

18 April 2024  
14:00-18:00  
MINUTES - Agreed on 3 May 2024

**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, Aaldrik Tiktak, Anneli Widenfalk, Gerrit Wolterink

- Hearing Experts: Not applicable

- European Commission and/or Member States representatives: Not applicable

- EFSA:

PREV UNIT: Sofia Batista Leite, Anna Federica Castoldi, Arianna Chiusolo, Federica Crivellente, Frederique Istace, Anna Lanzoni, Jochem Louise, Iris Mangas, Andrea Mioc, Monica Nepal, Martina Panzarea, Andrea Terron, Manuela Tiramani, Giorgia Vianello

PLANTS Unit: Maria Arena, Domenica Auteri, Gabriella Fait, Roberto Lava, Padovani Laura, Rachel Sharp, Simone Rizzuto, Agnes Rortais

MESE Unit: Lucian Farcal

ED office: Bernhard Url

## **1. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies received from Silvia Pieper, Christopher Topping, Martin Wilks.

## **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 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.

## **4. Agreement of the minutes of the 124<sup>th</sup> PPR Plenary held on 21 February 2024, via web-conference**

The minutes of the 124<sup>th</sup> PPR Plenary were agreed via written procedure in March, 4<sup>th</sup>.

## **5. On-going activities of the Scientific Committee**

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

- Draft guidance on read across in food safety assessment
- Revision of the guidance on the margin of exposure (MOE)
- Draft opinion Fluoride
- Biomarkers of effect (BoE)
- Role of the Scientific Committee in strategic scientific advice

<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)



- Overview of the architecture of EFSA's guidance portfolio

## **6. The Executive Director (ED) meets the PPR Panel**

The EFSA ED met the PPR Panel to thank the Panel for the last six years of work and commitment before the end of its mandate.

## **7. Scientific topic(s) for discussion**

### **7.1. Draft opinion concerning the basic substances chitosan and chitosan hydrochloride ([EFSA-Q-2024-00037](#))**

The Panel was updated on the main outcome of the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Working Group, focusing on the interpretation of the terms of reference. Planning and dates of future meeting were also presented.

### **7.2. Waiving the dog studies in the regulatory process for agrochemical approval**

The Panel was updated on the self-task mandate on the developmental activity on the waiving of dog studies in the risk assessment of pesticides. The chair, in accordance with the internal standard procedure, agreed that a new Working Group is needed for addressing the mandate.

### **7.3. Application of PBK modelling for the QIVIVE of DNT IVB data for pesticide active substances**

The Panel was updated on the self-task mandate for a developmental activity on the use of PBK modelling for quantitative interpretation of Developmental Neurotoxicity (DNT) In Vitro Testing Battery (IVB) data. The chair, in accordance with the internal standard procedure, agreed that a new Working Group is needed for addressing the mandate.

## **8. EFSA technical report on Development of a DNT AOP using voltage gate sodium channel inhibition as a molecular initiating event ([EFSA-Q-2021-00443](#))**

The Panel was updated on the recent progresses made by the Working Group. The Report will be finalised and presented for possible endorsement during the plenary meeting in June. Marina Marinovich was nominated to act as Panel reviewer of the draft Report.

## **9. Guidance on the use of biomarkers of effect in regulatory risk assessment of chemicals ([EFSA-Q-2023-00583](#))**

The Panel was updated on the status of the activities for the development of a Guidance on the use of biomarkers of effect in risk assessment of chemicals and the survey launched in this context. These activities are implemented by a WG established under the Scientific Committee.

## **10. AOB**

The Panel was informed about a call for expression of interest for experts in the area of terrestrial environmental risk assessment. The call is aimed at establishing a pool of experts supporting EFSA with the upcoming mandate on the revision of the SANCO Guidance on terrestrial ecotoxicology (EC, 2002). The chair, in accordance with the internal standard procedure, agreed that a new Working Group is needed for addressing the mandate.

---



## **11. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 19-20 June 2024 (physical in Parma).