EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE GENERAL
JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE
Directorate F - Health, Consumers and Reference Materials
Food & Feed Compliance

35th ENGL STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

12-13 June 2018, Ispra (Italy)

Report

1. Welcome, Tour de table, apologies, quorum
The Chairman welcomed the participants and asked for a tour de table presentation.

2. Approval of the agenda
The draft agenda (Annex I) was approved.

The Secretary informed that the survey on capacity building will be discussed under agenda point 8. He further announced that the description of terms and definitions proposed by the ENGL members can be discussed in agenda point 15 under new activities. Participants suggested sharing information on the GMO screening workshop previously organised in Gembloux (BE) on the 22nd-25th of May 2018. The Chair proposed discussing it before the agenda point 7 on preparation of the annual ENGL meeting. He also suggested discussing under agenda point 12 a follow-up on provision of guidelines from a DG SANTE questionnaire as requested by a participant and in particular of its national seed testing laboratories section. A participant commented that the presentations of the WG progress reports could be easily consulted on the ENGLnet and suggested focusing on issues of the reports that need discussions.

3. Approval of the report of the SC34 meeting
The report previously circulated for comments was endorsed without modifications.

4. Review of Dynamic Action List (DAL SC34)
The Secretary reviewed the open points on the list. He informed that the document prepared by the WG on digital PCR has been reviewed by ENGL members. He reminded that the NRL from Slovenia proposed to conduct a survey on procedures for maintenance/validation of key equipment in the laboratory; the questions to be included in the questionnaire still remain to be decided. He informed that an official letter on the Arctic apple issue requesting a detection method and control samples has been submitted to the company and is awaiting an answer. Regarding the issue of false positives in Chinese rice samples he informed that an e-mail requesting to share those samples had been submitted to ENGL members. The replies have to be evaluated before deciding on further actions. Some participants informed that their national laboratories requested feedback on proficiency testing results. The Chair considered the topic non-pertinent for the meeting. He finally expressed its gratitude for the on-time delivery of the progress reports and informed that they have been published on the ENGL website.

5. Update from SANTE
DG SANTE informed that a new proposal on risk assessment has been adopted. The colleague remarked that provisions related to environment risk assessment in Directive 2001/18/EC have been updated and warned for possible confusion awaiting the repeal of Decision 2002/623/EC.

Some laboratories requested an elucidation on the foreseen actions regarding the non-availability of certain CRMs at low level. Moreover, in the last report of the SC meeting clarifications were requested on the expression of measurement results when more than one GMO of the same species is present in a sample. Some NRLs requested DG SANTE to write an official statement so that the measurements are harmonised for all EU laboratories. DG SANTE suggested that a written request by the SC could legitimate an official position on the issue. The Chair offered to draft the request to DG SANTE and, following the new ENGL procedures, having it approved by a majority vote.

Another participant requested clarification on the detection of recombinant DNA in food enzymes since point 16 of Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 specifies that processing aids, which are only used during the food and feed production process, are not covered by the definition of food or feed and are therefore not included in the scope of the Regulation. She also complained on the lack of clarity in the definition of purity or partially purified when the terms are used in the application for authorisation. DG SANTE commented that any presence of GM DNA in food/feed can only originate from authorised GMOs, regardless which ingredient is at the origin.

The Chair mentioned that the methods criteria for feed additives are being revised. He informed that there is an on-going regulatory discussion on feed additives of which an update will be offered during the second day of the meeting.

6 Progress ENGL working groups

6.1. AG SMV (Advisory Group on Selection of Methods for Validation)

The Chair informed that in the previous AG SMV meeting the developer confirmed the transferability and robustness of the method for detecting the potato reference gene StLS. The developer was requested to provide experimental data on these tests and on the copy number stability of the target gene between different potato cultivars. The group members suggested focusing on improving the selection of taxon-specific methods and discussed whether it should consider methods for detection of GMM and GM animals, alternative technologies (dPCR) or recommend new screening strategies or their harmonisation among official control laboratories. During the AG SMV meeting the Chair requested the EURL GMFF to visually discriminate the authorised GMOs in the interface output of the JRC GMO-Matrix and Event-Finder decision tools to immediately identify if all authorised GMOs are covered by the designed screening approach. It was remarked that this option could be very useful for EU official control laboratories and laboratories in third wold countries to verify the completeness of their screening strategies. The WG members agreed to organise the following meeting in September and decided requesting the ENGL a clarification on the analytical strategies to be pursued.

