

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD CONTACT MATERIALS (FCM)

4th FCM Panel meeting

4-5 December 2024

09:00-18:00 / 09:00-17:00

MINUTES (Agreed on 16 December 2024)



Location: Teleconference

Attendees:

- FCM Panel Members:
Riccardo Crebelli, Maria da Silva, Konrad Grob, Claude Lambré (chair), Evgenia Lampi, Maria Rosaria Milana (vice chair), Marja Pronk, Gilles Rivièrre, Mario Ščetar, Georgios Theodoridis, Els Van Hoeck (vice chair), Nadia Waegeneers
- European Commission: Martinus Nagtzaam, Apostolos Kapsalis
- Hearing experts: Claudia Bolognesi, Emma Di Consiglio, Joop de Knecht, Marcel Mengelers.
- EFSA:
Food Ingredients and Packaging (FIP) Unit: Zainab Al Harraq, Eric Barthélémy, Maria Carfi, Cristina Croera, Valeriu-Georghe Curtui, Julia Fontan Vela, Marta Gallicet, Blanka Halamoda-Kenzaoui, Thomas Hemy-Dumas, Alexandros Lioupis, Remigio Marano, Sandra Rainieri, Vasiliki Sfika, Emmanouil Tsochatzis, Katharina Volk.

Feed and Contaminants (FEEDCO) Unit: Paola Manini

Biological Hazards (BIOHAZ) Unit: Winy Messens

Methodology and Scientific Support (MESE) Unit: Zsuzsanna Horvath

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants and thanked them for their commitment towards EFSA. No apologies were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Panel 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 during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

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



4. Agreement of the minutes of the 2nd Panel Plenary meeting held on 17 to 19 September 2024

The [minutes of the 3rd FCM Panel meeting](#) were agreed by written procedure on 19 November 2024.

5. Report on written procedure

None.

6. Scientific outputs submitted for discussion and possible adoption/endorsement

6.1. Re-assessment of the risks to public health related to the presence of Styrene in plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food ([EFSA-Q-2023-00365](#))

The FCM Panel discussed all parts of the draft opinion. The opinion was unanimously endorsed for public consultation, subject to the incorporation of changes as suggested during the meeting and editorial changes. EFSA will launch the public consultation on the draft opinion on 10 December 2024 for 7 weeks. [[link](#)].

6.2. Request to update the "Guidance on the submission of data for the evaluation of the safety and efficacy of substances for the removal of microbial surface contamination of foods of animal origin" ([EFSA-Q-2024-00020](#))

The FCM Panel discussed all parts of the draft guidance document. The document was unanimously endorsed for public consultation, subject to the incorporation of changes as suggested during the meeting and editorial changes. EFSA will launch the public consultation on the draft guidance on 18 December 2024 for 7 weeks. [[link](#)].

6.3. Application for the authorisation of the recycling process Next Generation Recyclingmaschinen GmbH_LSP to produce recycled plastic for food contact uses ([EFSA-Q-2024-00498](#))

The FCM Panel discussed all parts of the draft opinion. The opinion was unanimously adopted, subject to the incorporation of changes as suggested during the meeting and editorial changes.

7. Feedback from the Scientific Committee/ Scientific Panels/ EFSA/ EC

7.1. Feedback from EFSA

The highlights of the new Recycling Regulation (EU-2022/1616) were presented to the Panel.



The evaluation criteria used in the guidance on mechanical PET recycling as well as the technical information requested in recycling applications were presented to the Panel.

The activity and achievements of the FCM Panel 2024 were presented to the Panel.

7.2. Feedback from Scientific Committee

The Chair reported the main points discussed during the 122nd Scientific Committee Plenary meeting held on 20-21 November 2024.

7.3. Feedback from European Commission

Not applicable

7.4. Feedback from WGs

7.3.1 FCM WG on Food Contact Materials

No additional issues were brought to the attention of the FCM Panel further to what is already recorded in the [minutes of the WG](#).

7.3.2 FCM WG on Recycling Plastic

No additional issues were brought to the attention of the FCM Panel further to what is already recorded in the [minutes of the WG](#).

7.3.3 FCM WG on Extraction Solvents

No additional issues were brought to the attention of the FCM Panel further to what is already recorded in the [minutes of the WG](#).

7.3.4 FCM WG on the evaluation of substances used to reduce microbial contamination from products of animal origin

No additional issues were brought to the attention of the FCM Panel further to what is already recorded in the [minutes of the WG](#).

7.3.5 FCM WG on Preparation for re-evaluation of phthalates, structurally similar substances and replacement substances

No additional issues were brought to the attention of the FCM Panel further to what is already recorded in the [minutes of the WG](#).

8. New mandates

Food Sector	EFSA-Q-Number	Subject	Validity date
FCM	EFSA-Q-2024-00670	Application for the authorisation of the recycling process EREMA_VACUREMA Basic to produce recycled plastic for food contact uses	20-Nov-2024

9. AoB

The next FCM Panel meeting will take place online from 28-30 January 2025.
