers associated with unpasteurised milk for direct human consumption, the Committee indicated that if data on changing sales routes is gathered (by the FSA) there may be a need to review the risks from raw drinking milk.</p>	<p>Actioned. The FSA Board at its March 2012 meeting considered microbiological safety of raw drinking milk. It was decided the Agency will review the possible options for managing the food safety risks and formulate advice that could be provided to Ministers, for discussion by the FSA Board.</p>