

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 09:30-17:30  
MINUTES - Agreed on 08/03/2024

**Location:** EFSA – Parma and online

**Attendees:**

- WFSR: Anna K Undas, Ron Hoogenboom
- UCT, Prague: Vit Kosek, Vojtech Hrbek, Michal Stupak
- Fraunhofer ITEM: Oliver Licht, Stefan Hahn
- EFSA: Angelo Maggiore (Chair), Alexandros Georganas, Bernard Bottex, Bruno Dujardin, Guoda Bubnyte, Luisa Ramos Bordajandi
- External experts: Matthew Macleod, Peter Fürst

## I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## III. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>1</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>2</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.

## IV. Project progress update on "Screening for emerging chemical risks in the food chain" (OC/EFSA/SCER/2020/02) - SCREENER

A general recap of the progress of the SCREENER project in the last 3 years was provided. The methods conducted and the results of the qualitative analyses, prioritization, and quantitative analyses performed in food matrices (wheat flour, carrots, kale, potatoes, peas, strawberries, oranges, pork, beef, chicken, trout, herring, salmon, milk, and eggs) were shown.

For the qualitative analyses, the results in relation to the presence or absence of selected chemicals in food samples and the hydrophilicity, lipophilicity, and polarity of the chemicals were presented.

Fifteen chemicals (twelve from suspect screening of priority REACH chemicals and three from not-target analysis of halogenated organic chemicals) were quantitatively analysed and their risk to human health preliminarily characterized.

---

<sup>1</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>2</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)



The exposure assessment has been performed using the EFSA Comprehensive European Food Consumption Database and existing EFSA models. The hazard characterization has been conducted using literature data, REACH data and classification and labelling data.

Finally, the strengths and potential uncertainties of the results, the limitations of the methods used were discussed, and suggestions for the future were proposed. The timeline for the final deliverables was discussed.

## **V. Any other business**

The organization of a workshop on “Emerging chemical risks for public health and the environment” was discussed. It aims to present the SCREENER project and its results and discuss possible collaborative options for a permanent emerging chemical risks identification system. Possible dates and locations for the workshop were discussed.

---

16<sup>th</sup> November 2023 09:30-13:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 23/11/2023

**Location:** EFSA – Parma and online

**Attendees:**

- WFSR: Anna K Undas
- UCT, Prague: Jana Pulkrabova, Jana Hajslova, Vit Kosek, Vojtech Hrbek
- Fraunhofer ITEM: Oliver Licht, Stefan Hahn, Walter Zobl
- EFSA: Angelo Maggiore (Chair), Alexandros Georganas, Djien Liem, Bruno Dujardin
- External experts: Matthew Macleod, Peter Fürst

## I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## III. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>1</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>2</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.

## IV. Project progress update on "Screening for emerging chemical risks in the food chain" (OC/EFSA/SCER/2020/02) - SCREENER

The outcome of the quantitative analysis of 15 selected chemicals (twelve from suspect screening of priority REACH chemicals and three from not-target analysis of halogenated organic chemicals) in food matrices (flour, carrots, kale, potatoes, peas, strawberries, oranges, pork, beef, chicken, trout, herring, salmon, milk and eggs) were shown and compared with the screening results. The routes of contamination were not always clear and range from widespread industrial uses and resulting environmental contamination, pesticides residues or impurities in the production process or additives in food contact materials. A preliminary characterization of the risk was conducted linking the results obtained in the quantitative analysis to toxicological profiles of the substances. The exposure assessment has been performed using the EFSA Comprehensive Food Consumption database and existing

<sup>1</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>2</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)



EFSA models. The hazard characterization has been conducted using literature data, REACH data and classification and labelling data.

## V. Any Other Business

The organization of an in-person final meeting in 2024 was discussed.

## VI. Next meeting

The dates for the future meetings in 2024 are:

- **12<sup>th</sup> Interim Meeting (FINAL):** 8 hours in-person conference on 22<sup>nd</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024 (lunch to lunch).