

Joint Meeting
PG Social Issues in the Food Industry
PG Environmental Issues in the F&B Sector

Minutes

Date: 17th June 2019 2:00pm to 5:00pm

Location: Brussels & conference call

Participants:

- Aldi Süd, Emma Kennedy
- Axfood, Kristina Areskog Bjurling
- Clama, Anne Stemmer
- Coop, Raphael Schilling
- EDEKA, Carole Romero Vargas
- Lidl, Emi Katoh
- LIDL HK, Zoe Sin
- Mousquetaires, Coralie Alazet
- Rewe Group, Laura Meissner
- Salling Group, Miina Mälgand
- Systembolaget, Hanna Sutherlin
-, Eleonore Disse

Absent:

- Aldi Nord, Stephanie Schuler
- El Corte Ingles, Sergio Miguelez Moran
- Grupo Calvo, Victoria Sanchez Jimenez
- Kesko, Tuuli Luoma

amfori Secretariat:

- [Anna Stancher](#), Strategy and Innovation
- [Rikarnto Bountis](#), Strategy and Innovation
- Guest: [Diederik Delen](#), ACA

Agenda topics:

- [Farm Visibility in Platform](#)
- [Farm Self-Assessment](#)
- [Project Group Organization](#)
- [Other business](#)

Farm visibility in new platform

Objective: to inform the development of the new platform to create a solution that facilitates monitoring and remediation at farm level.

amfori presented a proposal for a “managed profile”. This solution can be used for farms that are not able to directly join the Platform and input their data. The “managed profile”:

- It is created by a third party (profile data input)
- It is managed by a third party (assigning activities)
- The right to manage the profile can be transferred to the farm if this is able to join the Platform at a later point in time

amfori presented 2 options for the “managed profile”.

- Option 1: the profile is created by the auditor at the time of the audit. This guarantees accuracy of information but limits the shareability of the profile.
- Option 2: the profile is created by member or producer at any point in time. This compromises on reliability of information but increases shareability.

Feedback of PG members:

- Option 1 does not give the possibility to see the farm if you are not responsible of it. It also limits the number of farms that will be able to join to those that receive an audit. It is good for data quality but it does not meet the needs of members to engage farms in their supply chains prior to an audit.
- Option 2, safeguards should be introduced to increase reliability of information e.g.
 - Obligation to search the farm database by name, ID, GGN before being able to create a profile
 - Co-managed profile: both farm and third party have the right to access the profile
 - Differentiate profile with validated data (audited farms) from profiles with not-validated data

Actions:

- amfori will refine the proposal for the “managed profile” based on the feedback. The proposal will be discussed in the PG meeting in August 2019.

Farm Self-Assessment

Objective: to support farms to understand the amfori BSCI requirements, identify gaps and prepare for a future audit. The self-assessment is a self-help tool. It does not verify performance nor substitute for an audit.

amfori presented a draft self-assessment that includes:

- Data evidence of farm
- Social aspect of sustainability (+/- 25 Questions)
- Environmental aspect of sustainability (+/- 10 Questions)

The PG discussed if a self-assessment is needed. For members who are not mapping and monitoring farms through amfori BSCI, the self-assessment is not needed. However, members who audit or plan to audit with amfori BSCI will use the self-assessment as one instrument to on-board the farms. The choice to use or not use the self-assessment rests with the member.

Feedback of PG members:

Social Part of the Self-Assessment	
Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Length is good ○ Dropdowns good for farmers ○ Explanations for the answers are very helpful ○ Business information good criteria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Differentiation between legal and other requirements needed ○ Some questions need to be further broken down ○ Include more questions on migrants and replace “foreign workers” with “migrant workers” ○ Include more questions on recruitment agencies ○ Make scoring method transparent to farms ○ Change question on workers’ representatives to “do you have a trade union representative?” ○ A question regarding the minimum wage needs to be included
Environmental Part of the Self-Assessment	
Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Environmental questions too vague ○ Too many topics addressed through each question ○ Questions might not be relevant depending on the type of production of farms ○ Either the questionnaire is extended to cover all topics or it focuses on less topics

Additional feedback:

- Scoring needs to be combined with free text
- Free text needs to be mandatory
- Self-assessment needs to deliver some metrics that are usable for retailers (from data evidence) and could trigger an alert to members e.g. presence of temporary workers, recruitment agencies
- Business rules should allow for delegation of this activity from member to supplier or producer

Action: amfori will modify the self-assessment for review in the next PG meeting.

[PG organization](#)

The PG is renamed “Sustainability in the Food Sector” and it will cover social and environmental issues.

Elections for Chair and Deputy Chair:

- Chair: Emma Kennedy June 2019 to March 2020, Hanna Sutherlin March 2020 to Feb 2021
- Co-Chair: Hanna Sutherlin June 2019 to March 2020, Emma Kennedy March 2020 to Feb 2021

The next PG meeting takes place as conference call on August 29, 2019.

The agenda will include a discussion on GLOBALGAP/GRASP.

Other business

Axfood presented the work done to support the human rights and trade union activist Jorge Acosta in Ecuador and informed members of the opportunity to sign a joint petition. Information on the case can be found [here](#). Axfood is liaising with amfori Stakeholder Engagement team on this matter. A [statement](#) was released by amfori to call for the respect of human right defenders.