

Parma, 5 July 2011

EFSA/ANS/P_M24/MIN-0-5860392

**MINUTES OF THE 24th PLENARY MEETING
OF THE SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON
FOOD ADDITIVES AND NUTRIENT SOURCES
ADDED TO FOOD (ANS)**

Held in Parma on 24-26 May 2011

Adopted on 5 July 2011 at the 25th Plenary meeting

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Held in Parma on 24-26 May 2011

Panel Members:

Fernando Aguilar, Pierre Galtier, David Gott, Sandro Grilli, Rainer Gürtler, Jürgen König (1st and 2nd day), Claude Lambré, John Christian Larsen (Chair), Alicja Mortensen, Iona Pratt (Vice-Chair), Ivan Stankovic, Tatjana Verguieva and Ruud Woutersen.

Apologies

Apologies for absence were noted from Birgit Dusemund, Dominique Parent-Massin, John Gilbert, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Ivonne Rietjens (Vice-Chair) and Paul Tobback.

EFSA

Joanne Gartlon, George Kass, Hugues Kenigswald, Anastasia Kesisoglou, Majlinda Lahaniatis, Federica Lodi, Ana Maria Rincon, Stavroula Tasiopoulou (scientific staff) and Maria Correa (administrative staff)

European Commission

Josiane Houins-Roulet

1. WELCOME; APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies for absence were noted.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Declarations of Interests, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of interest (ADoIs) and Specific Declarations of interest (SDoIs) filled in by the experts

invited for the present meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the ADoIs and SDoIs, please refer to the Annex I of this document.

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 23RD ANS PLENARY MEETING ON 12-14 APRIL 2011

The draft minutes were discussed and some changes were suggested. The adopted minutes can be seen on:

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/science/>

5. GENERAL INFORMATION FROM EFSA, THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION AND THE CHAIR

5.1. Chair

The Chair of the Panel informed the participants on the on-going work of the EFSA's Working Group on the Threshold of Toxicological Concern (TTC).

He also provided a brief summary on the on-going work of the EFSA's Working Group on Default Values.

5.2. EFSA

The Panel was informed on new mandates received.

EFSA has been asked by the European Commission to perform a full re-evaluation of the safety of aspartame by July 2012 anticipating the deadline of 2020 foreseen in the Commission Regulation 257/2010 of 25 March 2010. The Panel noted some issues to be considered regarding this mandate. At a later stage, the Panel will thoroughly discuss how to deal with the mandate. The Panel noted that on-going scientific research may influence the status of the mandate.

Another mandate received from the European Commission concerns the safety in use of stigmasterol-rich plant sterols in ready-to-freeze alcoholic cocktails as a stabiliser. The Commission requested EFSA to perform the risk assessment by 31 December 2011.

In May 2011, the European Commission asked EFSA to provide technical assistance in relation to calcium L-ascorbate with a deadline September 2011. It is asked to confirm whether the concerned source of Vitamin C could be considered as being covered by the opinion adopted in 2007 on "Calcium ascorbate with a content of threonate for use as a source of vitamin C in food supplements" or would otherwise require a new scientific opinion as a potential new source of Vitamin C".

H. Kenigswald informed the Panel members on a letter sent by ELC (Federation of European Speciality, Food Ingredients Industries) and CIAA (Confederation of the food and drink industries of the EU) on 6th May 2011 to EFSA with comments on the risk assessment carried out by the ANS Panel and other issues related to the re-evaluation procedure for food additives.

The Panel members were informed that J.Ch. Leblanc and H. Kenigswald will attend on 27 May 2011 a meeting with DG SANCO E3 and Member States to discuss different issues regarding the exposure assessment of food additives under re-evaluation (Commission Regulation 257/2010 of 25 March 2010).

5.3. European Commission

A few matters regarding the organisation of the work were discussed.

