

17 February 2026

13:30-17:30

MINUTES - Agreed on 17 February 2026

**Location:** EFSA - Webconference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:  
Salomon Sand (Chair), Isabelle Oswald, Ana Gago Martinez, Arjen Gerssen
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>: N/A
- Applicants participating in a technical hearing<sup>2</sup>:  
Not Applicable
- EFSA:  
FEEDCO Unit: Anita Radovnikovic  
Mese Unit: CORTIÑAS ABRAHANTES José
- Others:  
TAURIAINEN Tuuli participated as ISA (Individual Scientific Advisor) for all agenda items

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

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

## **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>3</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>4</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting and the preparatory meetings listed under agenda item "Preparatory meeting/s with Risk Assessment". No conflicts of interest related to the issues discussed in these meetings have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the Working Group members at the beginning of these meetings.

## **IV. Tour de table**

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 34 of the document "Implementing Rule of the Management Board of the European Food Safety Authority laying down the rules on the selection, appointment and operations of the Scientific Committee, Scientific Panels and of their Working Groups":  
<https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/paneloperation.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> As defined in the "EFSA's Catalogue of support initiatives during the life cycle of applications for regulated products":  
<https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.2903/sp.efsa.2021.EN-6472>

<sup>3</sup> [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/independence-policy-2024.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf](https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf)



The participants at the 1st WG meeting provided a brief introduction of their background and their involvement in other EFSA's activities, if any.

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

The members of the Working Group were given a brief overview of the Background and Terms of Reference (ToR) for the mandate [EFSA-Q-2026-00065](#), as requested by the European Commission. The project plan and timelines were presented and the proposal for the approach to be taken was discussed. The members of the WG discussed the structure of the draft statement and the interpretation of the ToR. Finally, the WG was informed of the CONTAM Way of Working. Tasks were distributed to the members of the WG.

## **VI. Any Other Business**

None.

## **VII. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 20 March 2026, via web conference.

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