A discussion followed among SC members on the mandate of the AG SMV and the opportunity of pursuing those discussions on screening in such a small WG. The Chair proposed to discuss the report of the screening workshop and take the occasion to see if there is a need for action.

6.2. WG-UpMeth (Update of methods)

The document is not far from being finalised. The current draft is addressing the interaction between the EURL GMFF and the applicant. ENGL members should receive the final draft for comments by September 2018.

6.3. WG-dPCR (Digital PCR)

The speaker reminded the new review procedure decided by the Steering Committee and informed that after the meeting in February the document was distributed to ENGL members for comments. 156 comments were collected. The comments should be resolved by the 15th of June so that the document could be sent to the Secretariat and the SC for the last verification and approval.

Participants commented that it is necessary to mention in the document that there is usually the same PCR-chemistry and detection prinicples applied in digital PCR and quantitative real-time PCR. The document should also provide some performance criteria (e.g. specificity, trueness, limit of detection etc.) to facilitate accreditation by the national accreditation body. Some NRLs were not able to obtain accreditation for a digital PCR method, the main reason being that some accreditation bodies do not recognise digital PCR as an extension of normal PCR and require additional data and documentation; others were accredited. The Chair suggested contacting BELAC and remarked that there should be better harmonisation in accreditation recognition across the EU.

6.4. WG-Proc (ENGL Procedures)

The Secretary explained that the draft document received few comments and that a procedure on how to solve conflicting positions still needs to be defined. Instead of the title "new procedures" he proposed "ENGL internal rules" as indicated in the ENGL Consortium Agreement. He informed that the comments will be reviewed to provide a new draft to the attention of the ENGL in September. A participant suggested using the word "procedures" instead of "rules" to avoid legal implications. Another participant expressed concern on immediately sharing the document on internal procedures with all ENGL members.

The Chair proposed to circulate the draft document first within the SC to see if it needs to be further discussed among SC members or if it can be shared at the ENGL level.

6.5. WG-mpPRC (multiplex PCR methods)

The WG leader announced that a first meeting has been already organised. The mandate entails the provision of an overview on multiplex method performance criteria and technical troubleshooting guidance to address problems with multiplex methods. A participant suggested distributing the WG progress reports to all ENGL members so that discussions focus on relevant points.

6.6. WG-seq (good practice/quality of DNA sequencing data)

The kick-off meeting for this WG is organised just after this SC meeting. Dr. Esther Kok is the proposed chair of the working group.

6.7. WG-DNAex (DNA extraction)

The speaker informed that a kick-off meeting of the WG was organised in February 2018 where the members reviewed the mandate, identified tasks and timelines. Theo Prins was identified as the chair of the WG. The second meeting is planned for the end of the year.

Report on workshop on screening

The EURL GMFF presented a summary on the screening workshop held at Gembloux (BE) on the 22nd-25th of May and involving 40 participants. The workshop had keynote lectures on screening providing a collection of methods for detecting authorised and non-authorised GMOs. Presentations were also given on decision supporting tools for evaluating the experimental results. Laboratories usually perform GMO screening with different sets of methods, mainly using a stepwise procedure where a first general screening is followed by evaluation of the positive signals and identification of the GM events that could potentially be present. A section of the workshop was dedicated to the detection of unauthorised GMOs, in which different NGS approaches were presented. One of the issues considered was the increasing number of GMOs not having common genetic element targets.

Members of the SC asked the JRC to offer additional options on the JRC GMO-Matrix web interface to immediately identify "GMOs authorised in EU", "GMOs under Regulation (EU) No 619/2011"and "GMOs not authorised in EU" in combination with a certain taxon. In this way official laboratories would be able to determine immediately if their screening strategy covers all EU authorised GMOs or GMOs under Regulation (EU) No 619/2011.

Participants discussed whether screening strategies need to be harmonised and if a minimum set of screening markers has to be defined. Harmonisation of matrices and decision tools was also brought into the discussion since the coverage capacity of the approach depends also on the GM events included in the list of the matrix used. They commented that harmonisation of screening is very complex because of financial resources and the specific needs of the Member State and that the process is very dynamic. Moreover they remarked that the minimum set of markers would need to be updated regularly. Some members supported the idea of providing a workflow, others a good practice guideline on screening approaches which each lab could tailor to its own purpose. Others commented that there is already a technical specification at CEN level on screening approaches generally describing the strategies for screening. The Chair noticed that different types of requests were proposed and that a single document could not be able to capture all needs. He proposed to set up an ad-hoc group to prepare the establishment of a dedicated WG. All participants supported the idea and suggested to arrange a brainstorming section for the ENGL plenary. The Chair invited participants interested in preparing the foreseen discussion to offer their candidature to the Secretariat.

