

Advisory Forum Task Force on Data Collection and Data Modelling Minutes of the 1st meeting

**Held on 18 September 2018, Parma
(Agreed on 29 October 2018)**

Participants

- **Network Representatives of Member States**

Name	Country
Ákos Jozwiak (Chair)	Hungary
David Foster	Sweden
Milo Bystrický	Slovak Republic
Valérie Vromman	Belgium
Jesús Alvarez-Piñera	UK
Danica Grahek-Ogden	Norway
Charlotte Grastilleur	France
Klemens Fuchs	Austria
Darja Sokolic	Croatia
Flemming Bager	Denmark
Alessandra Perrella	Italy
Martina Stack	Ireland

- **EFSA:**

Evidence Management Unit: Mary Gilsean, Jane Richardson, Eileen O’Dea, Sofia Ioannidou, Stefano Cappé, Mario Monguidi

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

Apologies were received from Flemming Bager (Denmark), DG SANTE D1 and Stefano Cappe (EFSA).

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Discussion of the Objectives and Terms of Reference for the Task Force

The Chair presented the background to the Advisory Forum’s decision to institute a Task Force to examine the need for common thinking amongst EU Member

States and other stakeholders including EU institutional stakeholders (e.g. EFSA, ECDC, ECHA, DG SANTE) in their approach to the collection and analysis of data relating to food safety and EFSA's remit.

There may be some difficulties relating to having a clear strategic understanding of data at a high level in food safety organisations and in relation to Member States' responsibilities and EFSA responsibilities.

The Chair presented the terms of reference for the task force. Within this context, he explained that the role of the task force is to give advice to the EFSA Advisory Forum on where problems are and how EFSA could solve them

3.1 Data Collection and Reporting

This is the starting point and the perspective of origin for task force members. There is a paradigm shift in data management, including at EFSA, from collection/transmission to stakeholder partners towards opening access for partners. In the EFSA case, this could mean providing EFSA with access to national systems to retrieve what data they require for a particular remit. Data security, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and confidentiality issues would need to be considered as well as exploration of mechanisms for reducing the reporting burden considering the needs of EFSA, DG SANTE and international bodies.

3.2 Data Modelling

This aspect includes structuring data to reflect reality. The need for the national data model to differ from the EFSA data model should be considered as well as how to manage those differences and whether sharing of national variations amongst Member States may be of value.

As many users of data models designed for risk assessment purposes are risk managers, how the models serve both risk assessment and risk management purposes merits consideration e.g. extensions of SSD2 (standard sample description, version 2) in a national context; – should we aim to harmonise these differences or simply recognise their differences? As well as considering the value of a harmonisation process, the costs should be evaluated.

3.3 IT Architecture

Task force members discussed the need to understand the different architectural approaches used to manage food safety data and whether a group for exchange of expertise and best practice would be beneficial.

3.4 Data Analysis

Task force members considered the extent to which national food safety organisations include data focussed objectives in their strategic plans and regard their data as assets in the assessment, management and communication of risk. This could include the formation of a cross domain data management/architecture expert group to consider whether data is used, and should it be used, to influence the implementation of official controls - not determining official control plans but informing decisions made in the management of official controls.

A proposal of the time lines for the task force was presented considering the timing of Advisory Forum meetings.

4. Tour de Table

The participating Member State representatives expressed support for the objectives and Terms of Reference of this task force and briefly described their national data collection systems. It was proposed to invite other food safety data users to relevant meetings.

5. Next Steps

Task	Target Date	Who
Convene the next meeting of the AF-Task Force on Data Collection and Data Modelling directly preceding the next Advisory Forum Meeting on 28 th November (Vienna under the Austrian Presidency)	16 Nov 2018	Chair/EFSA
The representatives to present an overview of their information management systems considering the terms of reference at the next Task Force meeting	Nov 2018	All participants

6. Closure of the meeting at 11.00