

# 2012-2013 AFDO FINAL COMMITTEE REPORT

## Drugs, Devices and Cosmetics Committee

\*Chair: Thomas Brinck, Texas Department of State Health Services, Austin, TX

Chair: Dennis Baker, U.S. Food & Drug Administration, Southwest Region, Dallas, TX

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**Charge 1:** Plan and identify important topics, and secure presenters for the DDC program at the annual conference.

### Discussion:

The Drugs, Devices and Cosmetics (DDC) Committee began a series of annual educational conference (AEC) planning calls in August 2012 in order to solicit topics and themes for the upcoming AEC. Based upon these initial conference calls, the DDC Committee established its intent to develop the 2013 DDC program using a format similar to the one used previously at the 2012 AEC. This 2012 format consisted of a two-day drug and medical device session running concurrently with the AFDO food-related session. It was recommended that the 2013 DDC Session be developed under a co-sponsorship agreement with the FDA Cincinnati District Office. Advertising for the program would be accomplished through the use of several methods that have previously been found to be effective, including direct mail notifications (e.g., postcards), email distribution lists and a notice in the Federal Register (FR). The Committee worked closely with the AFDO Senior Administrative Assistant in developing relevant topics and presenters for the 2013 DDC Session and accelerated its plans for finalizing the program agenda using a number of additional conference calls during the fall of 2012. The Committee reached out to its associate and international members and to the FDA Cincinnati District's District Director and Emergency Response Coordinator for assistance with program development, including tasks associated with approval of the co-sponsorship agreement, posting of the FR notice and identification of potential speakers and attendees for the DDC Session. The Committee has considered FDA involvement with this co-sponsored event to be a major factor in the success of its programs during past years. As a result of these planning conference calls, the Committee focused on "Global Quality Systems and an Integrated Approach to Medical Product Safety" as its 2013 program theme and ultimately this theme was incorporated into AFDO's co-sponsorship agreement with FDA. During subsequent conference calls, appropriate topics were identified and presenters were confirmed. The Committee attempted to secure presenters representing both FDA and regulated industries. Email and direct mail notifications were sent out with the assistance of the AFDO Office and the FDA Cincinnati District Office. In February 2013, the Committee was approached by FDA officials at the Center for Devices and Radiological Health who were interested in co-sponsoring a one day workshop with AFDO, entitled "Case for Quality". This one day workshop was developed and incorporated into the 2013 DDC Session for Wednesday, June 12, 2013.

### Recommendation:

Charge completed. Create a new charge to direct the DDC Committee to identify and develop similar objectives for next year's annual educational conference.

### Executive Committee Action:

Approval



Disapproval



Date

5/22/13

*\*Responsible for submission of reports*

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**Charge 2:** Beginning in March, solicit mentors for First-Time Attendees for the Drug & Device Forum of the Conference, and provide volunteers to Membership Committee Chairs and the AFDO Office.

**Discussion:**

In the spring of 2013, the Committee solicited assistance from its members to act as mentors for first-time attendees of the Drug & Device Session at AFDO's 2013 AEC. A number of members volunteered to assist at the First-Time Attendees Reception and/or volunteer their assistance to Membership Committee Chairs and the AFDO Office. The names of these mentors and volunteers were provided to the AFDO Office.

**Recommendation:**

Charge completed. Create a new charge to direct the DDC Committee to identify and develop similar objectives for next year's annual educational conference.

**Executive Committee Action:**

Approval  Disapproval  Date 5/22/13

**Charge 3:** Consider the practicality and advisability of hosting a stand-alone 1 or 1-1/2 day educational conference in lieu of having split sessions at the annual conference.

**Discussion:**

The DDC Committee discussed this charge during several conference calls in the fall of 2012. A number of concerns were raised about creating a separate stand-alone DDC conference in lieu of split sessions as the annual conference. These concerns included the potential for lower attendance that may result from attendees who have responsibilities or interests in both food and drug/device program areas and who would be forced to choose between attending one conference over another due to travel and/or budgetary restraints. Another concern involved the possibility that limited FDA funding might preclude that agency from sending participants to both conferences and that this could have an adverse effect upon our ability to secure FDA presenters. Although the Committee ultimately did not support the concept of a separate conference, it did in fact accept an offer from FDA to host a one day workshop on "Case for Quality", scheduled for the final day of the 2013 AEC.

**Recommendation:**

Charge completed.

**Executive Committee Action:**

Approval  Disapproval  Date 5/22/13

*\*Responsible for submission of reports*