

## **Meeting of the IUNS/FAO/INFOODS Task Force, 14 September 2005, held at the 6<sup>th</sup> IFDC in Pretoria, South Africa**

### **Present:**

1. Nevin Scrimshaw, INFOODS (chairman)
2. Ruth Charrondiere, FAO (rapporteur)
3. Bill Aalbersberg, OCEANIAFOODS coordinator
4. Heather Greenfield, OCEANIAFOODS coordinator
5. Joanne M. Holden, NORAMFOODS coordinator
6. Elizabete Wenzel Menezes, BRASILFOODS, President of LATINFOODS
7. Saturnino de Pablo, SAMFOODS,
8. Prapasri Puwastien, ASEANFOODS coordinator
9. Pauline Samuda, CARICOMFOODS coordinator
10. Hettie Schönfeldt, AFROFOODS coordinator
11. Jehangir Khan Khalil, SAARCFOODS coordinator
12. Paul Finglas, EUROFOODS coordinator
13. Isaac Akinyele, Nigeria
14. Yuexin Yang, NEASIAFOODS coordinator
15. Susanne Murphy, Hawaii
16. Georges Codjia, FAO
17. Catherine Champagne, USA

Apologies: Barbara Burlingame

### **Agenda:**

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Regional Data Centre activities
3. Training Courses
4. Expert Consultations
5. Journal of Food Composition and Analysis
6. Technical Cooperation Projects for Developing Countries
7. Next International Food Data Conference
8. Other business

### **Welcome**

Nevin Scrimshaw welcomed the participants. As Barbara Burlingame could not attend the conference he agreed to be the chair. Ruth Charrondiere was rapporteur.

### **Regional Data Centre activities**

ASEANFOODS organised two laboratory performance studies on analysis of milk and rice powder; six members attended two courses: reference material production and PT study at IRMM and IAEA; would like to produce an electronic food composition database with illustrations, update the ASEANFOODS food composition database (FCDB) by 2010 and update the ASEANFOODS a webpage. In SAARCFOODS there are no regional activities, Jehangir Khan Khalil computerized several FCDB (Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, India, Nepal, Pakistan), wants to make users aware of TAGNAMES through questionnaire and would like to organize the second Food Composition-Asia course together with ASEANFOODS and NEASIAFOODS. A NEASIAFOODS meeting was held in Korea in May 2004, and one is planned in 2006 in Mongolia. OCEANIAFOODS released second edition of South Pacific

food composition table, are developing FCDB with indigenous foods from New Zealand, Australia, South Pacific and probably Caribbean; proceedings of OCEANIAFOODS conference being edited, next conference is planned in three years; to hold a training course in Fiji as a satellite to the OCEANIAFOODS conference. LATINFOODS will give the details in presentation during the conference. CARICOMFOODS is a one person organization; computerizing FCDB is a problem and asked FAO for assistance; problem with naming of foods among 18 countries – 30 fruits and vegetables are done (Bill indicated a weblink <http://funredes.org/endacaribe/Tramil.html> where these names could be published already). Nigeria is updating and computerizing the 1995 FCDB with help of USDA and USAID. Ghana and Mali also undertake national activities. AFROFOODS has applied for funding to FAO technical cooperation project with 5 countries project – now they are looking for funding through EuroFir (Paul Finglas indicated that Scientific Support action (SSA) of the European Commission could support). Nevin Scrimshaw has requested FAO and UNU to provide funding. Ruth Charrondiere informed about the possible FAO restructuring [ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/meeting/009/j5800e/j5800e\\_sup1.pdf](ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/meeting/009/j5800e/j5800e_sup1.pdf) and its possible consequences, notably a decrease in funding possibilities.

### **Training courses**

Planned courses:

- 2005 and 2007 in Wageningen (the 2005 course has 26 participants out of which 12 are funded through EuroFir)
- 2006 in Bulgaria or Bratislava through EuroFir for CEE countries
- 2006 in India by SAARCFOODS/ASEANFOODS (Khalil to provide proposal – done)
- OCEANIAFOODS
- LATINFOODS

Francophone course would be welcomed. The possible help of Jayne Ireland was mentioned. Isaac Akinyele indicated that an Anglophone course for West Africa would also be needed.

### **Future IFDC**

It was agreed that the 7<sup>th</sup> IFDC will be held in Brazil near Sao Paulo in October/November 2007. Industry is expected to support so that registration fees can be low. For this IFDC the registration fees were felt to be too high and might have prevented some interested persons to participate. It was also announced that Thailand would accept to host the 8<sup>th</sup> IFDC in 2009 as the IUNS will be held in Thailand.

### **Journal of Food Composition and Analysis**

It was mentioned that the funding situation was not as secure as it was in the past from FAO side. Nevin had questions about the review process.

### **Technical Cooperation Projects for Developing Countries**

A regional TCP project on food composition has been submitted in September 2005 to FAO from LATINFOODS

### **Other business**

The coordinators would appreciate being more informed about FAO publications, e.g. Diet, Nutrition and the Prevention of Chronic Diseases (see <http://www.fao.org/WAIRDOCS/WHO/AC911E/AC911E00.HTM>) or other publications (see [http://www.fao.org/es/ESN/nutrition/requirements\\_pubs\\_en.stm](http://www.fao.org/es/ESN/nutrition/requirements_pubs_en.stm)).

Hettie Schönfeldt informed that at the IUNS conference in Durban the session on food composition was dropped which is unfortunate as this would have provided an opportunity to reach users of food composition data and make them aware of the strength and weaknesses of food composition data.