



Future Direction of the AFCWG

60th Advisory Forum Meeting,
Utrecht, The Netherlands,
8-9 June 2016


FUTURE OF AFCWG

Discussions about AFCWG

- Questions regarding role of AFCWG to the AF – how are they aligned and serving AF needs?
- Feedback requested from AF and AFCWG members: how can alignment be improved?
- Concept Paper drafted for discussion at AFCWG (November 2015)
- AF's Leif Busk attended meeting to lead discussion and feed back to AF (December 2015)
- AFCWG meeting (March 2016) good discussion on improved alignment (provided as background paper)

FUTURE OF AFCWG

Outcome of review

- 
- AFCWG viewed as adding value with quality deliverables, highly appreciated by members for sharing best practice and materials, expert insights, and improved preparedness & coherence for diverging views
 - Room to improve sharing, actions recommended and already underway (e.g. hot topics conference calls, sharing calendars, messaging, media monitoring)
 - Mixed response on how to serve AF needs – joint meetings, mandate mechanisms, steering committee

Conclusions: AFCWG high value-add in its own right, can be aligned further with priorities of AF through Risk Assessment Agenda and sharing calendars, need to strengthen 'science of risk communications'

FUTURE OF AFCWG

Recommendation

- The term 'Working Group' is not fitting and obsolete (2 earlier WG's were abandoned)
- A Scientific Network model is a better fit – focus on improving risk communications capacity and excellence in EU
- Stronger link to the scientific aspects of risk communications: involve social science/risk perception surveys and methodologies, etc
- Continue alignment activities already started

FUTURE OF AFCWG

Impact of transformation

No change

- Meetings (3 per year, 2 externally hosted)
- AF designates Members
- Support priorities of the AF and EU (e.g. AMR)
- Regular reports to AF from the network

Opportunities

- Develop 'alignment activities' further, sharing documents and calendars
- Stronger link with science and scientific committee – integrate social science
- Representatives from organisations vs persons
- Review every 3 years of ToR
- More focus on science of Risk Communications



FUTURE OF AFCWG

Next Steps

2016: Closure of AFCWG by AF

Draft new ToR

Consultation AF and Scientific Committee

Explore & implement integration of social science within network

2017: start 'Risk Communication Scientific Network'