



## SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

### MINUTES OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED MICRO-ORGANISMS – ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT

**Held on 18-19 March 2019, Parma**

**(Agreed on 29 March 2019)**

#### Participants

- Working Group Members:  
Pier Sandro Cocconcelli (chair), Boet Glandorf, Lieve Herman, Christoph Tebbe
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:  
Not applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Ilaria Ciabatti, DG SANTE
- EFSA:  
SCER Unit: Caterina Barrasso, Reinhilde Schoonjans  
GMO Unit: Tommaso Raffaello  
FIP Unit: Jaime Aguilera
- Others:  
Not Applicable

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 17 of the Decision of the Executive Director concerning the selection of members of the Scientific Committee, the Scientific Panels, and the selection of external experts to assist EFSA with its scientific work:  
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/expertselection.pdf>.



## 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## 2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## 3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Working Group meeting held on 4-5 February 2019, Parma.

The minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Working Group meeting held on 4-5 February 2019 were agreed on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019.<sup>4</sup>

## 5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

### 5.1.Chapters of EFSA guidance relevant for the mandate

The working group identified relevant chapters of EFSA guidance to be checked for their adequacy under the mandate.

### 5.2.Preliminary case studies

Preliminary case studies listed by the contractor were shown during the working group. The experts started a preliminary discussion for their selection.

## 6. Any Other Business

### 6.1.Not Applicable

## 7. Next meeting

16 April 2019, Teleconference

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/cross-cutting-science/wg-Synbio-GMM-ERA-2018-2020.pdf>

# Scientific Committee and Emerging Risks Unit

## Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Working Group on Synthetic Biology of Genetically Modified Micro-Organisms - Environmental Risk Assessment

**Held on 4-5 February 2019, Parma (Italy)**

**(Agreed on 15 February 2019)**

### **Participants**

- **Working Group Members:**

Pier Sandro Cocconcelli (Chair), Boet Glandorf, Lieve Herman, Christoph Tebbe

- **Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:**

Victor de Lorenzo (for item 5.1)

- **European Commission:**

Ilaria Ciabatti (DG SANTE)

- **EFSA:**

SCER Unit: Caterina Barrasso, Reinhilde Schoonjans

GMO Unit: Nikoletta Papadopoulou, Tommaso Raffaello

FIP Unit: Jaime Aguilera

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 17 of the Decision of the Executive Director concerning the selection of members of the Scientific Committee, the Scientific Panels, and the selection of external experts to assist EFSA with its scientific work: [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/expertselection.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf)

## **1. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

## **2. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## **3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members**

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

## **4. Hearing Expert**

Prof. Victor de Lorenzo was invited to present his views for item 5.1 – Listing of relevant Case studies of the present meeting.

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>4</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>5</sup>, EFSA invited Prof. Victor de Lorenzo to submit an Annual Declaration of Interest. His participation in the present meeting was limited to providing testimony, without the possibility to take on any role undertaken by members of the Working Group (i.e. not possible to draft or be involved in the discussion or the adoption of a scientific output), in accordance with the applicable legal framework<sup>6</sup>.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_1\\_7.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_1_7.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_1\\_7.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_1_7.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management, Article 9:

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_1\\_7.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_1_7.pdf)

## **5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion**

### **5.1. Introduction of the Mandate**

EFSA staff introduced the [mandate](#) and its scope, as well as the associated timeline and expected deliverables.

### **5.2. GMM SynBio developments within the remit of this working group**

The Experts discussed the working context of SynBio developments in the frame of this working group for case-study selection, particularly those intended for agri-food use as mentioned in the mandate and intended for deliberate release into the environment.

### **5.3. Possible GMM SynBio applications in the next 10 years**

Experts discussed the possibility of GMM SynBio developments and the likelihood of commercial/practical applications within the next 10 years.

## **6. Any Other Business**

The digital working environment was explored together with the experts. Useful conferences were listed.

## **7. Next meetings**

2<sup>nd</sup> WG: 18-19 March

3<sup>rd</sup> WG: 16 April (pm, half day TelConf)

4<sup>th</sup> WG: 10 May (am, half day TelConf)

5<sup>th</sup> WG: 13-14 June

6<sup>th</sup> WG: 16-17 July

7<sup>th</sup> WG: 2-3 September

8<sup>th</sup> WG: 7 October or 14 October (pm, half day TelConf)

9<sup>th</sup> WG: 29-30 October or 12-13 November