

**Sub-Group on Microbiological Guidelines for Alternative Methods**  
**Teleconference Meeting**  
**May 6, 2011**  
**10:30 am – 11:30 am**  
**DRAFT Notes**

**Attendees:**

Russell Flowers, President & ISPAM Chair  
Victor Cook, USDA/FSIS  
Peter Evans, USDA/FSIS  
Phil Feldsine, BioControl Systems  
Thomas Hammack, FDA, CFSAN  
Irene Iugovaz, Health Canada  
Adrienne Klin, Nestle Research Ctr.  
Bertrand Lombard, ANSES & ISO TC 34

Julie Moulin, Nestle Research Ctr.  
Cathy Pentz, USDA/FSIS

**Absent with Regrets:**

Jim Agin, Q Laboratories  
Paul In't Veld, VWA and ISO TC 34/SC9  
Stephanie Campbell, Nestle Research – represented by Adrienne Klin and Julie Moulin

**AOAC Staff:**

Scott Coates  
Krystyna McIver  
Deborah McKenzie  
Arlene Fox

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After brief introductions, President Flowers reiterated the objective of the Sub-group, which is to examine the various microbiological guidelines and do a comparison chart of the similarities and differences in the guidelines. The sub-group can then identify key areas to bring forth to the larger Working Group on Microbiological Guidelines for deliberation and recommendation as to what areas need discussion in an effort to reach harmonization by the larger International Stakeholder Panel on Alternative Methods.

Phil Feldsine then presented his comparison chart of AOAC, ISO 16140-2, and Health Canada Microbiological Guidelines, which are under Attachment 1. He indicated that he addressed only technical and not certification issues. He encouraged Sub-group members to review the table and source documents to ensure all critical points were addressed and nothing was missed, and to send comments back to AOAC.

The Sub-group thanked Phil for his efforts and recommended that the comparison chart include FDA, USDA's MLG, NordVal and, if possible, Chinese and Japanese guidelines.

The intent is to have the comparison chart completed with all comments incorporated. The Sub-group will then discuss which critical issues to bring forth to the WG and Stakeholder Panel in order to come closer to harmonization. The comparison chart, together with the recommendations as to what issues need to be discussed in order to come to consensus and harmonization, will be brought forth to ISPAM at the June 29 – 30 meeting in Rockville, MD.

Action Items:

- Irene Iugovaz agreed to answer queries regarding Health Canada Guidelines made by Phil Feldsine.
- Peter Evans and Tom Hammack agreed to fill in the chart regarding USDA and FDA guidelines as much as possible.
- Krystyna McIver will ask appropriate individuals to do the same for NordVal, China and Japan.
- In the meantime, Sub-group members agreed to review the current chart.
- The group agreed to complete all action items before May 12, for a teleconference at 10:30 am US Eastern time.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am, US Eastern Time.