



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH & CONSUMER PROTECTION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
Directorate E – Safety of the Food Chain
E4 – Food Law, Nutrition and Labelling

Brussels, 10 January 2007

Steering Groups on Impact Assessment for the forthcoming review of the EU food labelling policy

10 January 2007

F101 02/SDR2

SUMMARY RECORD

Present: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED],
(SANCO, E4), [REDACTED] (SANCO, 02), [REDACTED], [REDACTED] (AGRI), [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (SecGen), [REDACTED] (ENTR), [REDACTED] (RTD)

1. Adoption of the agenda

Adopted without modification.

2. Scope and mandate of the Inter-Services Steering Group

[REDACTED], chairing, introduced the meeting, setting out the rationale for the review of the EU food labelling policy planned by the end of 2007. It was clarified that there are two different Impact Assessments which are going to be carried out by the same contractor; this means that from a formal viewpoint there will be two Steering Groups as well (one for the revision of the legislation on Nutrition Labelling for foodstuffs and the other for the revision of Horizontal Community Food Labelling legislation). It was pointed out that the revision of Nutrition Labelling would change existing legislation substantially, whereas the revision of General Food Labelling legislation is a simplification exercise, with some interesting possibilities emerging and currently debated.

From a procedural perspective, DG SANCO's timetable is to finalise both Impact Assessments by June 2007. It was also noted that the Impact Assessment reports prepared by

the contractor will not be the final Impact Assessment, but would form the basis of the final impact assessment report.

Between now and June 2007, SANCO plans to explore possible consequences of the review of food labelling policy with the Member States and intends to work on the impact assessment of the proposals through the Inter-Service Steering Group.

The role and tasks of the group were discussed and agreed. It was clarified that the preparation of a short questionnaire to stakeholders (mentioned in the background document distributed to the group) is a task specifically assigned to the contractor and that the Steering Group would be asked to comment on the draft. The members of the group were asked to identify key stakeholders in their field to be contacted and to provide their contact details.

Finally, it was proposed and agreed to include in the Steering Group a representative from DG FISH, due to the implications of food labelling policy review in the area of fisheries.

3. Explanation of the external contract to complement the Impact Assessment

There were some further explanations about the objectives of the contract, the deliverables and the timeframe.

It was requested to make it possible for the DGs involved in the Steering Group to make comments and propose specific issues that may need to be considered as part of the impact assessment. Such comments should be provided as soon as possible so that they can be raised with the contractor.

4. Timing of future work/meetings

The next meeting of the group should take place in February.