

**ORANGE HOUSE PARTNERSHIP (OHP) FOOD SAFETY SEMINAR
HOSTED BY
THE SOUTH AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
(SAAFOST) KwaZulu Natal Branch**

**Wednesday 9 March 2011,
Blue Waters Hotel, Marine Parade, Durban, South Africa**

Programme

- 12:00 – 13:00 Welcome and introductions
- 13:00 - 13:45 "Risk assessment of food colours", by Dr Iona Pratt, OHP and FSAI, Dublin, Ireland
- 13:45 - 14:30 Practical exercise: "The risks of methyl mercury in fish" by Dr Herman Koëter, OHP, Brussels, Belgium
- 14:30 - 14:45 Short refreshment break
- 14:45 - 15:30 "Risk assessment of GMOs: where science, lobby and politics meet" by Herman Koëter, OHP, Brussels, Belgium
- 15:30 - 16:15 Practical exercise: "Aspartame: what more can be done?" by Iona Pratt, OHP and FSAI, Dublin, Ireland
- 16:15 – 17:30 General discussion and drinks
- 17:30 Meeting adjourns

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Brief Bio-sketch of the speakers

Dr. Herman B.W.M.Koëter, Belgium, email: herman.koeter@orangeOhouse.eu

Herman Koëter is the founder and Managing Director of the Brussels based Orange House Partnership, which is a non-profit partnership organization providing scientific expertise, assistance, advice, training and interim management in the areas of food and chemical safety to the public and private sector primarily in developing countries and emerging economies. Before establishing Orange House Partnership, from 2003 through 2008 Herman Koëter held several positions at the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) in Parma, Italy, including Scientific Director, Deputy Executive Director and Acting Executive Director. Dr Koëter started his professional career in 1967 at the TNO Toxicology and Nutrition Institute, Zeist, the Netherlands where he held several positions before he was appointed in 1986 as Associate Head of the Department of Biological Toxicology. From 1991-2003 Herman Koëter was Principal Administrator at the Paris based OECD Environment, Health and Safety Division. There he was responsible for the Programme on Harmonization of Classification and Labelling of Chemical Substances. He was also responsible for the OECD Test Guidelines Programme, the OECD Special Activity on Endocrine Disrupters and OECD's Special Activity on Animal Welfare Policies. Dr Koëter was also senior adviser for OECD on human health hazard and risk assessment policies.

Dr. Iona Pratt, Ireland, email: ipratt@fsai.ie

Dr Iona Pratt is a consultant toxicologist and risk assessor, who has worked for many years in the area of assessment of hazardous chemicals under the EC legislation on classification, labelling and packaging, risk assessment and notification of new substances. She is based in Dublin, Ireland, and is self-employed, having retired from senior positions with the National Authority for Occupational Safety and Health of Ireland and the Food Safety Authority of Ireland. She has extensive experience of the Globally Harmonised System for Classification and Labelling and was chair of the ILO Working Group on Hazard Communication, responsible for developing proposals for the Hazard Communication parts of the GHS.