The Chair asked the participants if the ENGL should give guidance on detection of GMM and GM animals. The SC members supported the idea in particular for GMM and suggested to arrange another brainstorming section on this issue or a presentation at the ENGL plenary. Since a few other ideas emerged the Chair suggested reflecting on the issue to provide a concrete proposal on the following day.

7. Preparation ENGL Annual Meeting 2-4 October 2018

The meeting will include first a NRL section where issues are discussed in a closed session, a part dedicated to working groups reporting and update from DG SANTE. This part will be followed by two brainstorming discussion sections and an open science day dedicated to scientific issues.

Discussions on selected topics

The topics selected were the following:

- Screening approaches
- GMM

Open science day

The following topics were suggested by the participants:

- Update from regional networks (Asian, South America and Caribbean, speaker from Azerbaijan covering the region, FAO)
- Presentation from EURL Feed Additives
- New breeding techniques regulations in non –EU countries and presentation on regulatory aspects of genome-edited organisms in non-EU countries
- Genetic editing of fruit tress
- Reference genome sequencing linked to genome editing
- Measurement uncertainty including information on revision of the guidance document (JRC)
- Using Minion for genome sequencing platforms
- EFSA Technical note on the quality of sequencing

8. International networking

A participant remarked that two international network meetings were organized in 2017 and enquired on the future of these activities. He suggested inviting representatives from the regions to keep the cooperation alive. The Chair explained that those activities were supported through an administrative arrangement with DG SANTE. He informed that two workshops will be organised in 2018 and that the project will not be prolonged afterwards. The ENGL does not have a budget for such activities.

Participants shared information on their international collaborations and asked to request the list of regional contact points from the corresponding JRC colleagues.

9. Update on the revision of the "Guidance document on measurement uncertainty for GMO testing"

The Chair presented the main points of the revision of the guidance document on measurement uncertainty in GMO analysis. He remarked that the new version will be more focused on how the laboratories should perform measurement uncertainty estimations and that the discussion on the critical limit will not be included. The guidance will provide more practical and directly applicable information. The title is cited in the legislation and cannot be modified.

10. International standardisation

CEN projects

A colleague from Germany reported on the activities of the CEN Technical Committee 275/WG11. TC 275 has as a specific scope, namely the standardisation of methods of analysis for the detection and/or determination of i.e. additives, nutrients, food allergens, biological species and GMOs. CEN TC275/WG11 has the scope of standardising the methods for the detection of GM foodstuffs and nucleic acid based methods for biological species analysis, not including microorganisms. The speaker informed that a document on DNA barcoding of fish and fish products is in the approval process, while two other projects on general guidelines for validation of qualitative real-time PCR (single laboratory validation (part 1) and collaborative studies (part 2)) are in the drafting stage. He further explained that a Technical Specification is a normative document selected when there is not sufficient agreement such as in the case of CEN/TS 15568:2006 on sampling strategies and CEN/TS 16707:2014 on PCR based screening strategies.

ISO projects

The speaker explained that the scope of ISO TC 34/SC16 is standardisation of methods for the detection of biomarkers and that six standards and/or projects are currently under the responsibility of this SC. He highlighted the project ISO/DTS 16393 on validation schemes for binary analytical methods for food and food products and ISO/AWI 22753 on semi-quantitative statistical evaluation of weight/weight GMO content in seeds and grains.

The Chair recalled that the ISO TC 276 Biotechnology has taken on board the preparation of a standard (ISO 20395) on requirements for evaluating the performance of quantification methods for nucleic acid target sequences: Part 1 - qPCR and dPCR. Another draft (ISO 20397) is dedicated to the evaluation of the quality of sequencing data. He commented that ISO TC 276 oversees activities very relevant for the ENGL. The EURL GMFF carefully reviewed the ISO draft document to avoid discrepancies with corresponding ENGL and EURL documents. The Chair clarified that these draft documents cannot be shared outside the ISO Committee. However, an interested laboratory could address at national level the National Standardisation Body or request to discuss with him bilaterally as liaison representative of the Commission. The Chair remarked that standardisation should be a running agenda point in the SC meetings.

