Parma, 28 April 2009

HK/ML/KP

EFSA/ANS/P_M5/MIN-1/3922692

MINUTES OF THE 5th PLENARY MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND NUTRIENT SOURCES ADDED TO FOOD (ANS)

Held in Parma on 17-19 March 2009

Adopted on 28 April 2009 at the 6th Plenary meeting

AGENDA:

MINUTES OF THE 5th PLENARY MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD ADDITIVES AND NUTRIENT SOURCES ADDED TO FOOD (ANS)

Held in Parma on 17-19 March 2009

PARTICIPANTS

Panel Members:

Ruth Charrondiere, Birgit Dusemund, Pierre Galtier (1st and 2nd day), John Gilbert, David Gott (1st and 2nd day), Georges Kass, Jürgen König, Claude Lambré, John Christian Larsen (Chair), Jean-Charles Leblanc (1st day and 2nd day morning), Alicja Mortensen, Iona Pratt (Vice-Chair), Ivonne Rietjens (Vice-Chair), Ivan Stankovic, Paul Tobback, Tatjana Verguieva, Ruud Woutersen.

Apologies

Apologies for absence were noted from Fernando Aguilar, Sandro Grilli, Rainer Guertler, and Dominique Parent-Massin.

EFSA

Joanne Gartlon, Hugues Kenigswald, Anastasia Kesisoglou, Majlinda Lahaniatis, Federica Lodi, Kim Petersen, Ana-Maria Rincon and Stavroula Tasiopoulou (scientific staff) – Maria Correia, Maud Pâques (administrative staff).

European Commission

Marina Marini

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, the EFSA secretariat screened the Specific Declarations of Interests (SDoIs) completed by the scientific experts invited to this meeting. For further details on the outcome of this screening please refer to Annex I of these minutes.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 4th PLENARY MEETING HELD ON 25-27 JANUARY 2009

The participants were asked to confirm their agreement with the minutes of the 4th ANS Plenary meeting. The draft minutes were discussed and adopted. They can be seen on:

http://www.efsa.europa.eu/cs/BlobServer/Event_Meeting/MinutesANS_4thplenary_27_29_Jan_09.pdf?ssbinary=true

4.1. EFSA

H. Kenigswald highlighted that in the future the Panel will possibly have to deal with substances added for nutritional purposes other than vitamin and mineral sources. Such substances are not covered by the existing guidelines on food additives. It is however possible that a number of such applications will be covered by the Regulation on novel foods.

4.2. Commission

The Commission informed the participants of the current revision of the "positive lists" covering the three directives on food supplements, PARNUTS and fortified foods. It was mentioned that the PARNUTS's list will be updated by the end of April while the lists related to food supplements and fortified food will be revised by June after EFSA's evaluation.

With regard to food additives it was mentioned that a meeting with Member states will take place in June for initial discussion of re-evaluation on program on food additives.

4.3. Chair

The Chair informed the participants on the outcome of the visit of the delegation of EFSA to the FDA and the EPA, where the chair was also present. It was mentioned that an agreement on the cooperation principles was reached between EFSA and the FDA. The Chair will distribute to the Panel Members the corresponding presentation.

5. REPORT FROM THE WORKING GROUPS

The Chairs of the two Working Groups (WGA and WGB) on Additives and Nutrient Sources reported shortly on the outcomes of the meetings that had taken place in March 2009.

6. FOOD ADDITIVES

6.1. Natamycin

(Question N° EFSA-Q- 2006-009)

Due to lack of time this item was not discussed.

6.2. Modified acacia gum

(Question N° EFSA-Q-2008-002)

Due to lack of time this item was not discussed.

6.3. Re-evaluation of Ponceau 4R

(Question N° EFSA-Q-2008-228)

Due to lack of time this item was not discussed.

6.4. Re-evaluation of Allura red AC

(Question N° EFSA-Q-2008-230)

The draft opinion was presented and discussed. The proposed changes to the text were noted. Subject to these revisions a new draft document will be scheduled for discussion in a forthcoming ANS Plenary meeting.

6.5. Second ERF study on aspartame

(Question N° EFSA -Q-2009-00474)

The Rapporteur introduced the data submitted by the Ramazzini Institute on 19 February 2009 and the draft opinion that was proposed to update the opinion adopted in January 2009 in order to take this data into account. Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the participants were noted. Thereafter the Panel adopted the updated opinion.

Overall, the Panel concluded, on the basis of all the evidence currently available including the last published ERF study that there is no indication of any genotoxic or carcinogenic potential of aspartame and, that there is no reason to revise the previously established ADI for aspartame of 40 mg/kg bw/day.

