

PANEL ON PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS AND THEIR RESIDUES

**45th PLENARY MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON
PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS AND THEIR RESIDUES
HELD IN PARMA ON 19-20 MAY 2010**

(ADOPTED BY WRITTEN PROCEDURE ON 21 JUNE 2010)

#	Items
1.	Adoption of the agenda, apologies for absence, declarations of interest.
2.	Adoption of the first opinion of the Ecoregions mandate regarding litter layer. Further information on work under Ecoregions mandate.
3.	Draft opinion on protection goals: update on stakeholder and RM consultation; update on on-going procurement.
4.	Information on the revision of the guidance document on Persistence in Soil.
5.	Information on Guidance Document on protected crops.
6.	Information about the revision of the Guidance Document on Dermal Absorption.
7.	Information on the identification of pesticides to be included in cumulative assessment groups on the basis of their toxicological profile.
8.	Guidance Document on the probabilistic methodologies for modelling dietary exposure to pesticide residues: feedback from public consultation.
9.	Information on draft opinion on the evaluation of the toxicological relevance of metabolites and degradates of pesticide active substances for the dietary risk assessment Guidance Document.
10.	Miscellaneous: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information on the EFSA library• Info-session on virtual meetings

PANEL ON PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS AND THEIR RESIDUES

PARTICIPANTS

Members of the PPR Panel

Mr. J. BOESTEN, Ms. C. BOLOGNESI, Mr. T. BROCK, Mr. E. CAPRI, Ms K. HIRSCH-ERNST, Ms. S. HOUGAARD BENNEKOU, Mr. R. LUTTIK, Mr. A. MORETTO (Chair), Ms. B. OSSENDORP, Ms. Y. PICO` , Mr. A. SCHAEFFER, Mr. P. SOUSA, Mr. W. STEURBAUT, Ms. A. STROMBERG, Ms. M. TASHEVA, Mr. T. VAN DER LINDEN, Ms C. VLEMINCKX.

Apologies

Ms J. HOUINS-ROULET (DG SANCO O3), Mr A. HARDY, Mr. A. HART, Ms A. PETERSEN

EFSA

Ms L.CONGIU (Library) and Mr P. BOSACCHI (ITOP Unit) only for Item 10.

PPR Panel secretariat: Ms. M. DUNIER-THOMANN, Mr. M. EGSMOSE, Mr. L. MOHIMONT, Ms. K. NIENSTEDT, Mr. I. SEBESTYEN, Mr. H. STEINKELLNER, Ms. G. BOSCHETTO, Ms. A. PASQUIN, Ms. M. SODANI, Ms. J. RICKETTS.

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA, APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE, DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The agenda was adopted without changes; apologies were received from Mr A. HARDY, Mr. A. HART, Ms A. PETERSEN and from Ms J. HOUINS-ROULET the new DG SANCO O3 interface representative who replaced Mr. X. PAVARD.

In accordance with EFSA's policy on Declarations of Interest, EFSA screened the ADoI filled in by the Panel members invited to the meeting. No conflicts of interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting were identified during the screening process and no new interests were declared in the SDoI or at the beginning of this meeting.

2. ADOPTION OF THE FIRST OPINION UNDER THE ECOREGIONS MANDATE AND FURTHER INFORMATION ON ON-GOING WORK

The Panel adopted the 1st scientific opinion under the Ecoregions mandate on 20 May (Scientific Opinion on the importance of the soil litter layer in agricultural areas). The publication is foreseen in June.

The Panel was informed about the work in progress under the Ecoregions mandate. A second draft opinion is expected to be submitted for adoption during the next Plenary.

3. DRAFT OPINION ON PROTECTION GOALS: UPDATE ON STAKEHOLDER AND RM CONSULTATION

Ms. NIENSTEDT updated the Panel on the stakeholder workshop carried out on 15 and 16 April in Parma. A total of 80 participants attended, representing authorities, industry, academia, consultants, members of the PPR WG Ecotoxicological Effects, EFSA colleagues from GMO and PRAPeR units and one PLH Panel member. EFSA's WG received good feedback which will be considered for the finalization of the draft opinion.

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A Risk Manager consultation was held on 11 and 12 May in Brussels, organised in co-operation with DG SANCO. Delegations of 21 European member states were present, as well as colleagues from the European Commission (DG Environment and DG SANCO). A total of 37 participants attended. Rapporteurs for the 3 discussion break-out groups were appointed, who will send their reports to EFSA by 4 June. The WG Ecotoxicological Effects and the PPR Panel will consider the comments and inform the member states at the next SCoFCAH (8 and 9 July) with an action plan for further activities regarding the draft opinion on protection goals.

4. INFORMATION ON THE REVISION OF THE GUIDANCE DOCUMENT ON PERSISTENCE IN SOIL

The Chairperson of the WG updated the Panel on the progress of the work. Two outsourced projects are ongoing. One on validation of the guidance document is in progress and the second is on the data collection for crop interception. The outcome of externalised work is targeted to be available during autumn 2010. The WG will meet again on the 29 and 30 June.

The Chair updated the Panel on the guidance on how to use field persistence and soil accumulation studies. The intention is to launch a public consultation on the proposal for guidance in the second half of 2010.

The draft EFSA report on Selection of Scenarios for Exposure of Soil Organisms to Plant Protection Products was shared with the Panel before the meeting and discussed at the Plenary.