11. Survey on CRMs produced by AOCS

The Chair remarked that there is awareness on how low quality CRMs may have a negative impact on the work of official control laboratories. He agreed with DG SANTE on collecting specific evidence on the incorrect preparation of RMs and accompanying information. The EURL GMFF designed a survey asking technical questions on problems in using RMs also at the lowest concentrations. The survey was sent on the 4th of June and should be replied to by the 25th of the same month. Afterwards the responses will be evaluated and conclusions prepared. Further actions could be envisioned at the NRL workshop in October. The reply to the survey is considered as a mandatory task to NRLs for enabling concrete actions. The Chair remarked that the survey has been directly sent only to laboratories designated for official control under Regulation (EU) 2017/625, but he encouraged NRLs to distribute it further to other laboratories to enlarge the pool of respondents.

12. Quality and availability of reference materials

The NRL from Germany reminded that market samples of feed samples with vitamin B_2 had been found to be contaminated with GM material. He commented that the event-specific method targeting a sequence of the producing strain could detect the same strain also when it is used to generate a different product. The Chair suggested discussing the issue later in the meeting when a telephone connection with the EURL on Feed Additives will be established as planned.

Regarding the *E. coli* GM strain, a participant informed that during an alert situation a laboratory encountered problems in receiving the reference material (RM) deposited at the Pasteur Institute because it was a living organism. It was requested if other options existed for providing the RM and if the method was detecting other two existing *E. coli* GM strains. Other participants confirmed having experienced similar problems. The Secretariat informed of having notified the difficulty to DG SANTE and having being reassured on its possible solution. The Chair proposed to add the issue in the comment section of the survey on CRMs launched by the EURL GMFF.

14. Discussion on other GMO issues (Part 1)

Discussion on Feed Additive Vitamin B_2 produced by GM microorganisms

The manager of the EURL on Feed Additives (EURL-FA) joined the meeting by telephone. He explained that the legal frame is set in Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 where the Commission specifies the information to be included by the applicant in the request for authorisation. The new EFSA 'Guidance on the characterisation of microorganisms used as feed additives or as production organisms' of February 2018 details the information necessary for performing the risk assessment and the characterisation of the product generated by biotechnology. If the applicant claims that the product is free from recombinant DNA, the method by which this can be guaranteed is currently not thoroughly described. At present DG SANTE is working on a revision of Regulation (EC) No 429/2008, which specifies general requirements for the preparation and presentation of the authorisation dossier. This revision also covers the specification of criteria for the above mentioned method including the need to present details of an event-specific method protocol. The JRC is in charge of preparing a draft for this part of the revision. With this information the EURL may check if the method is fit for the purpose or can be used as a control.

The discussion focused on the case of the feed additive riboflavin (Vitamin B_2) produced by fermentation of the genetically modified *Bacillus subtilis* strain KCCM-10445. A participant referred to the published event-specific PCR method for detecting the bacteria strain (Paracchini *et al*., Food Chemistry 230 (2017) 681–689) and wondered whether this is the same strain that was detected in 2014. It was also noted that the method is specific for the genomic integration of the strain and not for the operon of the plasmid generating the product. The same strain may be used for the generation of other products and more than one plasmid may be present in the same strain. It was suggested using two methods targeting the strain and the plasmid, respectively, since the plasmid may also not be stable. The EURL-FA operating manager clarified that the applicant specified in the dossier the strain producing the Vitamin B_2, but that the EURL-FA has no access to culture material, only to the process linked to the authorisation, and that assumptions are based on paper documentation. He added that in the Regulations authorising vitamins or amino acids produced by biotechnology the name of the strain and not the name of the company is specified[1]. He further informed that the authorisation will be repealed and that this product should not be present on the market in the future. The presence of recombinant DNA from the production strain in the marketed feed additive is illegal, whatever the target and the detection method used are.

The Chair added that EFSA requests information for the risk assessment, while the Commission and the EURLs are part of the risk management, monitoring and official control. The EFSA guidance will have to follow and be adapted to the above mentioned revision of Regulation (EC) No 429/2008 covering also the modification of criteria regarding methods for identification of recombinant DNA in feed additives. The participants asked whether only recombinant DNA needs to be detected or also non-modified DNA from the production strain. It was suggested to request clarification from DG SANTE on the current legal interpretation. Participants noted that it needs to be specified also whether the analytical target is the recombinant genomic DNA of the strain or its plasmid DNA generating the product.

