

26 April 2023

09:00-12:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 12 May 2023

Location: Web-conference

Attendees:

• **Panel Members:**

Pauline Adriaanse, Annette Aldrich, Philippe Berny, Tamara Coja, Sabine Duquesne, Andreas Focks, Antonio Hernandez-Jerez (chair), Marina Marinovich, Maurice Millet, Olavi Pelkonen, Silvia Pieper, Aaldrik Tiktak, Christopher Topping, Anneli Widenfalk, Martin Wilks, Gerrit Wolterink

• **Hearing Experts:**

Not Applicable

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

Karin Nienstedt

• **EFSA:**

PREV UNIT: Sofia Batista Leite, Marco Binaglia, Arianna Chiusolo, Ana Cioca, Katia Chukwubike, Federica Crivellente, Dimitra Kardassi, Anna Lanzoni, Renata Leuschner, Jochem Louise, Manuela Tiramani

PLANTS Unit: Maria Arena, Domenica Auteri, Gabriella Fait, Aude Kienzler, Alberto Linguadoca, Chris Lythgo, Magrans Soria Oriol, Tobin Robinson, Sharp Rachel

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.
No apologies 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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



during the screening process. With regard to this meeting, Tamara COJA orally declared the following interest: Project Coordinator (on behalf of the Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety (AGES) as beneficiary) of an EFSA grant (GP/EFSA/FDP/2022/02) on GLP criteria covering different regulatory areas within EFSA's remit. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², 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.

4. Update on DG SANTE activities

A representative of DG SANTE presented to the Panel the relevant activities for risk assessments.

5. Reorganisation of the PREV and PLANTS Units

The Panel was informed by the reorganisation of the two Units.

6. On-going activities of the Scientific Committee

The Panel was informed on the on-going activities of the Scientific Committee (SC). The following activities were presented:

- EC mandate on exposure and risk assessment of Fluoride
- Guidance on Epidemiology
- SWOT analysis of EFSA's Panel System
- Other topics, i.e., EFSA's approach to the EU partnerships under Horizon Europe and Update on Panels renewal.

7. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

7.1 Request for a Statement on the design and conduct of groundwater monitoring studies supporting groundwater exposure assessments of pesticides (EFSA-Q-2021-00788)

The statement was unanimously adopted via written procedure on 28th March.

7.2 Use and reporting historical control data (HCD) for regulatory studies (EFSA-Q-2021-00274)

The Panel was updated on the status and planning of the activities.

8. Update on PERA project

The Panel was updated on the objectives of the PERA project and the outsourced project that have been already launched or are planned to be launched in the near future.



9. Any Other Business

The draft Guidance on Protocol Development which was out for public consultation was briefly presented and deadline for submitting comments was reminded.

10. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 5 July 2023, via web-conference.