2025 Current Fiscal Year Report: National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Foods

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1. Department or Agency	2. Fiscal Year
Department of Agriculture	2025

3. Committee or Subcommittee	3b. GSA Committee No.
National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Foods	1294

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	02/21/2024	02/21/2026	

8a. Was Terminated During FiscalYear?	8b. Specific Termination Authority	8c. Actual Term Date
Yes	EO 14217	02/20/2025

9. Agency Recommendation for Next FiscalYear	10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?	10b. Legislation Pending?
Terminate	No	Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Agency Authority

12. Specific Establishment Authority	13. Effective Date	14. Commitee Type	14c. Presidential?
5 U.S.C. 10	03/18/1988	Continuing	No

15. Description of Committee Scientific Technical Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports	No Reports for this FiscalYear

17a. Open	17b. Closed	17c. Partially Closed	Other Activities	17d. Total
0	0	0	0	0

Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	$0.00	$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	$12,000.00	$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	$24,000.00	$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	$0.00	$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	$0.00	$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	$0.00	$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	$0.00	$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	$0.00	$0.00
18c. Administrative Costs (FRNs, contractor support, In-person/hybrid/virtual meetings)	$0.00	$0.00
18d. Other (all other funds not captured by any other cost category)	$0.00	$0.00
18e. Total Costs	$36,000.00	$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	1.40	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Foods (NACMCF) provided impartial scientific advice to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and other government agencies on microbiological and public health issues relative to the safety of the U.S. food supply. The purpose of the Committee

was accomplished by working together and providing advice contained in the Committee's final adopted reports. NACMCF reports provided current scientific information needed to answer agency questions and served to support the foundation for regulations and programs aimed at reducing foodborne disease and enhancing public health. In addition to posting the final reports on the NACMCF webpage, they may be published in a peer-reviewed journal to share the advice and recommendations with the broader scientific community. Building scientific consensus in this manner also built confidence and helped to pave the way for buy-in amongst food industry professionals on risk mitigation strategies.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The NACMCF allowed our federal food safety agencies to collaborate with the highest level of scientific expertise who are often world renowned and at the top of their fields. The Committee consisted of renowned expert microbiologists, food scientists, epidemiologists, risk assessors, and allied scientists from industry, academia, federal and state governments, and other organizations, including a consumer organization, to ensure that the membership was balanced among a range of scientific interests. Geographic location of the experts was also considered to provide balanced perspectives from multiple regions of the U.S.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The NACMCF full committee met once or more per year to address specific scientific and technical questions posed by the sponsoring agencies. The subcommittees met as deemed

necessary by the DFO and Chair.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?
The NACMCF was the only federal advisory committee focused solely on the microbiological aspects of food safety. The Committee helped protect public health by generating food safety advice and recommendations for U.S. food safety programs, the food industry, and consumers. Food safety is complex, and the Committee allowed federal food safety agencies to collaborate with scientific experts and to obtain outside expertise on food safety issues that represented the scientific perspective, experience, and point-of-view of all stakeholders. The NACMCF was an important source of specialized scientific and technical advice to support decision-making and recommendations that could be incorporated into Agency programs and beyond. The Committee’s purpose and organization provided a unique opportunity to assist federal sponsors in meeting their statutory responsibilities and served as an excellent forum for the public to share and receive input on food safety and public health issues related to the microbiological criteria for foods. There was a synergistic aspect to idea generation by bringing these experts together on a specific topic as opposed to trying to reach them individually. The Committee reinforced scientific rigor and transparency. NACMCF provided the participating federal food safety agencies and the American public a source of impartial and trusted scientific advice and transparency in the development of an integrated national food safety systems approach.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

There were no closed meetings

21. Remarks

The NACMCF provided scientific advice to U.S. food safety programs. The Committee served to enhance the safety of our nation's food supply, which was in the public interest, and assisted the federal sponsors in meeting their statutory responsibilities. In fiscal year (FY) 2025, the Committee did not hold a plenary meeting. The last plenary meeting was held in FY 2024 on September 24, 2025. The 2023-2025 term committee conducted work on a Genomics charge designed to provide advice to FSIS on the use of pathogen virulence data and a charge on Cronobacter spp. in powdered infant formula for the Food and Drug Administration. However, per Executive Order 14127, Commencing the Reduction of the Federal Bureaucracy, and the Secretary Memorandum 1078-002, Elimination of Federal Advisory Committees within the Department of Agriculture, the committee was terminated on February 20, 2025, prior to completing and adopting their final reports and recommendations. The termination action is consistent with the President's Executive Order and pursuant to the Secretary’s authority under 41 CFR 102-3.55(a)(2), and all other applicable laws.

