SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON CONTAMINANTS IN THE FOOD CHAIN

155th Panel Plenary meeting



13 - 14 November 2025 14:00-18:00 / 9:00-13:30 MINUTES - Agreed on 27 November 2025

Location: EFSA, Parma

Attendees:

o Panel Members:

Agneta Åkesson, Vasileios Bampidis, Margherita Bignami¹, Laurent Bodin, James Kevin Chipman², Gisela Degen, Antonio Hernández-Jerez³, Tim Hofer, Christer Hogstrand⁴, Helle Katrine Knutsen (Chair), Stefano Landi, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Kyriaki Machera, Evangelia Ntzani, Isabelle P. Oswald⁵, Guido Rychen⁶, Salomon Sand, Katharina Vejdovszky, Barbara Viviani

Hearing Experts⁷:

Andy Hart, Ron Hoogenboom

European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

EC (DG-SANTE): Frans Verstraete

o EFSA:

FEEDCO Unit-CONTAM Team: Maria Anastassiadou, Elena Bogensperger, Anna Christodoulidou, Chantra Eskes (CONTAM Team Leader), Mary Gilsenan (FEEDCO Head of Unit), Eirini Kouloura, Anita Radovnikovic, Luisa Ramos Bordajandi (Panel Coordinator), Giulia Rampazzo, Elena Rovesti, Sofie Schryvers, Hans Steinkellner

o Others:

Lydia Alarcón Asensio, Federico Cruciani, Anamarija Romac, Tuuli Tauriainen

Applicants participating in a technical hearing:
Not applicable.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Ivana Poustkova and Veerle Vanheusden.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Panel members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence⁸ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁹, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled by the Panel members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues

¹ On Day 2 participated from 12.15 CET onwards.

² On Day 2 participated from 12.00 CET onwards.

³ On Day 1 absent from 16:00-17:00 CET, on Day 2 participated from 12.00 CET onwards

⁴ Chaired the meeting for agenda item 6.1.

⁵ Absent on Day 1.

⁶ Absent on Day 1.

⁷ As defined in Article 34 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

⁸ https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/independence-policy-2024.pdf

https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf

MEETING MINUTES – 13 – 14 November 2025 155th Panel Plenary meeting



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 154th Panel plenary meeting held on 7-9 October 2025, webconference

The minutes of the 154th Panel plenary meeting were agreed by written procedure on 23 October 2025.

5. Report on written procedure

None.

Scientific output(s) submitted for discussion or endorsement

6.1 Draft Opinion on the update of the risk assessment on PCDD/Fs and DL-PCBs in food and feed on the basis of the new 2022 WHO TEF values (EFSA-Q-2024-00227)

The Chair of the WG on Dioxins and the responsible EFSA Scientific Officer presented the draft Opinion on the update of the risk assessment of PCDD/Fs and DL-PCBs in food and feed for possible endorsement for public consultation. The CONTAM Panel discussed the sections on Overall weight of evidence, consideration of critical effects and dose-response, Derivation of a health-based guidance value, Risk characterisation, Uncertainty analysis, Conclusions, Recommendations, Abstract and Summary. The Panel endorsed the draft Opinion for public consultation, taking into consideration the changes requested by the Panel during the meeting.

6.2 Draft Opinion on the presence of plant lectins in food (EFSA-Q-2024-00195)

This item was postponed to the next Plenary meeting.

7. AOB

None.

8. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 4-5 December, via webconference.