6. REPORT FROM THE WORKING GROUPS

6.1. Working Group A on Food Additives and Nutrient Sources

The Chair of Working Group A summarised the outcome of the discussions during the 24th Working Group A meeting held in Dublin, Ireland, on 4-5 May 2011.

The Chair of the Working Group A thanked C. Tlustos for organizing the last meeting in Dublin. In addition, the status of the on-going evaluations was presented and discussed.

6.2. Working Group B on Food Additives and Nutrient Sources

The Vice-chair of Working Group B summarised the outcome of the discussions during the 16th Working Group B meeting held in Parma, Italy, on 10-12 May 2011.

6.3. Working Group “Guidance on Food Additives”

No meeting has taken place since the last Panel Plenary meeting.

6.4. Working Group “Exposure assessment”

The Vice-chair of the Working Group “Exposure assessment” summarised the outcome of the discussions during the last meeting held in Brussels, Belgium, on 16-17 May 2011.

6.5. Working Group “Chemistry and specifications”

No meeting has taken place since the last Panel Plenary meeting.

7. FOOD ADDITIVES

7.1. Advantame (*Question N° EFSA-Q-2010-00943*)

The draft opinion was discussed. Further clarifications and improvements were suggested. The revised draft opinion will be scheduled for discussion in a forthcoming Plenary meeting.

7.2. Calcium Carbonate (E 170) (*Question N° EFSA-Q-2011-00363*)

The draft opinion was discussed. Further clarifications and improvements were suggested. The revised draft opinion will be scheduled for discussion in a forthcoming Plenary meeting.

7.3. Chlorophyll(in)s and Cu-Chlorophyllins (E 140 i-ii and E 141 i-ii) (*Question N° EFSA-Q-2011-00357 and EFSA Q-2011-00371; EFSA-Q-2011-00356 and EFSA-Q-2011-00372*)

A discussion paper was presented and discussed. Further clarifications on the approach to be followed were suggested. The revised draft opinion will be scheduled for discussion in a forthcoming Working Group meeting.

8. TECHNICAL GUIDANCE TO EXPLAIN THE TECHNICAL, EXPOSURE AND TOXICOLOGICAL DATA REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH THE SAFETY OF FOOD ADDITIVES PROPOSED FOR USE IN THE EUROPEAN UNION (QUESTION N° EFSA-Q-2010-00675)

The draft guidance was discussed. Further clarifications and improvements were suggested. The revised draft guidance will be scheduled for discussion in a forthcoming Plenary meeting.

The draft guidance will be presented to the Scientific Committee during its June 2011 plenary meeting. It is expected that the Scientific Committee will provide comments on the draft guidance.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

none

NEXT MEETINGS

The next ANS Panel Plenary meetings will take place on the following dates:

5 - 6 July 2011

25 - 27 October 2011

6 - 7 July 2011

6 - 8 December 2011

20 - 22 September 2011

Annex I

INTERESTS AND ACTIONS RESULTING FROM THE SCREENING OF ADOI OR SDOIs

In his ADOI/SDoI, Dr. Ruud Woutersen declared interest regarding to the agenda item « 7.1. Advantame». The interest declared by the expert on advantame is related to the financial links of the Institution where the expert is employed with the company Ajinomoto for the realisation of studies on feed additives. This involvement generates a conflict of interest with the discussion by the ANS Panel on the advantame (level B). In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Declarations of Interests and Implementing documents thereof, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, the interest above was deemed to represent a conflict of Interest (level B). Pursuant to EFSA's Procedure on Identifying and Handling Declarations of Interest, the said expert incurs in the limitations identified under point C.III.b¹ that is: the expert concerned addresses orally or in written questions during the evaluation of the substance, but cannot draft assessment report or parts of them. In addition, the expert cannot participate in the final discussion. However, he can be present to answer questions addressed specifically to him.

¹ Implementing act to the policy on declaration of interests procedure for identifying and handling potential conflicts of interest.
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/cs/BlobServer/General/mb_annex_procedure_doi_en%20221008.0.pdf?ssbinary=true