



Minutes of the fiftieth meeting of the Advisory Board of **safefood**
held on Friday 8 December 2006 at 11.00 am
safefood's Boardroom, Block B, Abbey Court, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin

PRESENT:

Cllr Bertie Kerr (Chairman)
Mr Patrick McColgan (PMC)
Prof Don Anderson (DA)
Mr Odran Flynn (OF)
Mr Leslie Craig (LC)
Mr Damien O'Dwyer (DOD)
Ms Anne Speed (AS)
Prof Sean Strain (SS)
Prof Patrick Fottrell (PF)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Martin Higgins, Chief Executive (MH)
Ms Suzanne Doran, Director of Marketing (SD)
Mr Peter Dewhurst, Finance Manager (PD)
Ms Fiona Gilligan, Consumer Services Manager (FG)
Ms Eileen O'Connor, acted as Secretary

APOLOGIES:

Prof Charlie Daly
Ms Catherine Murphy
Dr Margaret Patterson
Dr Clíodhna Foley-Nolan
Dr Thomas Quigley
Mr Ray Dolan

1. INTRODUCTION AND APOLOGIES

Noted: The Chairman welcomed everyone and noted all apologies.

2. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 13TH OCTOBER 2006

Agreed: The minutes were adopted with no amendments.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Action: In light of recent fair employment case, PD will be reviewing **safefood**'s professional indemnity insurance policy. It was suggested that the North South Ministerial Council look into areas of concern with regard to employment in dealing with both jurisdictions.

Noted: Fridges to Schools initiative - **safefood** have been in touch with the Department of Agriculture and will be distributing specially made fridge magnets with the remaining 400 fridges going out in January.

4. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

The CEO highlighted some of the key activities from the Chief Executive's Report.

Action: Corporate Plan to be made a standing item on the Board agenda.

Noted: LIMS project well received and noted that it was delivered on time and on budget.

Discussion took place on Laboratories. There are jurisdictional issues between vet and human side. Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) members discussed benefits of both jurisdictions working together and this will be advanced.

Noted: Enteric Reference Services - work will commence early in the new year to refocus our approach. It is necessary to find the right model, deal with concerns of various stakeholders and implement a value added solution. Members supported this view. It would be helpful to bring political support on board when an appropriate model is identified.

Noted: Members reinforced the importance of keeping Home Economics on the school curriculum. The **safefood** For Life project has been rolled out and is working very well in Northern Ireland.

Noted: The Fruit and Vegetable Consumer Focus Review is in final editing stage. Launch will be in January.

Noted: An extranet has been developed for the SAC.

Noted: Media interest in the issue of ladies handbags as a possible vector for pathogens resulted in opportunities for **safefood** staff to address the issue of cross-contamination.

5. SUPER FOODS CAMPAIGN (PRESENTATION)

Noted: Ms Fiona Gilligan, Consumer Services Manager gave a presentation on the Super Foods Campaign.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business the meeting ended. MH wished Advisory Board Members a very happy Christmas on behalf of **safefood** management and staff and the Chairman reciprocated on behalf of the Board.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next board meeting will be held on Friday 26th January 2007 in Dublin.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Dated: _____