



**1<sup>st</sup> Expert Group on Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 on the provision of food information to consumers**

**Short minutes of the meeting held on February 5<sup>th</sup> 2013 in Brussels**

**Topic: Preparation of a Commission Delegated Regulation on the adaptation of the definition of 'engineered nanomaterials' laid down in Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 on the provision of food information to consumers**

The Commission (DG SANCO and the Joint Research Centre) and representatives from the following Member States were present: BE, DK (pm only), DE, EE, IRL, GR, ESP, FR, IT, CY, LV, LU, HU, NL, AU, RO, SL, FIN, SW, UK.

**Background:**

This was the first meeting of this Expert Group and the aim was to discuss a draft Commission staff Working Document on the adaptation of the definition of 'engineered nanomaterials' in the Food Information to Consumers (FIC) Regulation.

**Meeting:**

The meeting started with an introduction where the Commission outlined the main elements of the proposed adaptation of the definition, as follows:

- Limitation of the concept of 'engineered nanomaterials' to 'intentionally manufactured' only;
- Coverage of newly manufactured food additives (exclusion of food additives already authorised under Regulation 1333/2008, e.g. silicon dioxide);
- Additional definition of 'intentionally manufactured' (link with nano size and properties): "ingredient that is manipulated [on purpose] in order to be in the nano-size range and to exhibit properties that are characteristic to the nanoscale";
- Particle size distribution lowered from 50% to 10%.

Overall, the MSs supported the general approach, as presented.

The Commission and MSs exchanged views on the wording as well as the possible options on issues discussed. Specifically on the issue of the particle size distribution threshold, certain Member States expressed doubts on whether the proposed level would be enforceable. At the end of the discussion the Commission explained that this definition is still in an early stage and that further consultations both internally as well as with Stakeholders in the context of the Advisory Group on Animal Health and Food Chain were necessary.

The matter would be discussed further with Member States in subsequent meetings.