In this context, Mr EGSMOSE updated the Plenary on a proposal for a procedure allowing scientific outputs other than Opinions to be published in the EFSA Journal. The Plenary encouraged EFSA to carefully consider the scientific review process for publication in the EFSA Journal in order not to hamper its recognition as a leading, peer-reviewed journal in the field.

5. INFORMATION ON GUIDANCE DOCUMENT ON PROTECTED CROPS

The Chairpersons of the WG gave an update on the development of the new GD on estimating emissions from protected crop systems (green-houses and covered crops). The WG will meet again on 20 and 21 May and then again on 15 and 16 June.

A second data collection on protected crop structures in the EU is ongoing. An open call for estimation/calculation of emissions of PPPs from protected crops has been launched and is under evaluation.

Mr EGMOSE was invited to the DG SANCO SCoFCAH (Legislation) held on 10 and 11 May to inform the participants about the published Opinion. The conclusion from the Opinion is that it cannot generally be excluded that Plant Protection Products are emitted into the environment.

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6. INFORMATION ABOUT THE REVISION OF THE GUIDANCE DOCUMENT ON DERMAL ABSORPTION

The rapporteur informed the Panel that, using the report from the outsourced project as a starting document, the WG on the Toxicology of Pesticides recently started the elaboration of the Opinion on the revision of the Guidance Document on Dermal Absorption. The rapporteur presented the planned structure and content of the Opinion. The proposal for the draft GD will be in an annex to the Opinion. The second draft of the draft GD and the first draft of the opinion were circulated to the WG before the plenary meeting. The discussion of the documents will take place during the WG meeting organized after the plenary meeting. The Opinion is expected to be possibly ready for public consultation during the July plenary meeting and it may be ready for adoption in December.

7. INFORMATION ON THE IDENTIFICATION OF PESTICIDES TO BE INCLUDED IN CUMULATIVE ASSESSMENT GROUPS ON THE BASIS OF THEIR TOXICOLOGICAL PROFILE

The PPR Panel was informed that the next coordination meeting for the outsourced project will take place on 8 June. The aim of this meeting will be the discussion of the interim report and the structure and content of the database that will be one of the major outcomes of the project. The interim report from this project was expected to circulate 10 days before the meeting. The secretariat was informed by the contractor that the project leader had retired and a new project leader (who had been involved in the project from the beginning) was proposed. The PPR Unit prepared the amendment to the Grant Agreement regarding the change of the project leader. Then the Panel was informed about the discussions in regard to the selection of the index compound. It was clarified that the identification of the index compound for all cumulative assessment groups was not included either in the call or in the proposal of the contractor. Consequently, the WG of Panel that will deal with this mandate should consider the selection of the index compounds. Then the Panel discussed the possible composition of the WG dealing with this mandate. Two options were mentioned: the allocation of the mandate to a new WG or to the existing WG on the Toxicology of Pesticides but inviting new external experts to this WG.

8. GUIDANCE DOCUMENT ON THE PROBABILISTIC METHODOLOGIES FOR MODELLING DIETARY EXPOSURE TO PESTICIDE RESIDUES: FEEDBACK FROM PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Mr MOHIMONT informed the Panel about the outcome of the public consultation on the first part of the guidance on probabilistic methodologies for modelling dietary exposure to pesticide residues. Comments were received from 6 different respondents covering all sections of the document. The Panel was informed about the comments of a general nature.

The WG will start discussing these comments from 14 June during a teleconference and, when relevant, will update the draft guidance accordingly. Some issues raised during the public consultation will also be referred to the Commission and Member States as they relate to the coherence between Risk Assessment and Risk Management.

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9. INFORMATION ON DRAFT OPINION ON THE EVALUATION OF THE TOXICOLOGICAL RELEVANCE OF METABOLITES AND DEGRADATES OF PESTICIDE ACTIVE SUBSTANCES FOR THE DIETARY RISK ASSESSMENT GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

The Chair of the WG on the Toxicological relevance of pesticide metabolites for dietary risk assessment gave a short overview about the background and the activities outsourced before starting to draft the opinion. The Panel was also informed about the progress made by the WG since the last Plenary meeting. Since the last WG meeting, a new version of the Introduction has been circulated and sample exposure estimations of metabolites of 7 pesticide active substances for comparison to the various TTC thresholds have been performed. The discussion of the circulated documents and the results of the sample calculations will take place during the WG meeting organised after the plenary meeting.

The deadline for adoption of the Opinion is September 2011, as the mandate provided the Panel with a period of 18 months after completion of the last of the 3 outsourced activities.

10. MISCELLANEOUS:

- Information on the EFSA library**

Ms L.CONGIU explained the mission of the library and support to staff and experts. The various subscriptions to Journals were listed and details were given on how to retrieve information.

- Info-session on virtual meetings**

Mr P.BOSACCHI (ITOP Unit) presented the EFSA conferencing systems: videoconferences, web conferences and conference calls. The software and functioning were detailed and questions asked by participants on problems they encountered. The number of virtual meetings to be organised in future years will increase according to EFSA's new policy. It was highlighted that virtual meetings are difficult to manage with more than 10 participants.

The next Plenary meeting will take place on **30 June-1 July 2010** in Parma, starting at **14h00** on 30 June.
