

04 March 2026

09:00-18:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 19 March 2026

**Location:** Teleconference

**Attendees:**

- Panel Members:  
Torsten Bohn, Montaña Cámara, Jacqueline Castenmiller, Stefaan de Henauw, Karen Ildico Hirsch-Ernst, Ángeles Jos, Inge Mangelsdorf, Breige McNulty, Androniki Naska, Kristina Pentieva, Alfonso Siani, Frank Thies, and Dominique Turck (Chair).
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:  
Paolo Colombo
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
EC: Rafael Perez Berbejal, Ivona Babic
- EFSA:  
Nutrition & Food Innovation (NIF) Unit: Ana Afonso, Reinhard Ackerl, Océane Albert, Elisa Beneventi, Sebastian Berrio Cruz, Agnès de Sesmaisons, Leng Heng, Marcello Laganaro, Maura Magani, Estefanía Noriega Fernández, Irene Nuin, Annamaria Rossi, Francesca Seminati, Emanuela Turla, and Silvia Valtueña Martinez.
- Others:  
Not Applicable

## 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Alexandre Maciuk.

## 2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## 3. Declarations of Interest of Panel members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Panel 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 Panel members at the beginning of this meeting.

<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> [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>3</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)



## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 165th Panel Plenary meeting held on 28-29 January 2026, via teleconference

The [minutes](#) of the 165<sup>th</sup> Panel plenary meeting were agreed by written procedure on 21 February 2026.

The opinion on "Anxiofit-1 and reduction of subthreshold and mild anxiety: evaluation of a health claim pursuant to Article 14 of Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006 (EFSA-Q-2025-00270)" was adopted by the Panel via written procedure on 6 February 2026.

## 5. Scientific output(s) submitted for discussion/adoption

### 5.1 Draft opinion on 3'-Sialyllactose (3'-SL) sodium salt ([EFSA-Q-2024-00002](#), NF 2023-16923) Applicant: *Inbiose N.V.*

The Panel reviewed and discussed the draft scientific opinion, and particularly the sections regarding the identity of the novel food, production process, compositional data, specifications, ADME, nutritional information, toxicological information and allergenicity. The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 4 March 2026, subject to the incorporation of editorial changes. The full text of the scientific opinion will be available in the coming weeks in the EFSA Journal.

### 5.2 Draft opinion on carbon dioxide extract from *Cannabis sativa* L. (NF 2021/2397 ([EFSA-Q-2021-00218](#), NF 2021/2397) Applicant: *Charlotte's Web*

The Panel reviewed and discussed the draft scientific opinion, and particularly the sections regarding the identity of the novel food, production process, compositional data, specifications, ADME, nutritional information, toxicological information and allergenicity. The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 4 March 2026, subject to the incorporation of editorial changes. The full text of the scientific opinion will be available in the coming weeks in the EFSA Journal.

### 5.3 Draft opinion on L-alpha-glycerylphosphorylcholine (L-alpha-GPC) from soya phospholipids (lecithin) ([EFSA-Q-2023-00492](#), NF-2023-12770) Applicant: *Chemi S.p.A*

The Panel reviewed and discussed the draft scientific opinion, and particularly the sections regarding the identity of the novel food, production process, compositional data, specifications, ADME, nutritional information, toxicological information and allergenicity. The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 4 March 2026, subject to the incorporation of editorial changes. The full text of the scientific opinion will be available in the coming weeks in the EFSA Journal.

### 5.4 Draft opinion on beta-Nicotinamide monucleotide (beta-NMN) ([EFSA-Q-2023-00552](#), NF 2023-17850) Applicant: *Effepharm (Shanghai) Ltd*

The Panel reviewed and discussed the draft scientific opinion, and particularly the sections regarding the identity of the novel food, production process, compositional data, specifications, ADME, nutritional information, toxicological information, human data and allergenicity. The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 4 March 2026, subject to the incorporation of editorial changes. The full text of the scientific opinion will be available in the coming weeks in the EFSA Journal.



## 6. Other scientific topics for information/discussion

Postponed.

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

Postponed.

## 8. Any other business

The Panel was informed about the launch of two public consultations on two draft Opinions pursuant to Art 8.2. of Reg. EC 1925 (2006). The consultations will remain open until **4 May**.

- **Draft Opinion on the safety of hydroxycitric acid (HCA) and plant preparations containing HCA** [<https://connect.efsa.europa.eu/RM/a0ITk000007dzlx>]
- **Draft Opinion on the safety of plant preparations containing berberine** [<https://connect.efsa.europa.eu/RM/a0ITk000007dHhh>]

The Panel was also informed that during the public consultations EFSA will hold two online stakeholder events to present the scientific basis, rationale, and data gaps identified in EFSA's draft assessments and support food business operators' engagement during the consultations.

- **Targeted Stakeholder Meeting with food business representatives on hydroxycitric acid (HCA) and plant preparations containing HCA ([link to event announcement](#))**. Date: 23 April 2026
- **Targeted Stakeholder Meeting with food business representatives on plant preparations containing berberine ([link to event announcement](#))**. Date: 22 April 2026

The next NDA Panel plenary meeting will be held on **17 April 2026**, via teleconference.