

17, 18, 19 and 20 February 2026

14:00-18:00 / 09:00-18:00 / 09:00-13:00 / 9:00-12:30

MINUTES - Agreed on 27 February 2026

Location: EFSA – Parma¹ and by web-conference

Attendees:

- Working Group Members:

Gunther Antonissen², Keyvin Darney³, Valérie Fessard, Antonio Hernández Jerez², Stefano Landi, Kyriaki Machera⁴ (Vice-Chair) and Doris Marko

- Hearing Experts⁵:

Margherita Bignami⁶, Jean-Charles Leblanc⁷ and Ludovic Le Hégarat⁸

Federico Cruciani and Anamarija Romac participated as ISA (Individual Scientific Advisor) contractors (ref. EOI/EFSA/2022/01), via web-conference.

Tuuli Tauriainen participated as contractor, via web-conference.

- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

EC: Frans Verstraete

- EFSA:

Feed and Contaminants unit (FEEDCO unit): Maria Anastassiadou (Chair)

Chief Scientist Office (CSO): Jean-Lou Dorne

Methodology and Scientific Support unit (MESE unit): José Cortiñas Abrahantes, Lucian Farcas, José Ángel Gómez Ruiz, Marios Georgiadis and Olaf Mosbach-Schulz

I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

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 Independence⁹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management¹⁰, 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.

¹ 17, 18 and 19 February 2026

² Attended in person on 17, 18 and 19 February 2026

³ Attended by web-conference on 19 February, from 9.00 to 13.00 CET

⁴ Attended by web-conference on 17, 18 and 19 February 2026

⁵ 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>

⁶ Attended by web-conference on 18 February, from 9.00 to 13.00 CET and on 20 February, from 9.00 to 12.00 CET

⁷ Attended by web-conference on 18 February, from 14.00 to 17.00 CET

⁸ Attended by web-conference on 19 February, from 9.00 to 10.30 CET

⁹ https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/independence-policy-2024.pdf

¹⁰ https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf



IV. Agreement of the minutes of the 10th Working Group meeting held on 25, 27 and 27 November, in via web-conference

The minutes of the 10th Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 4 December 2025.

V. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

The members of the WG addressed the CONTAM Panel comments in subsections on toxicokinetics, genotoxicity and genotoxicity mode of action of the draft Opinion, Section 3.1 'Hazard identification and characterisation'. The experts considered recent data generated under the Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals (PARC) and allowed to finalise the genotoxicity assessment and the uncertainty analysis of alternariol (AOH) and alternariol monomethyl-ether (AME). The results and first draft of the dietary exposure to *Alternaria* toxins for human risk assessment were presented and the table on the sources of uncertainty related to the occurrence of *Alternaria* toxins in food was discussed. Dose-response analysis of studies on *Alternaria* toxins from PARC and other EU labs were presented by the experts, hearing experts and EFSA colleagues to the WG. The relevance to implement toxicokinetic modelling to support the risk assessment for humans and animal species was also discussed. The meeting workplan was amended and tasks were distributed.

VI. Preparatory Meeting/s

Not applicable

VII. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 10, 13, 18 and 20 March 2026, via web conference.

25, 26 and 27 November 2025

9:00-16:00 / 09:00-13:00 / 14:00-18:00

MINUTES – Agreed on 4 December 2025

Location: Webconference

Attendees:

- Working Group Members:
Gunther Antonissen, Valérie Fessard, Antonio Hernández Jerez, Stefano Landi, Kyriaki Machera (Vice-Chair) and Doris Marko¹
- Hearing Experts²:
Margherita Bignami³, Jean-Charles Leblanc⁴ and Ludovic Le Hégarat⁵
- Applicants participating in a technical hearing⁶:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
EC: -
- EFSA:
Feed and Contaminants unit (FEEDCO unit): Maria Anastassiadou (Chair)
Chief Scientist Office (CSO): Jean-Lou Dorne
Methodology and Scientific Support unit (MESE unit): José Cortiñas Abrahantes, José Ángel Gómez Ruiz, Marios Georgiadis and Olaf Mosbach-Schulz
- Others:
Federico Cruciani and Anamarija Romac participated as ISA (Individual Scientific Advisor) contractors (ref. EOI/EFSA/2022/01) for all agenda items, via web conference.
Lukas Meusburger⁷ participated as observer.

I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Frans Verstraete (EC).

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 Independence⁸ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁹, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out

¹ Partial attendance on 26 November from 9.30 to 13.00 CET

² 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>

³ Attended on 25 November from 11.00 to 13.00 CET

⁴ Attended on 26 November from 9.00 to 11.00 CET

⁵ Attended on 27 November from 16.00 to 18.00 CET

⁶ 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>

⁷ Attended on 27 November from 14.00 to 18.00 CET

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

⁹ https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf



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. Agreement of the minutes of the 9th Working Group meeting held on 29, 30 and 31 October 2025 via web-conference

The minutes of the 9th Working Group (WG) meeting were agreed by written procedure on 7 November 2025.

V. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

The members of the WG addressed all CONTAM Panel comments in Sections 3.1 'Hazard identification and characterisation', 3.2 'Occurrence data' and 3.3.2 'Dietary exposure assessment for animals'. These sections will be submitted to the CONTAM Panel for discussion and possible endorsement. At the 10th meeting of the WG, the experts discussed and started completing the tables on the sources of uncertainty related to the genotoxicity of *Alternaria* toxins and the occurrence of *Alternaria* toxins in food. Updates from PARC and other ongoing studies on *Alternaria* toxins were given at the meeting and the WG discussed the potential integration of results from these studies in the EFSA risk assessment. The workplan was amended and tasks were distributed.

VI. Any Other Business

Not applicable

VII. Preparatory Meeting/s

Not applicable

VIII. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 17, 18 and 19 February 2026 in Parma and via web conference.

29, 30 and 31 October 2025

14:00-18:00 / 09:00-13:00 / 09:30-16:30

MINUTES – Agreed on 7 November 2025

Location: Webconference

Attendees:

- Working Group Members:
Gunther Antonissen, Valérie Fessard, Antonio Hernández Jerez, Stefano Landi¹, Kyriaki Machera (Vice-Chair) and Doris Marko
- Hearing Experts²:
Not Applicable
- Applicants participating in a technical hearing³:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
EC: Frans Verstraete
- EFSA:
Feed and Contaminants unit (FEEDCO unit): Maria Anastassiadou (Chair)
Methodology and Scientific Support unit (MESE unit): José Ángel Gómez Ruiz
- Others:
Federico Cruciani and Anamarija Romac participated as ISA (Individual Scientific Advisor) contractors (ref. EOI/EFSA/2022/01) for all agenda items, via web conference. Tuuli Tauriainen participated as an EFSA contractor for all agenda items.

I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

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 Independence⁴ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁵, 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.

¹ Partial attendance on 29 October from 14.00 to 15.30 and from 16.00 to 18.00

² 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>

³ 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>

⁴ https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/independence-policy-2024.pdf

⁵ https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf



IV. Agreement of the minutes of the 8th Working Group meeting held on 9 and 10 September 2025, in Parma and via web-conference

The minutes of the 8th Working Group (WG) meeting were agreed by written procedure on 17 September 2025.

V. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

The members of the WG were informed about the discussions at the 154th CONTAM Panel meeting on the genotoxicity of *Alternaria* toxins and the possibility to use data generated under the Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals (PARC) to characterise the hazard when data from *in vivo* studies are unavailable. In addition, the CONTAM Panel made proposals for amendment in Sections 3.1 'Hazard identification and characterisation', 3.2 'Occurrence data' and 3.3.2 'Dietary exposure assessment for animals' where sections on hazard identification, occurrence data in food and submitted to EFSA, previously reported occurrence data in food and feed, food and feed processing and animal dietary exposure assessment were presented to the CONTAM Panel for a first reading. At its 9th meeting, the WG, revised these sections to address the proposals made by the Panel. These sections will be further amended and discussed at the next WG meeting in the end of November. The workplan was amended and tasks were distributed.

VI. Any Other Business

Not applicable

VII. Preparatory Meeting/s

Since the last *Alternaria* toxins WG meeting, one preparatory meeting chaired by EFSA staff was held as follows:

VII.1 Preparatory meeting on *Alternaria* toxins, 25 September 2025 from 13.00 to 15.00 CET

VII.1a Gunther Antonissen, Valérie Fessard, Antonio Hernández Jerez, Stefano Landi, Kyriaki Machera and Doris Marko

VII.1b Preparatory meeting on agenda item '*Alternaria* toxins', presented at the 154th CONTAM Panel meeting that was held in Parma on 7, 8 and 9 October 2025.

VIII. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 25, 26 and 27 November via web conference.

9 and 10 September 2025

9:00-18:00 / 09:00-13:00

MINUTES – Agreed on 17 September 2025

Location: EFSA - Parma (Meeting Room 00/M01)/Webconference

Attendees:

- Working Group Members:
Gunther Antonissen, Valérie Fessard, Antonio Hernández Jerez¹, Stefano Landi, Kyriaki Machera¹ (Vice-Chair) and Doris Marko
- Hearing Experts²:
Margherita Bignami³
- Applicants participating in a technical hearing⁴:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
EC: Frans Verstraete
- EFSA:
Feed and Contaminants unit (FEEDCO unit): Maria Anastassiadou (Chair)
Methodology and Scientific Support unit (MESE unit): José Ángel Gómez Ruiz
Chief Scientist Office (CFO unit): Jean-Lou Dorne
- Others:
Federico Cruciani and Anamarija Romac participated as ISA (Individual Scientific Advisor) contractors (ref. EOI/EFSA/2022/01) for all agenda items, via web conference. Tuuli Tauriainen participated as an EFSA contractor for all agenda items.

