Standards & Technical Committee
Meeting Minutes

Date: 10 April 2026
Location: Malta

1. Welcome & Anti-Trust Reminder

The meeting opened with a reminder that all discussions must comply with competition and antitrust laws. Participants were instructed to avoid sharing commercially sensitive information and to remain within the agreed agenda.

2. Review of Committee Members

The committee reviewed its composition.

New members were approved:

- Tracy Carol
- Artur Blachio
- Gabriele Makauskaite
- Kenneth Myhrvold

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes from the meeting held on 5 November 2025 in Milan were approved.

4. BPA – Latest Updates

Update on Regulation (EU) 2024/3190 and amendment Regulation (EU) 2026/250.

Key deadlines were confirmed:

- PC bottles purchase:
  - Could be purchased from manufacturers until 20 July 2026
  - 1st time placed into EU market until 20 July 2027
  - Can be used until end of lifecycle
- Watercoolers with PC component:
  - Could be purchased from manufacturers until 20 January 2028

- 1st time placed into EU market until 20 January 2029
  - Can be used until end of lifecycle

5. Projects Follow-Up

5.1 Energy Efficiency Calculator Tool

The goal of the tool is to establish a standard for the industry, which is currently lacking. Key parameters and methodology have been defined.

- The tool is available online
- It generates an Energy Efficiency label (PDF format)
- Testing must be conducted until the end of July 2026

Technical framework includes:

- Energy consumption testing (24h)
- Cooling capacity testing (2h)
- Energy per litre (~0.01–0.02 kWh/L)
- COP results can form the basis of the EER
- Energy rating scale A–G

5.2 Protocol 2 – Sanitisation Frequency

Presentation of the protocol 2 in order to achieve the reduction of sanitisations per year as follows:

- BW: from 4 to 2 times/year
- POU: from 2 to 1 time/year

Key points:

- Although the Protocol 2 is aligned with the Code of Practice, the code of practices needs to be updated with the last updates on regulation and IoT requirements.
- Laboratories perform real testing and determine acceptable frequency
- Statistical validity requires a large number of tests
- Aqua Europa does not recommends any sanitization frequency.
- The proposal at the new Code of Practices is to sanitize the dispenser when needed or stablished by the manufacturer.

Governance:

- All protocols should be approved by WE
- To consult the WE Sub-committee before testing is strongly recommended.
- Members of the Sub-committee: Dr Ulrich Kreuter and Dr Antoni Borrell

A question from the floor asked whether this protocol specified if these tests should be carried out in each country distributors operated in, and it was clarified that while the protocol does not specify this it was the opinion of the committee that it these tests should be carried out by each company and in each different territory that they operate in.

6. New Proposed Projects

- Renewal of WE Code of Practice
- Possible merge into one document
- Exploration of IoT technologies
- Review of maintenance frequencies

7. Upcoming Regulations (2026)

7.1 PPWR

Applies from 12 August 2026

- Reduce packaging volume and weight
- Ensure recyclability
- Limit hazardous substances
- EPR obligations apply

7.2 Drinking Water Directive

Implementation varies by country. Full compliance required by end of 2026.

- Use approved materials
- Follow testing methods
- Obtain certification
- Maintain documentation

Recommendation to use a Type EA isolation valve certified EN1717 to fall into Food Stuff Regulation instead of DWD.

8. AOB

No additional items recorded.

9. Motions for AGM

Protocol 2 to be submitted for approval.