



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Record of Discussions and Decisions

4 November 2021 at 7 AM Quebec City Time

#### PARTICIPANTS

Name	Country	Present	Regrets
Dr. Rashed Al Arfaj	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Prof. Kaushik Banerjee	India	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Pamela Byrne	Republic of Ireland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr./Prof. Hussein Mansour	Arab Republic of Egypt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Scott Crerar	Australia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prof. Junshi Chen	China	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prof. Samuel Godefroy	Canada	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. Zeineb El Bouchikhi	Morocco	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. Nuri Gras	Chile	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Greg Paoli (jointed at 7:00)	Canada	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Wiem Guissouma	Tunisia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. Joyce Haddad (joined at 7:30)	Lebanon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## RECORD OF DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS – HIGHLIGHTS

### A. Review of the Agenda

Quorum of attendance was achieved with 9 members out of 12 present.

A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Dr. Pamela BYRNE and was seconded by Dr. Wiem Guissouma. The agenda was adopted unanimously.

### B. Review and Approval of 27 July 2021 Record or Decisions

The Records of Decisions (ROD) of the 27 July 2021 Board meeting were reviewed. Dr. Nuri Gras motioned for their adoption which was seconded by Prof. Junshi Chen. The ROD of 27 July 2021 were adopted unanimously.

### C. Introduction of the 1st Global Food Regulatory Science Symposium: Dubai, 20 – 22 November 2021

The Board was advised of the organization of the 1<sup>st</sup> Global Food Regulatory Science Symposium, along with the associated contributions planned by Board members. In particular, Junshi Chen, Honorary President of GForSS agreed to officially open the food risk analysis workshop. Dr. Pamela Byrne would contribute two presentations on updates of the European food regulatory environment and on the resilience of food control systems. Ms. Zeineb El Bouchikhi agreed to present updates of the Moroccan food regulatory landscape.

This event will take place in Dubai, over four days - 17 and 19 to 21 November 2021 – using a hybrid mode.

The event is cosponsored by the Dubai Municipality, PARERA/ULaval, the Arab Industrial Development Standardization and Mining Organization (AIDSMO) and the Gulf Cooperation Council Standardization Organization (GSO), as well as AOAC International.

### D. Update on Recent Accomplishments of the Codex Initiative for the Middle East and North Africa

Updates were provided on the accomplishments made in relation with the Codex Initiative for the Middle East and North Africa (please refer to the presentation attached and the report of the September 2021 Dubai workshop). Board members sought some additional information on next steps planned for the initiative.

Board members were also informed of the impediments encountered in the financial management of this initiative, related to unforeseen conditions of fund transfers, associated with the procurement rules followed by Laval University. This is despite the fact that GForSS was identified as the recipient/implementation partner responsible for clear initiatives and, in particular, to manage the network of experts from the region and their remuneration.

Other challenges were also identified with respect to the capacity to procure services promptly, for example, in the context of the organization of a scientific event, such as the Dubai workshop of September 2021, where service providers were seeking to be compensated for services on the spot, almost immediately, which was not compatible with the financial operations of Laval University, holder of the funding.

Changes are being investigated in collaboration with the US codex office to allow direct funding attributed to GForSS be directed to the organization without intermediaries, such as Laval University. Laval University programs

would be provided funding through GForSS as required, based on the activities to be delivered and the relevant support to academic activities accordingly.

The Board will be kept informed of these efforts and their outcomes.

**E. Proposed Launch of the Journal of the Global Food Regulatory Science Society: JGForSS**

Dr. Amine Kassouf introduced the plans to launch the journal of the Global Food Regulatory Science Society JGForSS – please see presentation attached.

Board members supported this initiative and agreed to serve on the editorial board of the journal, including Prof. Chen, Dr. Pamela Byrne, Dr. Scott Crerar and Dr. Nuri Gras, along with current contributors to launching the journal: Dr. Wiem Guissouma, Ms. Joyce Haddad and Dr. Amine Kassouf.

**F. Scheduling Next Board Meeting**

It was agreed that the next board meeting will be held during the second week of January, possibly on 12 January 2022, unless other issues emerge requiring a Board meeting.

**G. Adjournment**

The Board meeting was concluded at 8.30 AM Quebec City time.