I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

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 Independence⁵ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁶, 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

¹ Attended via webconference

² 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>

³ Attended on 9 September 2025 from 9.00 to 11.00 CET

⁴ 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>

⁵ https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/independence-policy-2024.pdf

⁶ https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf



been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the Working Group members at the beginning of these meetings.

IV. Agreement of the minutes of the 7th Working Group meeting held on 17, 18 and 19 June 2025, via web-conference

The minutes of the 7th Working Group (WG) meeting were agreed by written procedure on 26 June 2025.

V. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

The members of the WG were informed about the discussions of the genotoxicity experts at the EFSA preparatory meeting on the genotoxicity of dibenzo- α -pyrones that was held on 18 July. At the 8th meeting of the WG, the experts were made aware about the latest amendments in Section 3.1 'Hazard identification and characterisation', including the newly drafted sections on endocrine effects and their mode of action, observations in humans and sections on adverse effects in food- and non-food-producing animals. In addition, the WG made revision proposals on the newly drafted sections on the 'Occurrence in food', 'Previously reported occurrence data in food' and 'Levels in humans' and on the revised drafts about 'Occurrence in feed', 'Food and feed processing' and 'Dietary exposure assessment for animals'. The experts exchanged views and made proposals for hazard characterisation taking into account new data generated under the Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals (PARC). The invited hearing expert gave insights that supported the evaluation of the genotoxicity assessment of dibenzo- α -pyrones. The proposals for hazard assessment, Sections 3.2 'Occurrence data' and 3.3.2 'Dietary exposure assessment for animals' will be presented for discussion to the CONTAM Panel at its 154th meeting. Section 3.1 'Hazard identification and characterisation' will be also submitted to the CONTAM Panel for a first reading. The workplan was amended and tasks were distributed.

VI. Any Other Business

Not applicable

VII. Preparatory Meeting/s

Since the last *Alternaria* toxins WG meeting, one preparatory meeting chaired by EFSA staff was held as follows:

VII.1 Preparatory meeting on *Alternaria* toxins, 18 July 2025 from 9.00 to 11.00 CET

VII.1a Valérie Fessard, Stefano Landi and Kyriaki Machera

VII.1b Preparatory meeting on the genotoxicity of dibenzo- α -pyrones.

VIII. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 29, 30 and 31 October via web conference.

17, 18 and 19 June 2025

14:00-18:00 / 09:00-13:00 / 09:00-16:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 26 June 2025

Location: Webconference

Attendees:

- Working Group Members:
Gunther Antonissen, Valérie Fessard, Antonio Hernández Jerez¹, Stefano Landi and Kyriaki Machera² (Vice-Chair)
- Hearing Experts³:
Doris Marko⁴
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
EC: Frans Verstraete
- EFSA:
Feed and Contaminants unit (FEEDCO unit): Maria Anastassiadou (Chair), Anamarija Romac and Tuuli Tauriainen
Methodology and Scientific Support unit (MESE unit): José Ángel Gómez Ruiz
- Others:
Federico Cruciani, participated as ISA (Individual Scientific Advisor) contractor (ref. EOI/EFSA/2022/01) for all agenda items, via web conference

I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

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 Independence⁵ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁶, 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 Partial attendance on 19 June from 9.00 to 11.00 CET

² Partial attendance on 17 June from 14.00 to 14.30 and from 16.00 to 18.00 and on 19 June from 9.00 to 15.00 CET

³ 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>

⁴ Attended on 18 and 19 June.

⁵ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁶ https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf



IV. Agreement of the minutes of the 6th Working Group meeting held on 13, 14 and 16 May 2025 via web-conference

The minutes of the 6th Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 23 May 2025.

V. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

The members of the working group (WG) were informed about the outcome of the 151st CONTAM Panel meeting where Sections 1.3 'Supporting information for the assessment' and Section 2 'Data and methodologies' were endorsed by the Panel, providing that the comments received will be addressed. The WG members were also informed about the outcome of the discussions at the EFSA Scientific Committee WG on genotoxicity where the mechanism of the genotoxicity of dibenzo- α -pyrones was discussed. At this meeting, the WG revised previous drafts in Sections on toxicokinetics and the genotoxicity mode of action and new text that was introduced in sections on genotoxicity, immune effects, occurrence in feed and animal exposure assessment. An overview of the data on endocrine effects and human observations was also presented and a first discussion on data from human biomonitoring took place. The WG exchanged views on the overview of toxicological data and their limitations and discussed options for hazard characterisation. The invited hearing expert gave updates on the progress of the work on *Alternaria* toxins that are performed under the Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals (PARC) and on ongoing studies that might support the EFSA risk assessment. Finally, the WG discussed data on the occurrence of *Alternaria* toxins in food that will be presented to the CONTAM Panel at its 152nd meeting. The workplan was amended and tasks were distributed.

