

Parma, 7 December 2010

**MINUTES OF THE 19th PLENARY MEETING
OF THE SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON
FOOD ADDITIVES AND NUTRIENT SOURCES
ADDED TO FOOD (ANS)**

Held in Brussels on 9-10 November 2010

Adopted on 7 December 2010 at the 20th ANS Panel plenary meeting

AGENDA:

1.	<i>Welcome; apologies for absence.....</i>	3
2.	<i>Adoption of the agenda</i>	3
3.	<i>Declarations of interest.....</i>	3
4.	<i>Adoption of the Minutes of the 18th ANS Plenary Meeting on 5-7 October 2010.....</i>	4
5.	<i>General information from the Chair, EFSA and the European Commission.....</i>	4
5.1.	<i>Chair.....</i>	4
5.2.	<i>EFSA.....</i>	4
5.3.	<i>European Commission.....</i>	4
6.	<i>Report from the Working Groups.....</i>	4
6.1.	<i>Working Group A on Food Additives and Nutrient Sources.....</i>	4
6.2.	<i>Working Group B on Food Additives and Nutrient Sources.....</i>	4
6.3.	<i>Working Group “Guidance on Food Additives”</i>	4
6.4.	<i>Working Group “Exposure assessment”</i>	4
6.5.	<i>Working Group “Chemistry and specifications”</i>	5
7.	<i>Food Additives</i>	5
7.1.	<i>Caramels (E 150 a-d).....</i>	5
	<i>(Question N°EFSA-Q-2008-237; EFSA-Q-2008-238; EFSA-Q-2008-239; EFSA-Q-2008-240)</i>	5
7.2.	<i>Indigo Carmine (E 132).....</i>	5

	<i>(Question N°EFSA-Q-2008-232)</i>	5
7.3.	<i>Patent Blue V (E 131)</i>	5
	<i>(Question N°EFSA-Q-2008-231)</i>	5
7.4.	<i>Beetroot red (E 162)</i>	5
	<i>(Question N°EFSA-Q-2008-250)</i>	5
7.5.	<i>Vegetable carbon (E 153)</i>	5
	<i>(Question N°EFSA-Q-2008-242)</i>	5
8.	<i>NUTRIENT SOURCES</i>	6
8.1.	<i>Trivalent chromium</i>	6
	<i>(Question N°EFSA-Q-2009-00870)</i>	6
8.2.	<i>Chromium picolinate</i>	6
	<i>(Question N°EFSA-Q-2009-00763)</i>	6
9.	<i>Draft guidance of the scientific committee on engineered nanomaterials</i>	6
10.	<i>Any other business</i>	6
11.	<i>Next meetings</i>	7

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Panel Members:

Fernando Aguilar, Birgit Dusemund, Pierre Galtier, David Gott, Rainer Gürtler, Jürgen König, Claude Lambré, John Christian Larsen (Chair), Jean-Charles Leblanc (1st day), Alicja Mortensen, Dominique Parent-Massin, Iona Pratt (Vice-Chair), Ivonne Rietjens (Vice-Chair), Ivan Stankovic, Tatjana Verguieva, Ruud Woutersen.

Apologies

Apologies for absence were noted from John Gilbert, Sandro Grilli, and Paul Tobback.

EFSA

Hugues Kenigswald, Majlinda Lahaniatis, Kim Petersen, Ana Maria Rincon (scientific staff) and Anna Campanini (administrative staff).

European Commission

Stephane Brion, Josiane Houins-Roulet, Rafael Perez Berbejal and Jiri Sochor

1. WELCOME; APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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 Declaration of interest (ADoI) and Specific Declaration of interest (SDoI) filled in by the experts invited for the present meeting. No conflicts of interests related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the beginning of this meeting.

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 18TH ANS PLENARY MEETING ON 5-7 OCTOBER 2010

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 THE CHAIR, EFSA AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

5.1. Chair

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

The Chair of the Panel informed the participants on his participation to a round table on the re-evaluation of food colours, held during the European Toxicology Forum Meeting on 28 October 2010.

5.2. EFSA

A few matters regarding the organisation of the work were briefly discussed. The Panel was informed that the call for experts for the renewal of the ANS Panel is now closed.

H. Kenigswald informed the Panel members on the new mandates received as well as on the status of the on-going work since the last Plenary meeting.

5.3. European Commission

A few matters regarding the on-going work were presented and discussed.

6. REPORT FROM THE WORKING GROUPS

6.1. Working Group A on Food Additives and Nutrient Sources

No meeting has taken place since the last plenary meeting of the Panel.

