

**Report of the meeting of IUNS/UNU/FAO INFOODS Task Force held  
on 12 September 2013 at the 10<sup>th</sup> International Food Data Conference,  
Granada, Spain**

**List of Participants**

Ruth Charrondiere	FAO, INFOODS coordinator
Verena Nowak	FAO, INFOODS
Doris Rittenschober	FAO, INFOODS
Isaac Akinyele	AFROFOODS coordinator
Hettie Schönfeldt	AFROFOODS special advisor
Christiant Kouebou	CAFOODS coordinator
Henrietta Ene-Obong	AFROFOODS
Petro Wolmarans	AFROFOODS
Renee Sobolewski	OCEANIAFOODS
Enkhtaivan Gombosuren	NESIAFOODS
T. Longvah	SAARCFOODS coordinator
Leticia Nunez	LATINFOODS coordinator
Adriana Bianco	LATINFOODS
Norma Samman	LATINFOODS
Elizabete Wenzel Menezes	LATINFOODS
Prapasri Puwastien	ASEANFOODS coordinator
Kunchit Judprasong	ASEANFOODS
Pamela Pehrsson	NORAMFOODS
Marie-France Verreault	NORAMFOODS
Paul Finglas	EUROFOODS coordinator
Mirjana Gurinovic	EUROFOODS
Suzanne Murphy	Hawaii

**Provisional Agenda**

1. Highlights of regional activities of regional data centers
2. Highlights of global INFOODS activities
3. INFOODS membership
4. Renewal of regional coordinators
5. INFOODS plans on regional and global level for 2014 and 2015
6. Funding of INFOODS activities
7. Capacity development
8. Other business

1. Highlights of regional activities of regional data centers

Before the meeting, reports were received from: AFROFOODS, ECSAFOODS, NORAMFOODS, ASEANFOODS and LATINFOODS. Other regions reported their main achievements and activities orally during the meeting but will send a full report afterwards. The reports of the data centres will be published on the INFOODS websites. In addition, a summary report need

to be submitted to IUNS as INFOODS is one of the IUNS Task Forces; Ruth Charrondiere and Suzanne Murphy being the chairs. In summary, several regions are active and many activities are on-going at country and regional level including assistance among countries. Others encounter more difficulties (e.g. financial, time, non-responsiveness), which lead to less activities.

## 2. Highlights of global INFOODS activities

In the last two years, several new guidelines and databases were published (see [http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/food\\_composition/documents/achievements/INFOODS\\_achievements\\_June\\_2013.pdf](http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/food_composition/documents/achievements/INFOODS_achievements_June_2013.pdf)): 3 new guidelines, 3 new food composition tables/databases, an e-learning course AOAC methods, made available through FAO library, and introduction of nutrition and food composition into agriculture. It is positive to note that there is an increasing number of experts from all regions contributing to FAO/INFOODS guidelines. The participation of the different regions regarding data sharing to databases could be improved. One of the means to populate FAO/INFOODS databases could be to collaborate with scientific journal editors through whom researchers could be solicited to share their published data in the appropriate format with the FAO/INFOODS databases.

## 3. INFOODS membership

A document on a proposed INFOODS membership was circulated before the meeting. The advantages, disadvantages and implications were discussed of the possibility to install INFOODS memberships. It was decided that such a membership is not useful at this stage. Written comments can be submitted to Ruth Charrondiere by 15 October 2013 and a final decision can be taken thereafter.

## 4. Renewal of regional coordinators

There are a wide range of activity levels in the different regions including country involvements. Some national or regional coordinators were established some time ago and have ceased to be active since. Additionally, a number of regional or sub-regional coordinators expressed their wish to leave this position to the next successor now or in the near future. In most regions (except LATINFOODS), no mechanism of rotation or replacement exists. Many thought that such rules could be useful. It was decided that Ruth will make a proposal which will then be discussed over e-mail.

## 5. INFOODS plans on regional and global level for 2014 and 2015

The global plans for 2014-15 for INFOODS are posted at <http://www.fao.org/infoods/infoods/plans-and-achievements/en/>. The future plans at regional level will be published in the regional reports.

## 6. Funding of INFOODS activities

This item was not really discussed. However, more funding for INFOODS activities seem necessary.

### 7. Capacity development

The new FAO/INFOODS e-Learning Course on Food Composition Data should be used widely including in universities. The course can be useful at post graduate level but also for any other graduate level to insure a wide-spread knowledge on food composition of nutritionists and related fields. The course is without certification which could be provided through universities.

EuroFIR also have e-learning modules on analytical methods which is complementary to the FAO/INFOODS course. If the EuroFIR course could be available free-of-charge as well, a combination of the two courses could be envisaged. Paul Finglas will find out as there is an annual maintenance fee of 4000 Euros and come back to Ruth.

### 8. Other business

The 11<sup>th</sup> IFDC will be held in Hyderabad, India, in November 2015.

The proceedings of the conference will be published in Food Chemistry. A tight time schedule (e.g. 9 months) was recommended by Paul Finglas who is the editor. Only articles with a scientific merit will be published. All oral presentations, the poster awards and selected poster presentations will be eligible to submit an article. The guest editors of the supplement will be Emilio Martinez, Angel Gil and Ruth Charrondiere.

