



Scientific Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain

Minutes of the 103rd Plenary meeting

Parma, 28-30 January 2020
(Agreed on 14 February 2020)

Participants

■ Panel Members:

Margherita Bignami, Laurent Bodin, Jesús Del Mazo, Bettina Grasl-Kraupp, Christer Hogstrand, Ron Hoogenboom, Jean-Charles Leblanc¹, Carlo Nebbia², Elsa Nielsen, Evangelia Ntzani, Annette Petersen, Salomon Sand³, Dieter Schrenk, Tanja Schwerdtle, Christiane Vleminckx and Heather Wallace.

■ Hearing Experts⁴:

Not Applicable.

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Veerle Vanheusden and Frans Verstraete¹ (European Commission, DG Health and Food Safety, Unit E2).

■ EFSA:

BIOCONTAM Unit:

Katleen Baert, Marco Binaglia, Anna Christodoulidou, Ernesto Liebana Criado, Karen Mackay, Luisa Ramos Bordajandi and Hans Steinkellner.

DATA Unit:

Petra Gergelova (for Item 6.1) and Francesca Riolo (for Items 6.2 and 6.3).

RASA Department:

¹ Attendance by audio-web conference.

² Attendance on 29-30 January only.

³ Attendance by audio-web conference on 28-29 January only.

⁴ As defined in Article 17 of the Decision of the Executive Director concerning the selection of members of the Scientific Committee, the Scientific Panels, and the selection of external experts to assist EFSA with its scientific work: http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf

Juliane Kleiner (for Items 6.2 and 7)

■ Observers:

Not Applicable.

■ Others:

Not Applicable.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes. Apologies were received from Kevin Chipman (CONTAM Panel), and Marina Marini (European Commission, DG Health and Food Safety, unit D1).

3. Declarations of Interest

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence⁵ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁶, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Panel members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 102nd plenary meeting held on 17.12.2019

The minutes of the 102nd Plenary meeting held on 17 December 2019 were agreed by the CONTAM Panel on 10 January 2020⁷.

5. Report on written procedures since the 102nd plenary meeting held on 17.12.2019

Not applicable.

⁵ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁶ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

⁷ <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/it/events/event/101st-plenary-meeting-contam-panel>

6. Scientific outputs submitted for discussion and possible adoption

6.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the risks for public health related to the presence of aflatoxins in food (EFSA-Q-2018-00698)⁸

The Chair of the WG on Aflatoxins introduced the changes implemented in the opinion based on the comments received during the public consultation. The CONTAM Panel adopted the opinion including the proposed changes and endorsed the public consultation report that will be published together with it. The Chair of the Panel thanked the WG and EFSA staff for their work.

6.2. Draft Scientific opinion on the risks to human health related to the presence of perfluoroalkyl substances in food (EFSA-Q-2017-00549)⁹

The Chair of the WG on PFAS in food introduced the draft opinion. The Panel discussed the sections on considerations of critical effects, risk characterisation, uncertainty analysis, conclusions and recommendations. Pending the modifications agreed during the discussion, the CONTAM Panel endorsed the draft opinion for the public consultation, which will indicatively take place between mid-February and mid-April 2020.

6.3. Draft Scientific opinion on the risks for animal and human health related to the presence of glycoalkaloids in feed and food, in particular in potatoes and potato-derived products (EFSA-Q-2016-00240)¹⁰

The Chair of the WG on Glycoalkaloids in food and feed introduced the draft opinion. The CONTAM Panel discussed and, pending minor modifications, endorsed the section on risk characterization and discussed the section on uncertainty analysis. The opinion will be presented for possible endorsement for public consultation at the next meeting of the CONTAM Panel.

7. New expert compensation scheme, extension of current Panel mandate and mutual assessment of EFSA staff and experts

The Head of the RASA department informed the Panel about the changes introduced by the New Transparency Regulation and the implication to the Scientific Committee and Panels, in particular in relation to the extension of the term for the current mandate of the EFSA Panels, the new expert compensation

⁸ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2018-00698>

⁹ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2017-00549>

¹⁰ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2016-00240>

scheme, and the forthcoming mutual assessment of EFSA staff and Panel members.

8. Feedback from the Scientific Committee, EFSA, the European Commission

The agenda items were deferred to the next meeting due to time constraints.

9. Any other business

Not applicable