6.2. Working Group B on Food Additives and Nutrient Sources

No meeting has taken place since the last plenary meeting of the Panel.

6.3. Working Group “Guidance on Food Additives”

The Chair of the Working Group “Guidance on Food Additives” reported on ongoing work and the planned activities.

6.4. Working Group “Exposure assessment”

The Chair of the Working Group “Exposure assessment” reported on on-going work and the planned activities during the year 2010.

In order to be able to make a comprehensive exposure assessment from all sources, EFSA will launch a public call for data asking interested parties to provide information on the typical and

maximum use levels of calcium carbonate as a miscellaneous food additive and as a nutrient source with a 3-month submission period. As a consequence the finalisation of the exposure assessment to this substance will be delayed to the second quarter of 2011.

6.5. Working Group “Chemistry and specifications”

In the absence of the Chair of the Working Group in “Chemistry and specifications”, I. Stankovic reported on the outcome of the latest meeting of the Working Group, held in October 2010.

7. FOOD ADDITIVES

7.1. Caramels (E 150 a-d)

(Question N°EFSA-Q-2008-237; EFSA-Q-2008-238; EFSA-Q-2008-239; EFSA-Q-2008-240)

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. Indigo Carmine (E 132)

(Question N°EFSA-Q-2008-232)

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. Patent Blue V (E 131)

(Question N°EFSA-Q-2008-231)

The Panel was informed that EFSA has recently been informed that a new genotoxicity study for Patent Blue V (E 131) had been commissioned by interested parties following the call for data made in July 2010 and that its results should be available in the first quarter of 2011. EFSA has therefore asked the Commission to extend the deadline for the re-evaluation of Patent Blue V in order to be able to take these new data into consideration.

The draft opinion will be scheduled for discussion in a forthcoming Plenary meeting.

7.4. Beetroot red (E 162)

(Question N°EFSA-Q-2008-250)

The draft opinion was not discussed due to lack of time. The draft opinion will be scheduled for discussion in a forthcoming Plenary meeting.

7.5. Vegetable carbon (E 153)

(Question N°EFSA-Q-2008-242)

The draft opinion was not discussed due to lack of time. The draft opinion will be scheduled for discussion in a forthcoming Plenary meeting.

8. NUTRIENT SOURCES

8.1. Trivalent chromium

(Question N°EFSA-Q-2009-00870)

The draft opinion was discussed. The proposed changes to the text were noted and the opinion was adopted.

The opinion re-evaluates the safety of chromium(III) as a nutrient added to food for particular nutritional uses (PARNUTS) and foods intended for the general population (including food supplements). Since it is not an application, no dossier was provided.

In previous opinions the Panel noted that recent reviews and evaluations of chromium(III) point at conflicting outcomes of genotoxicity assays and report diverging views and conclusions on the consequences of this genotoxicity issue for the ultimate safety assessment of chromium(III). Therefore, this opinion focuses especially on the genotoxicity of chromium(III), the consequences of this genotoxicity issue for the ultimate safety assessment of chromium(III), and any new data on this issue that have emerged since previous evaluations.

The Panel concluded that the safety of chromium(III) as a nutrient added to PARNUTS and foods intended for the general population (including food supplements) is not of concern, provided that the intake of chromium(III) from these sources does not exceed 250 µg/day, the value established by the WHO for supplemental intake of chromium that should not be exceeded.

8.2. Chromium picolinate

(Question N°EFSA-Q-2009-00763)

The draft opinion was discussed. The proposed changes to the text were noted and the opinion was adopted.

The opinion deals with the safety of chromium picolinate as a source of chromium added for nutritional purposes to foodstuff for particular nutritional uses (PARNUTS) and to foods intended for the general population, and with the bioavailability of chromium from this source.

The Panel concluded that chromium bioavailability from chromium picolinate is low and that chromium from chromium picolinate is equally or slightly more bioavailable than chromium from other chromium compounds.

The Panel concluded that the uses of chromium(III) picolinate as a source of chromium in PARNUTS and foods intended for the general population (fortified foods and food supplements) would not be of concern provided that the amount of total chromium does not exceed 250 µg/day, the value established by the WHO for supplemental intake of chromium that should not be exceeded.

9. DRAFT GUIDANCE OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON ENGINEERED NANOMATERIALS

The draft guidance was discussed. The comments and proposed changes to the text were noted.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No specific items were discussed.

11. NEXT MEETINGS

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

7 - 9 December 2010

1 - 3 February 2011

1 – 2 March 2010

12- 14 April 2011

24-26 May 2011

5 – 7 July 2011

20- 22 September 2011

25 -27 October 2011

6 – 8 December 2011