7. NUTRIENT SOURCES

7.1. Selenious acid

(Question N° EFSA-Q-2006-278)

The draft opinion was presented and discussed. The proposed changes to the text were noted and the opinion was adopted. The Panel concluded that the use of selenious acid as a source for selenium in food supplements at the proposed use levels is of no safety concern, provided that the amount of selenium from the diet plus supplements is not above the Tolerable Upper Intake Level (UL) defined by the Scientific Committee for Food for selenium. However, the Panel noted, that when dietary intake is taken into consideration in addition to supplementation at the proposed use level of 100 µg selenium/day, the ULs as defined by the SCF for children aged 4 - 6 years old and 7 - 10 years old will be exceeded.

7.2. Selenomethionine

(Questions N° EFSA Q-EFSA-Q-2005-103, EFSA-Q-2006-195, EFSA-Q-2006-196 and EFSA-Q-2006-304)

The draft document was presented and discussed. Proposed changes to the draft were noted. Subject to these revisions a new draft document will be scheduled for discussion in a forthcoming ANS Plenary meeting.

7.3. Picolinates

(Questions N° EFSA-Q-2005-077, EFSA-Q-2006-231, EFSA-Q-2005-094, EFSA-Q-2005-110)

The draft document was presented and discussed. Proposed changes to the draft were noted and the Panel decided to send the document back to the working group.

7.4. Chromium yeasts

(Questions N° EFSA-Q-2005-097, EFSA-Q-2005-120, EFSA-Q-2005-205, EFSA-Q-2006-211, EFSA-Q-2006-212, EFSA-Q-2006-213)

The draft document was presented and discussed. Proposed changes to the draft were noted. Subject to these revisions a new draft document will be scheduled for discussion in a forthcoming Plenary meeting.

7.5. Calcium acetate + (Calcium + Magnesium) succinate + (Calcium + Magnesium) pyruvate + Potassium malate

(Questions N° EFSA-Q-2006-230+ EFSA-Q-2005-137 + EFSA-Q-2005-131+ EFSA-Q-2005-136 + EFSA-Q-2005-141+ EFSA-Q-2008-025)

Due to lack of time this item was not discussed.

7.6. Cobalt(II) chloride hexahydrate

(Questions N° EFSA-Q-2006-276)

The Rapporteur presented the draft document. Further clarifications and improvements based on the comments provided by the members of the ANS Panel were noted and it was agreed to revise the document on this source, which will be scheduled for discussion in a forthcoming Plenary meeting.

7.7. Fulvic acid chelates

(Question N° EFSA-Q-2006-191, EFSA-Q-2006-192, EFSA-Q-2006-193, EFSA-Q-2006-194)

Due to lack of time this item was not discussed.

7.8. Biotransformed silicon

(Question N° EFSA-2005-202)

Due to lack of time this item was not discussed.

7.9. Calcium-, copper-, magnesium-, manganese- and zinc- amino acid chelates

(Questions N° EFSA-Q-2006-297, EFSA-Q-2006-298, EFSA-Q-2006-299, EFSA-Q-2006-300, EFSA-Q-2006-301)

Due to lack of time this item was not discussed.

7.10. Calcium phosphinate

(Questions N° EFSA-Q-2006-279)

The draft document was presented and discussed. Proposed changes to the draft were noted. In the absence of quorum during this discussion, the opinion could not be adopted. The opinion will be submitted to adoption by written procedure.

The 13 panel members present during the discussion confirmed their agreement with the draft opinion. It was agreed that they do not have to confirm again their agreement during the written procedure.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

none

NEXT MEETINGS

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

28 – 30 April 2009

3 – 5 June 2009

7 – 9 July 2009

22 – 24 September 2009

24 – 26 November 2009

Annex I

INTERESTS AND ACTIONS RESULTING FROM THE SCREENING OF SPECIFIC DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Agenda point 7.5 Second ERF study on aspartame (Question N° EFSA -Q-2008-746).

D. Gott declared an interest as he is involved in the preparation of related research activities for the UK Food Standards Agency. This was not considered as a conflict of interests and he was invited to participate in the discussion.

I. Pratt has declared an interest because she has been involved in the evaluation of the first ERF study on aspartame for the EFSA. This was not considered as a conflict of interests and she was invited to participate in the discussion.

I. Stankovic declared an interest because he has participated in the JECFA evaluation on modified acacia gum. This was not considered as a conflict of interests and he was invited to participate in the discussion

J.-C. Leblanc declared an interest because he has participated in JECFA evaluation on natamycin. This was not considered as a conflict of interests and he was invited to participate in the discussion

INTERESTS AND ACTIONS RESULTING FROM DECLARATIONS DONE AT THE MEETINGS

With regard to this meeting no other interest than those already declared in the ADoI or in a previous SDoI and screened by EFSA in accordance with its Policy on Declarations of Interests and implementing documents thereof was declared by the experts.