Designated Federal Officer

Kristal Southern DFO

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Bisha, Bledar	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	University of Wyoming	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Carleton, Heather	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member

Carlson, Anna	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	Cargill Protein	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Cetin Karaca, Hayriye	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	Smithfield Foods	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Chapman, Benjamin	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	North Carolina State University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Dutta, Vikrant	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	bioMérieux	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Esteban, Emilio	01/04/2023	01/17/2025	Under Secretary, Food Safety, USDA	Ex Officio Member
Feng, Yaohua	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	Purdue University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Figgs, Larry	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	Douglas Co Health Dept, (Retired)	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Goldman, David	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	Groundswell	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Hansen, Michael	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	Consumer Reports	Representative Member
Havelaar, Arie	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	University of Florida	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Kause, Janell	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Khaksar, Ramin	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	Clear Labs	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Kubat, Noel	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	Department of Defense (DoD)	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Lambertini, Elisabetta	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Lynn, Shannara	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
McCullough, Kathryn	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	North American Meat Institute	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Mello, Indaue	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	Newman's Own	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Moorman, Eric	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	Butterball	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Pradhan, Abani	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	University of Maryland	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Prater, Donald	06/01/2023	02/20/2025	Principal Associate Commissioner Human Foods Program, FDA	Ex Officio Member
Rana, Shivrajsinh	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	Reckitt	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Sanchez Plata, Marcos	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	Texas Tech	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Schill, Kristin	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	University of Wisconsin	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Shariat, Nusrat	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	University of Georgia	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Snyder, Abigail	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	Cornell University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Teplitski, Maxim	09/17/2021	10/17/2024	International Fresh Produce Association	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Wang, Bing	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Warren, Benjamin	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	Food and Drug Administration (FDA)	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Worobo, Randy	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	Cornell University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Yehualaeshet, Teshome	09/29/2023	02/20/2025	Tuskegee University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 32

Narrative Description

The NACMCF was a discretionary advisory committee that was established in 1988 by the Secretary of Agriculture, after consulting with the Secretary of Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The Committee was formed in response to the recommendations of the National Academy of Sciences and the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations to provide an interagency approach to microbiological criteria, given that numerous federal, state, and local agencies are responsible for food safety. NACMCF was pivotal in developing the Pathogen Reduction and Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point Rule in 1996 that made HACCP the foundation of meat, poultry and eventually egg products production. The NACMCF provided impartial scientific advice and recommendations to the USDA and other government agencies on microbiological and public health issues relative to the safety of the U.S. food supply. NACMCF supported the food safety and public health protection programs of the USDA’s Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) and HHS’ Food and Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Other food safety agencies such as the US Department of Commerce’s National Marine Fisheries Service, and the US Department of Defense's Veterinary Services also benefited from NACMCF recommendations. NACMCF’s scientific advice has been applied to USDA food safety programs that are aligned with the FSIS mission and strategic plan. In addition, NACMCF scientific information has been applied to facilitate trade through CODEX publications. The NACMCF charter maintained that five members

would include Regular Government Employees (RGEs) that represented the five federal agencies concerned with food safety in NACMCF. Per Executive Order 14127, Commencing the Reduction of the Federal Bureaucracy, and the Secretary Memorandum 1078-002, Elimination of Federal Advisory Committees within the Department of Agriculture, dated February 20, 2025, the Committee was terminated, and all ongoing work was stopped. The termination action is consistent with the President's Executive Order and pursuant to the Secretary's authority under 41 CFR 102-3.55(a)(2), and all other applicable laws.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

	Checked if Applies
Improvements to health or safety	✓
Trust in government	✓
Major policy changes	
Advance in scientific research	✓
Effective grant making	
Improved service delivery	
Increased customer satisfaction	
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	
Other	✓

Outcome Comments

The Committee provided impartial scientific advice to participating federal food safety agencies that helped to support decision-making that is sound, science-based and resulted in public health protection and improvement.

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

	Checked if Applies
None	
Unable to Determine	✓
Under $100,000	
$100,000 - $500,000	
$500,001 - $1,000,000	

$1,000,001 - $5,000,000 ☐
$5,000,001 - $10,000,000 ☐
Over $10,000,000 ☐
Cost Savings Other ☐

Cost Savings Comments
The Committee's contributions to food safety programs were critical to public health protection for which we did not have the data to ascertain a specific dollar amount.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?
249

Number of Recommendations Comments
No change from FY23. The Committee began working on new charges in FY24 and due to the Committee termination, charges were not completed in FY25.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?
81%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments
No change from FY23. The Committee began working on new charges in FY24 and due to the Committee termination, charges were not completed in FY25. Approximately 81% of NACMCF recommendations have been fully implemented. NACMCF recommendations and advice were transferred to participating food safety agencies through detailed scientific reports.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?
16%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments
No change from FY23. The Committee began working on new charges in FY24 and due to the Committee termination, charges were not completed in FY25. Approximately 16% of NACMCF recommendations have been partially implemented. NACMCF recommendations and advice were transferred to participating food safety agencies through detailed scientific reports.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☑ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

USDA and the other NACMCF government agencies provided reports with feedback to the Committee on how the recommendations were being used to improve their food safety programs and regulations. The Committee's valuable contributions to food safety were also acknowledged at public meetings.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

	Checked if Applies
Reorganized Priorities	☑
Reallocated resources	☑
Issued new regulation	☑
Proposed legislation	☐
Approved grants or other payments	☐
Other	☐

Action Comments

NA

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

	Checked if Applies
Contact DFO	☑
Online Agency Web Site	☑
Online Committee Web Site	☑
Online GSA FACA Web Site	☑
Publications	☑
Other	☑

Access Comments

Information also provided through Agency Docket Office and an electronic Constituent update list-serve for stakeholders.