

13 February and 21 February 2023
09:00-13:30 / 09:00-13:30
MINUTES - Agreed on 6 March 2023

Location: Webconference

Attendees:

■ **Panel Members:**

Margherita Bignami, Laurent Bodin, Kevin Chipman, Jesús Del Mazo, Bettina Grasl-Kraupp, Christer Hogstrand, Ron Hoogenboom, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Carlo Nebbia¹, Elsa Nielsen², Evangelia Ntzani³, Annette Petersen, Salomon Sand, Dieter Schrenk, Tanja Schwerdtle⁴, Christiane Vleminckx, Heather Wallace.

■ **Hearing Experts⁵:**

Not applicable

■ **European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**

Ivana Poustkova, Veerle Vanheusden, Frans Verstraete (European Commission, DG Health and Food Safety, Unit E2).

■ **EFSA:**

FEEDCO Unit:

Maria Anastassiadou, Anna Christodoulidou, Federico Cruciani, Chantra Eskes, Mary Gilsenan, Matteo Innocenti, Luisa Ramos Bordajandi, Elena Rovesti, Hans Steinkellner, Tuuli Tauriainen, Ben Whitty

■ **Observers:**

Not applicable

■ **Others:**

Not applicable

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants to this Plenary meeting.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

¹ Participated to the 13 February session only.

² Participated to the 21 February session only.

³ On 21 February session participated until 11.30 CET.

⁴ Participated to the 13 February session only.

⁵ 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



3. Declarations of Interest

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence⁶ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁷, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Panel 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. At the beginning of the meeting, two Panel members declared new interests (see Annex I) which were not deemed to represent a conflict of interest.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 129th Plenary meeting held on 24-26 January 2023

The minutes of the 129th Plenary meeting held on 24-26 January 2023 were agreed by written procedure on 10 January 2023⁸.

5. Report on written procedures since the 129th Plenary meeting held on 24-26 January 2023

None.

6. Updates from EFSA

The CONTAM Team presented a proposal to use the terms 'food producing animals' and 'non-food producing animals' instead of 'farm animals, horses and companion animals', as per the definitions in Regulation 767/2009, Article 3. The CONTAM Panel agreed to use these terms in the on-going and upcoming CONTAM Panel Opinions.

The CONTAM Team presented a proposal to explore the possibilities to update/refine the approach the CONTAM Panel is following to estimate animal dietary exposure assessment. Limitations of the existing approach were discussed, and a strategy to develop a revised method, in collaboration with the FEED Team and FEEDAP Panel, was presented. The CONTAM Panel agreed with the proposal and one CONTAM Panel member volunteered to participate into this collaboration.

A revision to the CONTAM Panel Opinion on the assessment of information as regards the toxicity of T-2 and HT-2 toxin for ruminants, published in September 2022⁹, was proposed. The aim is to update the Opinion with a more recent exposure assessment of the T-2 and HT-2 toxin¹⁰. The Opinion would be re-published with an *erratum* note. The CONTAM Panel found the proposal appropriate and decided to provide agreement to the proposed changes via written procedure.

EFSA is expected to receive two new mandates in the near future on delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol in food and on perchlorate(/chlorate) in food. Expressions of interest were collected from the CONTAM Panel members willing to join the Working Groups to be created.

⁶ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁷

http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

⁸ <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2023-01/Minutes.pdf>

⁹ DOI: <https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2022.7564>

¹⁰ DOI: <https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2017.4972>



7. Scientific outputs submitted for discussion

7.1. Draft Opinion on the risks for animal health and transfer from feed to food of animal origin related to the presence of ochratoxin A in feed (EFSA-Q-2021-00699)¹¹

The EFSA WG coordinator presented the activities carried out to date on the mandate by the WG on OTA in feed. The draft protocol for the risk assessment was discussed and endorsed by the CONTAM Panel with minor changes. The Chair of the WG anticipated that a number of sections of the draft Opinion will be presented for discussion and possible endorsement in the upcoming 131st CONTAM Panel meeting.

7.2. Draft Opinion on the risk for animal health related to the presence of ergot alkaloids in feed (EFSA-Q-2021-00697)¹²

The EFSA WG coordinator provided an update on the progress of the mandate by the WG on Ergot alkaloids in feed. The Chair of the WG illustrated the critical points the WG is facing in the elaboration of the draft Opinion. The draft protocol for the risk assessment was discussed and endorsed by the CONTAM Panel with minor changes. The introductory sections of the draft Opinion were also discussed and endorsed by the Panel.

7.3. Draft Opinion on the update of the risk assessment of polybrominated diphenyl ethers in food (EFSA-Q-2018-00432)¹³

The Chair of the WG on BFRs in food provided an update on the progress of the mandate by the WG BFRs in food, and highlighted the modifications introduced into the draft Opinion in the sections on consideration of critical effects, dose-response analysis and approach for risk characterisation. A discussion on the calculations of the body burden in rodents was held and the approach agreed. The CONTAM Panel made comments to those sections that will be taken into account by the WG. The draft Opinion will be discussed again at the 131st CONTAM Panel meeting.

7.4. Draft Opinion on the risks for animal and human health related to the presence of polychlorinated naphthalenes (PCNs) in feed and food (EFSA-Q-2020-00663)¹⁴

The Chair of the WG on PCNs in feed and food gave an overview of the progress of the work for this mandate. Section 1 on Background, Terms of Reference and their Interpretation as well as the Supporting information for the assessment was discussed and endorsed by the CONTAM Panel with minor suggested changes. The WG will consider the comments received by the Panel and update the relevant parts of the draft Opinion accordingly.

8. Any other business

¹¹ <https://open.efsa.europa.eu/questions/EFSA-Q-2021-00699>

¹² <https://open.efsa.europa.eu/questions/EFSA-Q-2021-00697>

¹³ <https://open.efsa.europa.eu/questions/EFSA-Q-2018-00432>

¹⁴ <https://open.efsa.europa.eu/questions/EFSA-Q-2020-00663>



Not applicable.

Annex I

Interests and actions resulting from the Oral Declaration of Interest done at the beginning of the meeting

With regard to this meeting, Mr Jean-Charles Leblanc declared the following interest: appointment as member of the WHO Expert Advisory Food Safety Panel. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence¹⁵ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management¹⁶, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, the interest above was not deemed to represent a Conflict of Interest for the expert concerned.

Mr Christer Hogstrand declared the following interest: Oral presentation on behalf of EFSA at the 5th International Conference 'Food Contact Materials Regulation' 6-7 February 2023. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence¹⁷ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management¹⁸, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, the interest above was not deemed to represent a Conflict of Interest for the expert concerned.

¹⁵ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

¹⁶ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

¹⁷ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

¹⁸ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf