

**Summary of the 1st Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting of
CII-HUL Initiative on Food Safety Sciences (CHIFSS)
4th October 2016 | IHC, New Delhi**

Present:

Dr. Debabrata Kanungo, Chairman, Scientific Advisory Committee, CHIFSS & Former Additional Director General, Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Chairman, Panel for Pesticides and Antibiotic Residues, FSSAI

Dr. Nimish Shah, Co-Chairman, Scientific Advisory Committee, CHIFSS & Director - SEAC, HUL

Dr. S K Saxena, Director, Export Inspection Council

Dr. Suneeti Toteja, Director, FSSAI

Dr. G S Toteja, Scientist G & Head-Nutrition, Indian Council of Medical Research

Dr. V. Sudershan Rao, Scientist E (Deputy Director), National Institute of Nutrition

Dr. A. Sivakumar, R&D Director – Skin Cleansing, (Global Platform Design & S. Asia Deploy) and Ayush, Hindustan Unilever Ltd

Dr. Balwinder Bajwa, CEO, E-EFRAC

Dr. Kaushik Banerjee, Principal Scientist, ICAR - National Research Centre for Grapes

Dr. Lalitha R Gowda, Member, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India & Former Chief Scientist, CSIR-CFTRI, Mysore

Mr Leon Gorris, Director, Regulatory Affairs Global Food Safety & Capabilities, Unilever

Dr. Mukul Das, Chief Scientist, Indian Institute of Toxicology Research

Dr. Naresh Kumar, Principal Scientist - Microbial Biosensors, Food Safety & Quality Assurance Laboratory, ICAR-National Dairy Research Institute

Dr. Neela Emanuel, Associate Professor, National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management

Mr Rajendra Dobriyal, Regulatory Affairs Director (South Asia), Unilever

Dr Indrani Ghose, Strategic Advisor, CII –FACE Food Safety and Quality: CII Secretariat

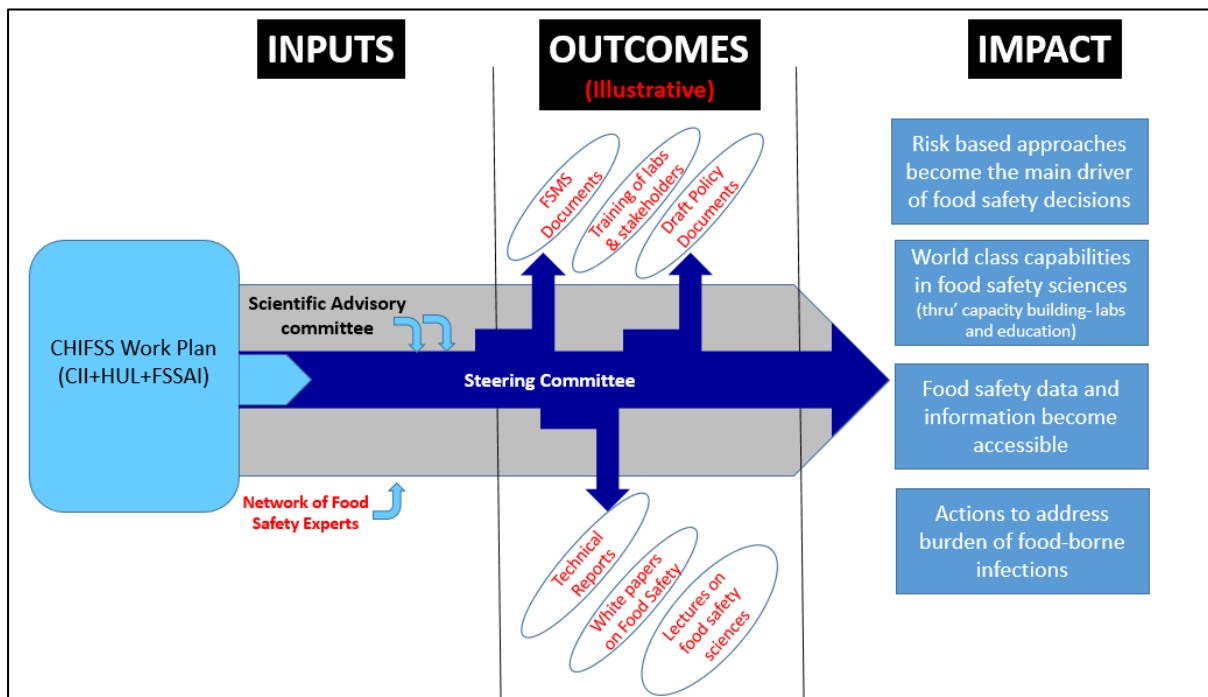
Mr Deepak Mathur, Senior Consultant, CII-FACE Food Safety and Quality

The Role of Scientific Advisory Committee:

- Identify Needs and Aspects for Long Term Objectives and Goals
- Provide Guidance on the Work Plan
- Provide hard core Scientific Inputs (e.g emerging risks, data capturing, tools and techniques, technology, processes)
- Identify New Areas of Intervention and the Way Ahead and help prioritise
- Identify new domain experts and resources in Scientific Advisory Committee and Working Groups

The Scientific Advisory Committee was also briefed on the assignments advised by FSSAI at the 1st Interface Steering Committee between FSSAI and CHIFSS and the suggestions made by the Steering Committee.

The diagram below will help SAC members appreciate the framework of CHIFSS



Main inputs from the SAC, relevant to CHIFSS and its objectives were:

- Co-ordination for harnessing knowledge , expertise and data and identifying the gaps would result in comprehensively developing short, medium and long term plans in driving Food Safety based on the principles of Science.
- Strengthen capacity building on Food Safety Sciences in the country
- The Role of Steering Committee was informed to the SAC

- The Role of Scientific Advisory Committee:
 - Identify Needs and Aspects for Long Term Objectives and Goals
 - Provide Guidance on the Work Plan
 - Provide scientific inputs (e.g emerging risks, data capturing, tools and techniques, technology, processes)
 - Identify New Areas of Intervention and the Way Ahead and help prioritise
 - Identify new domain experts and resources in Scientific Advisory Committee and Working Groups

1.FSMS Guidance Documents

8 Food Categories were identified and prioritised by FSSAI for preparation of FSMS Guidance Documents (Ref ppt) by December 2016.

2. Develop Blueprint for Risk Management of Specific Food Borne Illness

A Blueprint for Risk Management of Specific Food borne illness based on Estimate burden of high food borne illness, risk ranking will be developed. We need to go through the current database/ leverage digital / data on food borne pathogens and select themes on Food borne pathogens from FSSAI.

3. Develop Sector Specific Training Programs to disseminate FSMS Plans

Sector Specific trainings which could be Online/ and Webinars, need to be developed based on the FSMS Guidance Documents. Standard Operating Procedures for the same after completion of FSMS Guidance documents would also have to developed.

4. Public Lecture Series

The Steering Committee will identify names of speakers over and above those presented (ref PPT 1SC 3Oct16). We need to look at commodities, areas, international exports for identifying speakers who are eminent National and International reputed scientists / domain experts.

5. Short Video Library

Examples of interesting topics for composing short videos of Food Safety and Nutrition could be ' Difference between Hazards, Risk Analysis, Risk Assessment, Risk Management, Risk Communication and Food Safety' and others.

Other Key Suggestions of the Steering Committee

- a. Consider including a BIS representative in Scientific Advisory Committee
- b. Prioritised data collection on Food borne Illness could be enabled by SAC. NIN, Private Labs, FSSAI approved labs to be approached to share. Need to develop a template for data collection / reporting
- c. Where possible apply predictive modelling
- d. Submit CHIFSS Projects for funding under various national (DBT/DST Funding)and global schemes
- e. Mr Sanjeev Mehta's (Chairman HUL) ppt on Food Safety will be shared with the SAC
- f. Need to add all stakeholder representatives in CHIFSS
- g. There will be a monthly reporting system within the e-group of CHIFSS Steering Committee
- h. The frequency of meetings was proposed as Quarterly Face to Face/ Video Conference, Monthly emails.

The suggestions of the members, Chair and Co Chair of the Scientific Advisory Committee are summarised below:

- I. Data Integrity is a problem and laboratory results of India are not accepted. Hence we need to institutionalise Laboratory rigor and laboratory capabilities by strengthening Quality Systems /facilitate 21 CFR compliance and Proficiency testing in Labs.
- II. CHIFSS could leverage Marine exports case study.
- III. Traceability and RM Certification are key to source tracking and food safety
- IV. Risk based approaches training could be developed and delivered through network of risk assessors. We need to bring people from other parts of the world
- V. Leverage smartphones, digital media for dissemination of Food Safety (Knowledge Sharing and Capacity Building.
- VI. For a Risk based approach Exposure understanding is critical.
- VII. Food safety at point of consumption (Household level) must be considered to make food safety implementation effective
- VIII. For addressing Grass root level protection Participation of ministry of agriculture (so that farm level practices are addressed)
- IX. Given the complexity we need to deliver on 1 critical task at a time and ensure that efforts are not duplicated
- X. CHIFSS should develop Scientific papers on Food safety

Other points

The other points suggested are listed below. While not in the scope of CHIFSS, these could be reviewed by the CII Expert Group on Food Safety and Quality , FACE, under its workplan, during 2017.

- I. Schools do not have a course on food safety. We need to catch them young for inculcating Risk Assessment capability and extend this to Post Graduate level. Use of local language as the medium of communication is important.
- II. Learnings from success with Environment education in schools could be utilised to create a similar approach for food safety education for Schools
- III. There is need for scientifically based total diet study and Surveillance
- IV. Water Safety must be addressed for ensuring food safety

The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks by Dr Indrani Ghose to the Chair, Co-Chair and Members for sparing their precious time and providing their valuable inputs to initiate the directions for taking forward the objectives of CHIFSS .



Foods
Safety4sanjivMehta.