



14 December 2004

**MINUTES OF THE 6TH PLENARY MEETING OF THE
SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON DIETETIC PRODUCTS, NUTRITION AND ALLERGIES
HELD ON 18-19 OCTOBER 2004**

PARTICIPANTS

Panel members:

- Wulf Becker
- Francesco Branca
- Jean-Louis Bresson
- Albert Flynn
- Alan Jackson¹
- Pagona Lagiou
- Martinus Løvik²
- Geltrude Mingrone
- Bevan Moseley
- Andreu Palou
- Hildegard Przyrembel
- Stephan Strobel
- Henk van den Berg
- Hendrik van Loveren

EFSA staff:

- Leng Heng
- Cecilia Lloyd
- Maud Pâques
- Pilar Rodríguez Iglesias

European Commission:

- Helen Lee³
- Sabine Osaer³
- Andreas Klepsch³

¹ Present on the 18th October

² Present on the 19th October

³ DG Health and Consumer Protection

1. WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS, APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The chair welcomed the new three members recently appointed as members of the Panel, Francesco Branca, Martinus Løvik and Henk van den Berg.

The chair also welcomed Cecilia Lloyd joining the NDA secretariat as administrative support as of November 2004 in replacement of Maud Pâques. The chair thanked Mrs. Pâques for her valuable support over the last year.

Apologies for absence were received from Daniel Brasseur and Seppo Salminen.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted following rearrangement of some items.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made in relation to the items on the agenda.

4. CO-ORDINATION WITH EFSA SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE AND OTHER EFSA PANELS

The chair informed the Panel on those activities of the EFSA Scientific Committee related to the Panel, and in particular on the Working Group on Emerging Risks and the Working Group on Exposure Assessment.

5. GENERAL INFORMATION BY EFSA ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE PANEL

The Panel was informed about the Advisory Forum Event that will take place on the 8 and 9 November 2004 in Berlin.

The scientific co-ordinator updated the Panel on the last developments of the EFSA move to Parma. Following the approval of the temporary building, the EFSA staff will gradually move between November 2004 and autumn 2005. The Scientific Committee and Panels should then preferably organise their meetings where the related SC/Panels Secretariats are based.

6. NEW REQUESTS FOR SCIENTIFIC OPINION

6.1 Food allergy

EFSA has been asked to evaluate 32 applications on allergen derivatives that were submitted to the European Commission for temporary labelling exemption pursuant to Article 6, paragraph 11 of Directive 2000/13/EC. These 32 applications correspond to a total number of 25 requests for scientific opinion sent to EFSA, as some of the requests included more than one application (i.e. data concerning more than one allergen derivative).

As laid down in the Directive, and after consultation of EFSA, the Commission will adopt a list of those allergen derivatives that will be temporarily excluded from Annex IIIa and exempted from mandatory labelling pending the final results of the studies currently being proposed by the applicants, or at the latest until 25 November 2007, when the permanent labelling exemptions will be granted.

The establishment of such a list shall be by 25 November 2004. In order to do so, the Commission has given EFSA until the 29 October 2004 to finalise this task and to deliver opinions on the 25 requests. This deadline was considered unrealistic given that 56% of the requests for scientific opinion were received by EFSA in September 2004, 12% were received in October 2004 and only 32% within the period mid June-August. Nevertheless, in advance of receiving these requests, the Panel has carried out preparatory work related to this task, including a consultation with industry experts. In addition, it should be stressed that the Panel was already able at the present meeting to consider for discussion and possible adoption nine Draft Opinions on nine applications.

The Panel will continue the evaluation of the remaining applications and provide scientific opinions as requested by the Commission over the coming months.

6.2 Nutrition claims

The European Commission has requested EFSA to issue a scientific opinion on the scientific substantiation of nutrition claims relating to unsaturated fat, poly-unsaturated fat, mono-unsaturated fat and omega-3 fatty acids.

The Panel agreed creating an *ad hoc* working group to deal with this request. Members were kindly asked to suggest themselves to participate in this working group.

7. UPPER LEVELS FOR VITAMINS AND MINERALS

7.1 Draft opinion on the tolerable upper intake level of iron

The draft opinion prepared by the Working Group on Upper Levels for Vitamins and Minerals was introduced and discussed. The opinion was adopted subject to the incorporation of modifications agreed upon by the Panel.

The text of the full opinion appears on the EFSA web site, available at: http://www.efsa.eu.int/science/nda/nda_opinions/catindex_en.html.

8. FOOD ALLERGY: APPLICATIONS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 6 PARAGRAPH 11 OF DIRECTIVE 2000/13/EC

The following draft opinions prepared by the Working Group on Food Allergy were introduced and discussed:

- Draft opinion on wheat-based glucose syrups, including dextrose
- Draft opinion on wheat-based maltodextrins
- Draft opinion on glucose syrups produced from barley

- Draft opinion on acid hydrolysed vegetable protein from wheat
- Draft opinion on distillates made from cereals
- Draft opinion on distillates made from whey
- Draft opinion on distillates made from nuts
- Draft opinion on fully refined peanut oil and fat
- Draft opinion on milk, egg and fish products used in wine manufacture

The opinions were adopted subject to the incorporation of modifications agreed upon by the Panel.

The text of each of the full opinion appears on the EFSA web site, available at: http://www.efsa.eu.int/science/nda/nda_opinions/catindex_en.html.

9. NOVEL FOODS

9.1 Draft opinion on Enova oil

As there was not enough time, the discussion of the draft opinion was deferred until the next plenary meeting of the Panel.

10. SCHEDULE OF MEETING DATES IN 2005

The Panel agreed on the following dates for plenary meetings in 2005:

- 21/22 February
- 20/21 April
- 6/7 July
- 4/5 October
- 6/7 December

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

12. ADOPTION OF THESE MINUTES

These minutes were adopted by written procedure on 29 November 2004.