Other issues

The Secretary asked whether issues with implementation of Regulation (EU) 619/2011 needed to be collected. The Chair suggested including in the CRM survey a question on the availability of CRM for low level presence controls.

Regarding a request for clarification on how to report quantitative results in case of presence in a sample of more than one GM event (i.e. if quantities need to be summed up), it was decided that a written note is prepared by the EURL GMFF and addressed to SANTE to seek for advice.

The member of the Italian NRL asked clarification on seed testing; a participant commented that seeds should be regarded as an initial phase of feed and food production, but noted that DG SANTE should be addressed to

[1] Vitamins and amino acids belong to the category of *nutritional* additives, which are by law non-holder specific authorisations. Also enzymes (e.g. phytase, xylanase) are produced by biotechnology. However, enzymes are *zootechnical* feed additives, which are always holder specific authorisations. Therefore, Regulations authorising enzymes contain in addition to the production strain also the name of a specific company (holder of the authorisation).

confirm the interpretation. The Chair acknowledged that sampling approaches may depend on the final interpretation, but remarked that from the analytical point of view the decision limit (0.1%) is practically the same whether it refers to a seed number ratio or to a mass fraction. It was suggested to request a clarification from DG SANTE on the issue.

13. Testing for GM alfalfa (Medicago sativa)

Presence of alfalfa events J101 and J163 has been found in Switzerland; in the attempt to clarify how these events entered the Swiss market, imports of seeds from Canada and the US were controlled and an agreement with importers for obtaining information on methods detecting the alfalfa GM events was defined. Since there is no species-specific method published for alfalfa, trnL screening with p-FMV, TNos and ctp2-cp4esps methods was used; positive signals were obtained but there was no final confirmation that the contamination was deriving from an alfalfa GM event. A German laboratory developed event-specific methods for J101 and J163 and has also some reference material; these methods have been validated, but not yet published. A lot of ten tons positive for GM Alfalfa was identifies and was shipped back to Canada.

14. Discussion on other GMO issues (Part 2)

The Chair informed that a technical note on checking the quality of sequencing data taking on board the corresponding JRC guideline will be published soon by EFSA.

The Secretariat informed that French authorities requested information and guidelines for detection of alfa-alfa, GM salmon, Arctic apples and GM tomato. He commented that detection of alfalfa was already discussed in the previous presentation. Moreover, the US Company Aquabounty did not provide any feedback on GM salmon and the German laboratories were not allowed to distribute salmon control samples. The EURL GMFF officially requested information on Arctic apples to the company, but did not receive yet a reply. As regards the GM tomato the French authorities need to specify the event that needs to be detected.

15. New activities

No further additions to the points raised already above.

16. AOB

The Chair informed that there an offer for a trainee position for bioinformatics is posted on the public webpage JRC Science Hub. The candidate should be willing to sign a confidentiality agreement.

A member asked to be updated on a request by the Secretariat regarding false positives in Chinese rice samples. The Secretariat received indications about false positive detection results, but additional information was not yet available at the JRC. The Belgium NRL asked to obtain information on the extra sequences detected by some laboratories with the SYBR Green Cry method it has developed and remarked that it never found an extra amplicon in the samples after PCR amplification with that method. The Dutch NRL who first noticed the extra amplicon in the PCR reactions informed that after having analysed additional samples they found out that the extra amplicon is not always present.

The Secretary announced that the WG-AG SMV asked to hold a meeting before the next ENGL meeting in October to discuss the information provided by the developer of the potato detection method. This WG would like to know if they should consider proposals for the validation of methods detecting GM animals. The Secretariat commented that at the moment the group is too small to deal with GMM or GM animal methods validation.

17. *DAL SC35 and Meeting Closure*

The Secretary reviewed the new Dynamic Action List (Annex 2) and announced that the Annual ENGL meeting will take place on October 2nd-4th 2018, starting Tuesday morning and finishing at on Thursday lunchtime. The Secretariat will also send an invitation call for setting a task force to prepare a list of terms and definitions used by ENGL members. The Secretariat informed that the EURL GMFF will prepare two surveys on equipment management and capacity building. The Chair proposed to follow-up the questions to be addressed to DG SANTE for clarification of GM detection issues which will be then further discussed at the plenary in October. He thanked the participants and closed the meeting.

