









## APPENDIX 1.

### Formal Description of the Project and Participants

#### A1.1 Terms of Reference for WHO's Foodborne Disease Burden Epidemiology Reference Group (FERG)

The Foodborne Disease Burden Epidemiology Reference Group (FERG) will act as an advisory body to WHO on matters of global foodborne diseases epidemiology.

##### Functions:

The FERG shall have the following **functions**:

- ▶ To review epidemiological data on foodborne disease burden.
- ▶ To identify technical gaps and priorities for research activities.
- ▶ To make recommendations to WHO on the establishment of FERG TFs and other means through which scientific and technical matters are addressed.

##### Composition:

- ▶ FERG members shall serve in their personal capacities to represent the broad range of disciplines relevant to global foodborne disease epidemiology.
- ▶ Members of the FERG, including the Chair, shall be selected by the Director-General.
- ▶ Members of the FERG, including the Chair, shall be appointed to serve for a period of one year, and shall be eligible for re-appointment.

##### Operation:

The FERG shall usually meet at least twice a year. WHO shall provide any necessary scientific, technical and other support for the FERG, including for the preparation of meeting reports. FOS shall provide secretarial support.

#### A1.2 Foodborne Disease Burden Epidemiology Reference Group

The Foodborne Disease Burden Epidemiology Reference Group (FERG) is composed of internationally renowned experts in a broad range of disciplines relevant to global foodborne disease epidemiology. Members were appointed by the WHO Director-General, Dr Margaret Chan, following a transparent selection process.

The expert group is charged to:

- ▶ assemble, appraise and report on the current, the projected, as well as the averted burden of foodborne disease estimates;
- ▶ conduct epidemiological reviews for mortality, morbidity and disability in each of the major foodborne diseases;
- ▶ provide models for the estimation of FBD burden where data are lacking;
- ▶ develop cause attribution models to estimate the proportion of diseases that are foodborne; and, most importantly,
- ▶ use the FERG models to develop user-friendly tools for burden of foodborne disease studies at country level.

To estimate the global human health burden (expressed in Disability-Adjusted Life Years- DALYs), FERG will initially focus on microbial, parasitic, zoonotic and chemical contamination of food with an emphasis on:

- ▶ diseases whose incidence and severity is thought to be high; and
- ▶ pathogens and chemicals that are most likely to contaminate food, and that have a high degree of preventability.

## A1.3 Participants

### FERG Members

- ▶ Formally appointed by the WHO Director-General, following a selection procedure.
- ▶ Allocated to Core Group and TFs.
- ▶ Have full participation rights in all technical discussions.

### Resource advisers

- ▶ Not formally appointed by the Director General.
- ▶ Allocated to TFs on an *ad hoc* basis (as required).
- ▶ Have full participation rights in technical discussions.

### WHO Secretariat and other UN Organizations

- ▶ Have full participation rights in technical discussions.
- ▶ Allocated to TFs on an *ad hoc* basis.

### Observers

- ▶ Nominated by FERG members (one per member).
- ▶ No 'formal' right of intervention in plenary.
- ▶ Participation in TFs, as appropriate.

### Stakeholders

- ▶ Invited by WHO to designated sessions.
- ▶ Formal right of intervention in designated sessions.
- ▶ No participation in technical discussions to avoid conflicts of interest.

## A1.4 Members of the Foodborne Disease Burden Epidemiology Reference Group (FERG) (past and present)

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