

26 October 2023

09:00-18:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 6th November 2023

Location: Teleconference

Attendees:

- Panel Members:
Torsten Bohn, Jacqueline Castenmiller, Stefaan de Henauw, Karen Ildico Hirsch-Ernst, Helle Katrine Knutsen, Alexandre Maciuk, Inge Mangelsdorf, Harry J. McArdle, Androniki Naska, Kristina Pentieva, Alfonso Siani, Frank Thies, Sophia Tsabouri, Dominique Turck (Chair) and Marco Vinceti.
- Hearing Experts¹:
Monika Neuhäuser-Berthold (Agenda item 6.1), Maret Traber (Agenda item 6.2).
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
EC: Ivona Babic, Stella D'Amore, Takis Daskaleros, Rafael Luis Perez Berbejal, and Fruzsina Neymecz.
- EFSA:
Nutrition & Food Innovation (NIF) Unit: Ana Afonso, Reinhard Ackerl, Paolo Colombo, Agnès de Sesmaisons, Wolfgang Gelbmann, Andrea Germini, Leng Heng, Nena Karavasiloglou, Leonard Matijević, Vânia Mendes, Estefanía Noriega Fernández, Emanuela Turla, Silvia Valtueña Martinez, and Ermolaos Ververis.
- Others:
Not Applicable

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

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence² and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management,³ 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.

¹ 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>

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

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



Certain interests were declared orally by the members before the beginning of the meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Oral Declarations of Interest made at the beginning of the meeting, please refer to the Annex.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 140th NDA Plenary meeting held on 26-27th September 2023 by teleconference.

The [minutes](#) of the 140th Plenary meeting were agreed by written procedure on 3rd October 2023.

5. Scientific outputs submitted for discussion/adoption

5.1 Draft opinion on lacto-N-fucopentaose I / 2'-fucosyllactose mixture (LNFP-I / 2'-FL) as a novel food. Applicant: Glycom A/S (EFSA-Q-2021-00170, NF 2021/2371)

The Panel discussed the draft scientific opinion, and in particular assessed data regarding product characterization, production process, proposed uses and use levels, anticipated daily intake, toxicology and allergenicity. The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 26 October subject to editorial changes. The full text of the opinion will be available in the coming weeks in the EFSA Journal.

5.2 a. Draft opinion on *Schizochytrium* sp. oil as a novel food. Applicant: ATK Biotech Co., Ltd (EFSA-Q-2020-00850, NF 2020/2242)

The Panel discussed the draft scientific opinion, and in particular assessed data regarding product characterization, production process, proposed uses and use levels, anticipated daily intake, toxicology, human studies and allergenicity. The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 26 October subject to editorial changes. The full text of the opinion will be available in the coming weeks in the EFSA Journal.

b. Draft opinion on *Schizochytrium* sp. oil as a novel food. Applicant: CABIO Biotech (Wuhan) Co., Ltd. (EFSA-Q-2021-00168, NF 2021/2445)

The Panel discussed the draft scientific opinion, and in particular assessed data regarding product characterization, production process, proposed uses and use levels, anticipated daily intake, toxicology, human studies and allergenicity. The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 26 October subject to editorial changes. The full text of the opinion will be available in the coming weeks in the EFSA Journal.

5.3 Draft opinion on monosodium salt of L-5-methyltetrahydrofolic acid as a novel food and the bioavailability of folate from this source in the context of Directive 2002/46/EC, Regulation (EU)



**No 609/2013 and Regulation (EC) No 1925/2006.
Applicant: Merck & Cie (EFSA-Q-2021-00079; NF
2020/2160)**

The Panel discussed the draft scientific opinion, and in particular reviewed data regarding product characterization, production process, proposed uses and use levels, anticipated daily intake, toxicology, human studies and allergenicity. The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 26 October subject to editorial changes. The full text of the opinion will be available in the coming weeks in the EFSA Journal.

5.4 Draft opinion on *Yarrowia lipolytica* yeast biomass-extension of use. Applicant: Skotan S.A. (EFSA-Q-2020-00491, NF 2020/1908)

The Panel discussed the draft scientific opinion, and in particular assessed data regarding product characterization, newly proposed uses and use levels, anticipated daily intake and nutritional assessment. The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 26 October subject to editorial changes. The full text of the opinion will be available in the coming weeks in the EFSA Journal.

5.5 Draft opinion on the revision of the Tolerable Upper Intake Level for manganese. Post public consultation. (EFSA-Q-2021-00371)

The comments received from the public consultation on the above-mentioned draft opinion were presented and discussed, together with the proposed responses. The revised draft opinion including the annexed technical report which addresses the comments received from the public consultation, was adopted by the NDA Panel on 26 October 2023. The full text of the opinion will be available in the coming weeks in the EFSA Journal.

6. Other scientific topics for information and/or discussion

6.1 Protein Quality assessment of novel foods

A presentation was given to the Panel by EFSA staff on facets of protein quality assessment within the context of the novel food risk assessment framework. The Panel discussed the importance of evaluating protein quality in novel food applications and explored various criteria and considerations that might necessitate such an assessment. The consensus reached was that the decision to conduct a protein quality assessment should be multi-dimensional, considering factors such as the protein content, proposed uses and use levels, and anticipated intake. The topic will be further discussed in future meeting(s), also in the context of the ongoing EFSA Novel Food Guidance update.

6.2 Draft Protocol for the revision of the Tolerable Upper Intake Level (UL) for Vitamin E. (EFSA-Q-2021-00368)

The Panel discussed the draft protocol for the reassessment of the Tolerable Upper Intake Level for vitamin E. The part of the draft protocol on human data was endorsed. The part of the draft



protocol about animal data will be revised, and the Panel's endorsement will be sought via written procedure.

7. Any other business

The next NDA Plenary meeting will be held on 29-30th November 2023 (9:00-18:00 for the 1st day; 9:00-13:00 for the 2nd day) via teleconference.



Annex

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

With regard to this meeting, Frank Thies declared that his updated DoI is currently under evaluation and that no additional interest was reported in the updated DoI.

Kristina Pentieva declared the following interests: a publicly funded project, and editorial activities with a scientific journal.

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence⁴ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁵, 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 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