



Note to IUMS on ICMSF activities in 2018 to 2019

Membership

ICMSF membership consists of 18 experts from 14 countries. The members' joint food safety expertise is wide-ranging, including risk assessment, research, product and process development, public health, agriculture, food technology, food safety management, quality control, education, systems thinking and process engineering.

Meetings and outcomes

Since the last report, November 2018, ICMSF held one annual meeting to which a workshop was associated:

- 1 and 2 October 2019, Sydney, Australia. Commission workshop on Water and Food Security Challenges and Potential Big Data/Digital Solutions for Global Food Safety. Attended by 14 ICMSF members and 56 invited experts from Australia and elsewhere.
- 3-11 October 2019, Sydney, Australia: 52nd Annual Commission meeting. Attended by 17 members and 8 consultants and invitees (i.e., Wang Jun of CFSA, China, Bobby Krishna of Dubai FSA, UAE, Mike Batz of US-FDA, Nigel French of Massey Univ., New Zealand, Cathy Moir and Narelle Fegan of CSIRO, Australia; Ngo Thi Phuong Dung of Can Tho Univ., Vietnam and Ian Jenson of MLA, Australia)).

Through the Workshop, ICMSF communicated its latest thinking regarding the impact of global megatrends on food safety. Experts from different science domains from government, industry and academia provided insights into aspects of food sustainability, security, and food production that enrich the Commission understanding and support the Commissions work during the Annual meeting. Particular emphasis was dedicated to the relationships between water security and food safety. As current water scarcity may be exacerbated as a consequence of the impact of many of the megatrends, challenges in safe water use and re-use are expected to be increasing as well. The information shared and the discussions held at the workshop provided a broad and pertinent foundation for the commission to specifically develop its work of safe and fit for purpose water use and re-use in food production and processing.

The focus of theme of the Annual meeting was the further development by the Commission of its latest book project on food safety and stability in the face of global food megatrends. In the past 2 years, this project has gradually matured, but at the 52nd annual meeting substantial progress was made towards the scope and content of various chapters and the direction into which new and complementary concepts are to be established. This includes how guidance can be compiled to help food safety stakeholders with regards to consistent risk- and science-based decision-making on food safety and stability, while considering the impact and consequences of megatrends.

During the Annual meeting, all other activities of the Commission were reviewed as well and necessary actions discussed and planned. These include the Outreach to food safety stakeholders, peer-reviewed publications and opinion/white papers, ICMSF website, Members and Consultants, Future meeting venues, Sub-commissions and local teams, and collaboration with other organisations and associations. No new members were elected during the formal deliberations of the Commission. It was noted that the various consultants and invitees had greatly contributed to the progress made at the annual meeting. After 21 years of being a member, of which 20 years as ICMSF treasurer, Jeffrey Farber retired from the Commission. The new ICMSF treasurer is Michelle Danyluk, Florida University, USA.

In April and July 2019, ICMSF members contributed scientific presentations and sessions at the European and Global Conferences, respectively, of the International Association for Food Protection (IAFP). Of particular note were the sessions on the management of *Campylobacter* spp. in the poultry meat food chain. Also in April, ICMSF members were involved in the organization of a very well-received workshop held on 17 April in Beijing (China) on the management of pathogens in poultry and other meats, which was co-hosted by the China Institute for Food Science and Technology (CIFST, Beijing, China) and the Walmart Food Safety Collaboration Center (Beijing, China).

On 20 and 21 November 2019, Marcel Zwietering and Leon Gorris conducted a two days specialist training in Microbiological Sampling and Testing for Irish food safety experts from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) and the Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI).

Several ICMSF members continued to participate in important technical FAO/WHO expert meetings and consultations, for instance as experts in the Joint FAO/WHO expert meetings on Microbiological Risk Assessment, as well as in electronic and physical meetings of Codex Alimentarius Committees and working groups, especially for the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH) and the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS).

Throughout the year, Kiran Bhilegaonkar and Leon Gorris, liaised with the Food Safety Standards Authority of India within the frame of a MoU between ICMSF and CHIFSS (the Confederation of Indian Industries and the HUL Initiative on Food Safety Sciences). As a tangible outcome of the collaboration, a CHIFFS guideline document on microbiological process control, sampling and testing for the poultry industry was produced that is to be launched early 2020.

Most of the information on activities of the Commissions can be found on www.ICMSF.org. Copies of the programs of the Workshop and The Annual meeting are provided separately to this report.

Respectfully submitted,



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ICMSF Secretary
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