Annex 1: agenda

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35th ENGL STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

12-13 June 2018, Ispra (Italy)

Room 3, Building 36

Draft Agenda

Day 1 – 12 June 2018

	Time	Topic	Documents in ENGLnet
1 2 3 4 5	09:30	▪ Welcome, apologies, quorum ▪ Approval of the agenda ▪ Approval of the report of the SC34 meeting ▪ Review of Dynamic Action List (DAL SC34) ▪ Update from SANTE (via Webex)	 Draft agenda Report SC34 DAL SC34
	10:45	*Coffee Break*	
6 6.1 6.2 6.3 6.4 6.5 6.6 6.7	11:15	*Progress ENGL working groups* ▪ AG SMV (Advisory Group on Selection of Methods for Validation) ▪ WG-UpMeth (Update of methods) ▪ WG-dPCR (Digital PCR) ▪ WG-Proc (ENGL Procedures) ▪ WG-mpPRC (multiplex PCR methods) ▪ WG-seq (good practice/quality of DNA sequencing data) ▪ WG-DNAex (DNA extraction)	 Progress report Progress report Progress report Progress report Progress report Progress report
	12:30	*Buffet lunch*	
7	14:00	▪ Preparation ENGL Annual Meeting 2-4 October 2018	
	15:30	Coffee Break	
8 9	16:00	▪ International networking ▪ Update on the revision of the "Guidance document on measurement uncertainty for GMO testing"	
	17:15	*End of day 1*	
	19:30	*Dinner at Hotel Belvedere*	

Day 2 – 13 June 2018

10 11 12 13 14	09:15	▪ International standardisation (ISO TC34 SC16; ISO TC 276; CEN TC 275 WG11) ▪ Survey on CRM produced by AOCS ▪ Quality and availability of reference materials (AOCS; E.coli GM strains; Vit B2 strain) ▪ Testing for GM alfalfa (Medicago sativa) ▪ Discussion on other GMO issues	
	10:45	*Coffee Break*	
15 16	11:15	▪ New activities ▪ AOB	
17	12:15	*DAL SC35 and End of Meeting (12:30)*	DAL SC35
	12:30	*Sandwich lunch*	

Meeting documents available at:
https://englnet.jrc.ec.europa.eu/steering/35th%20ENGL%20SC%20meeting/default.aspx?InstanceID=1

Annex 2: action list

35th ENGL STEERING COMMITTEE ACTION LIST 13/6/2018				
ACTIONS	**Resp.**	**Timelines**	**Status**	**Comments**
ENGL GENERAL				
Report of 35th ENGL SC	SEC	30/6/2018	Open	
Annual meeting October	SEC	15/7/2018	Open	ask SC for proposals on topics/speakers
WORKING GROUPS				
Advisory Group on "selection of methods for validation" (SMV)				
Organise next meeting (before October)	SEC	Jul-18	Open	include GMM and GM animals?
WG-UpMethod				
Prepare template for data collection from ENGL labs	EURL + WG	Sep-18	Open	see if necessary
Organise next meeting	SEC	15/7/2018	Open	web meeting date to be decided
WG-DNA extraction				
Organise 2nd meeting	SEC	31/7/2018	Open	
WG-multiplex PCR				
Organise 2nd meeting	SEC	31/7/2018	Open	
WG-dPCR				
Final doc to SC for approval	SEC	15/7/2018	Open	
Publish final doc	SEC	15/9/2018	Open	
WG-seq				
No action	SEC		Open	
WG-Proc				
Send doc to the SC for comments	SEC	15/7/2018	Open	2 weeks deadline for comments
Send final draft to ENGL for comments	SEC	31/8/2018	Open	
VARIOUS				
Prepare list of terms and definitions used by the ENGL	SEC	31/08/2018	Open	send invitation for a ad-hoc task force
Survey on equipment management	SEC+NIB	31/7/2018	Open	in preparation to the Annual Meeting
Survey on capacity bulding	SEC	31/08/2018	Open	with JRC F7
Provide WG progress reports to ENGL	SEC	20/6/2018	Open	
Prepare request from ENGL to SANTE on summing up GM	SEC	31/8/2018	Open	To be discussed and approved at October meeting
Prepare a mandate for ad-hoc WG on further actions/guidance for GMO screening	SEC	31/7/2018	Open	for discussion at the meeting in October
AOCS survey follow up	SEC	30/09/2018	Open	
Follow up of questions to be addressed to SANTE for clarification of GM detection issues	SEC		Open	
Update the list of observers with contacts of regional networks	SEC	15/7/2018	Open	with JRC F7