

Parma, 30 September 2010

**MINUTES OF THE 14th PLENARY MEETING
OF THE SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD CONTACT MATERIALS,
ENZYMES, FLAVOURINGS AND PROCESSING AIDS (CEF)**

Held in Parma on 6-8 July 2010

Adopted on 30 September 2010

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PARTICIPANTS

Panel Members:

Wilfried Bursch, Laurence Castle, Riccardo Crebelli, Karl-Heinz Engel, Roland Franz, Thomas Haertlé, Trine Husøy (1st and 2nd day), Klaus-Dieter Jany, Catherine Leclercq, Jean-Claude Lhuguenot, Wim C. Mennes, Maria Rosaria Milana, Karla Pfaff, Kettil Svensson, Fidel Toldrá, Rosemary Waring Detlef Wölfle.

Invited Experts, hearing experts: Emanuela Testai, Ulrike Reuter

Apologies: Nathalie Gontard, Mona-Lise Binderup, Alberto Mantovani

European Commission: Annette Schaefer

EFSA: Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle (3rd day afternoon), Riitta Maijala (3rd day afternoon)

Communications: Steve Pagani

Assessment Methodology Unit (AMU): Didier Verloo, Saghir Bashir (2nd day morning)

CEF Unit: Alexandre Feigenbaum, Anne Theobald, Anna Castoldi, Eva Ferrari, Marco Lannutti

1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted.

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. GENERAL INFORMATION FROM EFSA, THE COMMISSION AND THE CHAIR

The Chair gave the latest information.

5. FLAVOURINGS

These items of the agenda were postponed.

6. FOOD CONTACT MATERIALS

These items of the agenda were postponed.

7. DRAFT OPINION ON BISPHENOL A

For the literature review on BPA (covering the literature published after the previous opinion in 2006), the Panel retrieved more than 800 publications and the screening process took considerably more time than was anticipated. The Panel spent most of the time at the Plenary discussing the various chapters of the review and there was insufficient time to finalise and adopt the full opinion.

The Panel identified areas of uncertainty, which merit further consideration. The available data on these areas is insufficient to appreciate their meaning.

All Panel members agreed that the information available to date is not sufficiently strong to impact on the numerical value of the TDI. However, one Panel member suggested to convert this TDI into a temporary-TDI. This could give rise to a minority opinion on this issue.

As far as the study on dietary developmental neurotoxicity of Bisphenol A in rats (known as "Stump Study") is concerned (which was the scientific basis for the Danish ban of BPA in materials in contact with food for children aged 0-3 years), the Panel considered that it does

not provide evidence of BPA affecting any of the neurobehavioural endpoints included in the study design.

The CEF Panel will be working through the summer via telemeetings to finalise the full opinion. An extraordinary Plenary is scheduled in September to finalise this opinion.

EFSA's Assessment Methodology Unit (AMU) informed that the statistical treatment of the data in the Biel maze test of the Stump study seems inadequate. Since this is an important item in the opinion, it was proposed that AMU re-investigate the issue.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

ANNEX 1: INTERESTS AND ACTIONS RESULTING FROM THE SCREENING OF SPECIFIC DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

K. Svensson, D. Wölfle and M.R. Milana had declared interest in BPA, as they are advising their national authorities. E. Testai was expert sent by Italy to the meeting of EFSA of 26 March 2010. According to EFSA policy on declarations of interest, these interests are not conflicts (level A).