

INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP ON TEA  
INTERSESSIONAL MEETING   
Washington, DC, USA  
17-18 September 2012

Provisional Agenda and Timetable

# Objectives

**Working Group on Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs)**

  Report, discuss and finalize the priority list of compounds in different countries and remove anomalies and duplication of work

**Working Group on MRLS in Tea Brew**

  Report on progress made with the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residue (CCPR) regarding the use of the tea brew as an alternative to measuring MRLs

* Consider the draft action plan outlined in the discussion document, discuss the need to define the framework of a policy document required for CODEX and agree on the strategy to be adopted to include the tea brew in the dietary risk assessment for tea

**Working Group Tea Trade and Quality**

* Review the status of compliance of ISO 3720, as a minimum quality standard, in member countries
* Develop a strategy to promote minimum quality and safety assurance of ISO 3720 parameters to the governments of consumer countries as well as to the tea trade and consumers

**Working Group on Organic Tea**

* Develop and agree on technical requirements and the certification process for organic tea production
* Report on progress made towards considering organic tea as low energy input for financial gain through carbon trading and on joining the organic movement for sustainability

**Working Group on Climate Change**

* Agree on the specification and *modus operandi* of the coordination and function of the WG on Climate Change so that it can meet the deadlines established at the 20th Session of the IGG on Tea
* Develop a plan of action

**Working Group on Smallholders**

* Agree on the Terms of Reference of the Working Group on Smallholders
* Develop a plan of action

**Working Group on Futures Market**

* Agree on Terms of Reference of the Working Group on Futures Market
* Develop a plan of action

**New website of the IGG on Tea**

* Agree on the mock up of the new website and provide a clear commitment to populate it

**Monday, 17 September**

# Morning Session – Breakout sessions

8:00 Registration

9:00 Welcome and opening: Ms Florence Marie Rolle, Senior Liaison Officer, FAO Liaison Office for North America

9:15 Appointment of a Chairperson: Ms Sicily Kariuki, Second Vice-Chairperson of the IGG on Tea

9:15 Meetings of the Working Groups  
Each Working Group will be assigned to an area in the meeting room where they can discuss their issues, work and action plans and terms of reference. The Chairperson of each Working Group will report to the plenary.

10:30 Tea break

11:00 Meetings of the Working Groups (continued)

12:30 Lunch break

# Afternoon Session – Breakout sessions

14:00 Discussion on the issues and constraints encountered during the morning’s breakout sessions

15:00 Tea break

15:15 Meetings of the Working Groups (continued)

16:45 Wrap up for the day

17:00 End of session

19:00 Reception

**Tuesday, 18 September**

# Morning Session – Plenary session

9:00 Chair address: Ms Janika Kuruppu, Chairperson of the IGG on Tea

9:15 Update on developments of the new IGG/Tea website and plenary discussion and commitment to populate the new website

9:30 Report of the Working Group on MRLs

9:45 Plenary discussion and finalization of the priority list of compounds

10:15 Tea break

10:30 Report of the Working Group on MRLs in Brew

10:45 Plenary discussion and adoption of the strategy to include tea brew in the dietary risk assessment for tea

# Morning Session – Plenary session (cont’d)

11:15 Report of the Working Group on Tea Trade and Quality

11:30 Plenary discussion and adoption of a strategy to promote minimum quality and safety assurance of ISO 3720 parameters to the governments of consumer countries as well as to the tea trade and consumers

12:00 Wrap up of morning session

12:30 Lunch

# Afternoon Session – Plenary session

14:00 Report of the Working Group on Organic Tea

14:15 Plenary discussion and agree on technical requirements and the certification process for organic tea production

14:45 Report of the Working Group on Climate Change

15:00 Plenary discussion and adoption of the WG’s *modus operandi* and associated plan of action

15:30 Report of the Working Group on Smallholders

15:45 Plenary discussion and adoption of the WG’s Terms of Reference and associated plan of action

16:00 Tea break

16:15 Report of the Working Group on Futures Market

16:30 Plenary discussion and adoption of the WG’s Terms of Reference and associated plan of action

17:00 Conclusions and adoption of the draft report of the Intersessional Meeting