Update EFSA opinions on Caffeine and Acrylamide

ICO PSCB, 4 March 2015
Summary of main conclusions:

• For adults, single doses of caffeine up to 200mg and daily intakes of up to 400mg are considered safe.

• For pregnant women, caffeine intakes of up to 200mg a day are considered safe for the foetus.
Review by European Coffee Federation (ECF) and Institute for Scientific Information on Coffee (ISIC):

• Overall it is felt that the conclusions outlined in the draft opinion are generally reasonable and based on the evidence accumulated.

• The key provisional conclusions confirm our position that coffee can be enjoyed in moderation without adverse health effects.
• Public consultation (on-line; deadline 15 March): ECF will provide input, mainly pointing out some additional relevant scientific papers.

• Final EFSA caffeine opinion is expected 30 April 2015.

• On the basis of the final opinion:
  o EC and Member States to resume assessment of the caffeine-related health claims
  o EC and Member States could enter into a wider consideration of caffeine and health.

• Important to ensure a ‘soft landing’ of the final EFSA opinion in EC and Member States.
Draft EFSA Acrylamide opinion

Draft EFSA Opinion on Acrylamide in Food

• Released July 2014
• Public on-line consultation; closed 15 September 2014
• Final opinion expected summer 2015
• Acrylamide named as ‘public health concern’ even though ‘human studies …. have provided limited and inconsistent evidence of increased risk of developing cancer’.
• Once opinion is final, EC and Member States expected to consider regulatory measures. These will likely focus on strengthening the use of methods to reduce Acrylamide by all operators in the entire food chain
Thank you for your attention

Questions? Contact us at ecf@ecf-coffee.org