

30 May and 9 June 2023

13:30-18:00 / 13:30-18:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 4 July 2023

Location: webconference

Attendees:

■ **Panel Members:**

Margherita Bignami, Laurent Bodin, Kevin Chipman¹, Jesús Del Mazo, Bettina Grasl-Kraupp, Christer Hogstrand, Ron Hoogenboom, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Carlo Nebbia, Elsa Nielsen, Evangelia Ntzani, Annette Petersen², Salomon Sand, Dieter Schrenk, Tanja Schwerdtle, Christiane Vleminckx, Heather Wallace.

■ **Hearing Experts³:**

Lars Barregård (for Item 6.2), Andy Hart (for Item 6.4), Thorhallur Halldorsson (for Item 6.2), Gerhard Karrer (for Item 6.3)

■ **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, Eirini Kouloura, Luisa Ramos Bordajandi, Elena Rovesti, Hans Steinkellner, Tuuli Tauriainen, Magdalena Wagner, Ben Whitty

MESE Unit:

Jose Cortiñas Abrahantes (for Item 6.2)

■ **Observers:**

Not applicable

■ **Others:**

Not applicable

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants to this Plenary meeting.

¹ Absent on 30 May.

² Absent on 9 June.

³ 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



2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence⁴ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁵, 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, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 132nd Plenary meeting held on 10-12 May 2023

The minutes of the 132nd Plenary meeting held on 10-12 May 2023 were agreed at this meeting on 30 May 2023⁶.

5. Report on written procedures since the 132nd Plenary meeting held on 10-12 May 2023

None.

6. Scientific outputs submitted for discussion and possible adoption

6.1. Animal exposure assessment: updated model⁷

The FEEDCO Unit presented the proposed modified tables containing default animal body weights, feed intakes and diets used to perform animal exposure assessment. The updated tables allow for a certain flexibility in the selection of feed materials within a feed category, on the basis of the occurrence data available, and address a few points which needed updating in the existing excel spreadsheet. Following a brief discussion, the CONTAM Panel endorsed the proposed approach to be used in the CONTAM Opinions where an animal exposure assessment is required. The changes will be imported in a new excel file to aid the exposure calculation for the various animal species.

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁵

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

⁶ https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2023-05/Minutes_0.pdf

⁷ <https://open.efsa.europa.eu/questions/EFSA-Q-2021-00699>



6.2. Draft Opinion on the update of the risk assessment of inorganic arsenic in food (EFSA-Q-2021-00250)⁸

The CONTAM Panel went through the sections on Dose response analysis and Identification of a Reference Point. Suggestions for amendments were made. Furthermore, a hearing expert was invited to answer questions raised by some members of the CONTAM Panel and by the CONTAM WG on arsenic in food regarding the approach for hazard assessment. The Panel discussed these questions and the answers provided to them. It was agreed that the WG will update the sections discussed with the Panel based on the comments received, and continue to finalise the Opinion, giving particular attention to all the uncertainties associated with the approach. Among others, the effect of application of a higher BMR as compared to the one proposed will be addressed. The revised Opinion will be discussed for possible endorsement for public consultation at the next CONTAM Plenary meeting. Individual Panel members who still have alternative views on the approaches proposed for hazard and risk assessment in the draft Opinion, were invited to share with the Panel in time for the July Plenary their proposals in a written format for discussion by the Panel.

6.3. Draft Opinion on the assessment of the processing conditions which make the ambrosia spp. seeds unviable (EFSA-Q-2020-00501)⁹

The Chair of the WG on Ambrosia seeds viability presented for discussion and possible adoption the draft Opinion on the assessment of the processing conditions which make the ambrosia spp. seeds unviable. The CONTAM Panel discussed the comments provided by its members and addressed them in the text. The Panel adopted the Opinion pending some minor changes. The Panel thanked the WG and EFSA staff for their work.

6.4. Draft Opinion on the risk for human and animal health related to the presence of Polychlorinated Naphthalenes in food and feed (EFSA-Q-2020-00663)¹⁰

The Chair of the WG and the invited WG member presented an overview of the plan for the uncertainty analysis for the draft risk assessment on PCNs in feed and food. The Panel discussed the plan and provided feedback that will be taken into account by the WG to continue the development of the risk assessment.

7. Any other business

Not applicable.

⁸ <https://open.efsa.europa.eu/questions/EFSA-Q-2021-00250>

⁹ <https://open.efsa.europa.eu/questions/EFSA-Q-2020-00501>

¹⁰ <https://open.efsa.europa.eu/questions/EFSA-Q-2020-00663>