

CIAA Flash

Publication addressed to CIAA members

Highlight

On June 6 2007, CIAA announced the appointment of Mrs. Mella Frewen as its next Director General. She will take over from Daniela Israelachwili on July 2 2007. Jean Martin, CIAA president welcomed the appointment of Mella Frewen, confident that her knowledge and understanding of the agri-food sector and her experience of European affairs will keep CIAA on a continued strong course and further strengthen the European food and drink industry representation in Brussels.

An Irish national, Mella Frewen has a Bachelor and Master of Science degrees from the National University of Ireland, and also completed a post-graduate course in marine biology at the Free University of Brussels. She also holds an INSEAD diploma on International Operations Management.

Mrs. Frewen has worked in the agri-food sector for 20 years. Recently she was Director, Government Affairs - Europe & Africa for Monsanto, where she worked on issues related principally to agricultural biotechnology but also conventional agriculture and agri-chemistry. Mella Frewen was International Relations Director for Cerestar. From this role and her earlier ones in the Ferruzzi and Eridania Béghin-Say Groups, stationed in Brussels, she has a wide experience of relations with the different Institutions of the European Union and trade associations within the food chain.

Article 13 List of Health Claims Regulation

Article 13 List of Health Claims Regulation- industry contribution available

On 12/06 June 2007, CIAA has made available Part 1 of the industry contribution on Article 13 list as referred to in the Health Claims regulation (EC) 1924/2006. Part 1 comprises the sections referring to: vitamins, minerals, proteins, carbohydrates, proteins, fats, fibre and probiotics. The list comprises 252 health relationships accompanied by specific conditions of use, list of references and examples of potential claims. The list was designed according to the Guidelines of D. Richardson et al (2006). The next step in the process is that the National Food and Drink Federations contact their National Authorities and table the industry contribution. Part 2 on others substances, botanicals, foods, beverages and diets is expected shortly.

Food Additives Intake

CIAA Participates in Commission ad hoc Working Group on Food Additives Intake

On 04/06 June, CIAA attended the first meeting of the ad hoc Working Group on Dietary Intake of Food Additives, hosted by the European Commission and comprised of Member State experts, academia and concerned industry. The Group has been tasked with a number of objectives, namely the refinement of intake estimates for certain additives and the preparation by end July of a questionnaire addressed to manufacturers regarding the usage and concentration levels of additives. The questionnaire will be circulated to industry representatives in September, after which the resulting data will be presented to the Commission at the end of the year. In the longer term, the Group will look into the

assessment of existing national databases and surveys conducted across the Member States and the development of a rationale for the establishment of a harmonised food consumption database.

CAP

During the last agricultural Council under the German Presidency on 11-12/06, ministers formally adopted a number of dossiers which were being discussed for months: the single Common Market Organisation approved with a Commission statement on the working arrangements for the Single Management Committee; the council conclusions on the Commission's report on cross-compliance; adoption of a new regulation on organic production and labelling; political agreement on reforms to the Common Market Organisation for fruit and vegetables to bring this sector into closer line with the rest of the reformed CAP.

WTO

G8 leaders meeting in Heiligendamm beginning of June restated their commitment to an "ambitious and balanced" outcome of the WTO Doha Round negotiations. The G4 countries (EU, USA, Brazil, India) will meet in Potsdam from 19-22 June and try to find a breakthrough in particular on the agricultural part of negotiations. WTO Director General Pascal Lamy was quoted that "an interim agreement which would pave the way for a final agreement in six to nine months was close". In the run-up to the ministerial meeting in Potsdam developing countries united on 11/06 2007 in Geneva on an initiative by the G20 emerging countries, where G20 trade ministers met with the G33 and the African Union, the ACP countries, least developed countries and small and vulnerable economies.