

Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition

Fish Intra Committee Subgroup SACN / COT .

SACN Members Meeting

A G E N D A

Meeting to be held on 21 November 2003
Press Conference Room C, Aviation House, London

Programme:

Times

Agenda Item

10:00am	Tea & Coffee	
	Morning session	
10:30am		
	1 Minutes of FICS meeting	
	2 Purpose of meeting	
	3 Review the advice on fish consumption in relation to cardiovascular disease	FICS (SACN) 03/02
	4 Discuss the evidence on the effect of fish consumption on early human growth and cognitive function	FICS (SACN)03/01
	Recommendations	
	AOB	

Scientific **A**dvisory **C**ommittee on **N**utrition

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Background

Advice was required by the Committee on Toxicity (COT) to inform risk assessment on mercury in fish and dioxins in fish oil supplements for their meeting on the 18 June 2002. SACN advice was sought by the FSA on the benefits of oily fish and fish oil consumption. The paper SACN/02/12 was passed to members for discussion at the June meeting.

In response to the COT paper, it was agreed that there was a need for the Agency to seek expert advice on the benefits and risks of oily fish consumption.

In response to this SACN members Alan Jackson, Tim Key and Christine Williams as well as COT members Ian Rowland, J Chipman and Ieuan Hughes were invited to approach this issue with the following aims.

Aim

To bring together in one paper the nutritional considerations from SACN on fish consumption and the COT considerations on the toxicology of contaminants in fish. To weigh the nutritional benefits against possible risks and to develop sensible dietary advice for the public on consumption of fish, with particular reference to oily fish.

Following the first meeting on 30 June, it was agreed that:

- COT will reconsider methyl mercury in light of JECFA's revised PTWI for methylmercury.
- SACN will consider advice on fish and n-3 PUFA, especially with regard to the early stages of life and neurodevelopment.

The attached paper is for discussion and relates to the point two above

Once SACN and COT have considered their respective issues the inter committee will meet again.