VI. Any Other Business

Not applicable

VII. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 9 and 10 September 2025, in Parma and via web conference.

13, 14 and 16 May 2025

9:00-16:00 / 09:00-13:00 / 09:00-13:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 23 May 2025

Location: Webconference

Attendees:

- Working Group Members:
Gunther Antonissen, Valérie Fessard¹, Antonio Hernández Jerez², Stefano Landi and Kyriaki Machera (Vice-Chair)
- Hearing Experts³:
Margherita Bignami⁴ and Doris Marko⁵
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
EC: Frans Verstraete
- EFSA:
Feed and Contaminants unit (FEEDCO unit): Maria Anastassiadou (Chair) and Tuuli Tauriainen
Chief Scientist Office (CSO): Jean-Lou Dorne
Methodology and Scientific Support unit (MESE unit): José Ángel Gómez Ruiz
- Others:
Federico Cruciani, participated as ISA (Individual Scientific Advisor) contractor (ref. EOI/EFSA/2022/01) for all agenda items, via web conference

I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

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 Independence⁶ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁷, 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 Partial attendance on 13 May from 9.00 to 13.00 and from 14.00 to 15.30 CET

² Partial attendance on 13 May from 9.00 to 13.00 and on 16 May from 11.00 to 13.00 CET

³ 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>

⁴ Attended only on 13 May, from 9.00 to 11.40 CET

⁵ Attended only on 16 May, from 10.00 to 13.00 CET

⁶ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁷ https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf



IV. Agreement of the minutes of the 5th Working Group meeting held on 31 March, 1 and 2 April 2025 via web-conference

The minutes of the 5th Working Group meeting were agreed on 2 April 2025.

V. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

The members of the working group (WG) revised draft Section 1.3 'Supporting information for the assessment' to address CONTAM Panel comments from the 150th CONTAM Panel meeting and new text introduced in Section 2 'Data and Methodologies'. Both sections will be submitted for discussion and possible endorsement at the 151st CONTAM Panel meeting. The WG exchanged views on the mode of action on genotoxicity for some *Alternaria* toxins. This topic will be brought up in the EFSA Scientific Committee WG on genotoxicity for further consideration. Effects of *Alternaria* toxins on the immune system were presented at the meeting. The draft section on toxicokinetics was discussed and suggestions for revision were collected for implementation and discussion at the next WG meeting. A first exchange of views on the relevance to perform physiologically based toxicokinetic modelling to support the risk assessment also took place. Finally, the WG discussed data on the occurrence of *Alternaria* toxins in food and animal feed, and about specific consumer exposure scenarios. The workplan was amended and tasks were distributed.

VI. Any Other Business

Not applicable

VII. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 17, 18 and 19 June 2025, via web conference.

31 March, 1 and 2 April 2025

14:00-18:00 / 09:00-18:00 / 09:00-13:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 2 April 2025

Location: EFSA - Parma (Meeting Room 00/01)/Webconference

Attendees:

- Working Group Members:
Gunther Antonissen, Valérie Fessard, Stefano Landi and Kyriaki Machera (Vice-Chair)
- Hearing Experts¹:
Doris Marko
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
EC: Frans Verstraete
- EFSA:
Feed and Contaminants unit (FEEDCO unit): Maria Anastassiadou (Chair), Elena Rovesti and Tuuli Tauriainen
Methodology and Scientific Support unit (MESE unit): José Ángel Gómez Ruiz
- Others:
Federico Cruciani, participated as ISA (Individual Scientific Advisor) contractor (ref. EOI/EFSA/2022/01) for all agenda items, via web conference

I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

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 Independence² and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management³, 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.

IV. Agreement of the minutes of the 4th Working Group meeting held on 19, 20 and 21 February 2025, via web-conference

The minutes of the 4th Working Group meeting were agreed on 21 February 2025.

¹ 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>

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



V. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

The members of the working group (WG) amended draft Section 1.3 'Supporting information for the assessment' to address comments by the CONTAM Panel from the 150th CONTAM Panel meeting. The structure of the scientific Opinion was discussed and agreed. In addition, the WG discussed data on the occurrence of *Alternaria* toxins in animal feed, the reliability of toxicity studies, the available evidence on toxicokinetics, genotoxicity, mechanism of genotoxicity of *Alternaria* toxins and revised Section 3.1.2 'Toxicity in experimental animals'. Different endpoints for BMD analysis and derivation of a Reference Point were considered. The invited hearing expert gave updates on the progress of the work on *Alternaria* toxins that are performed under the Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals (PARC). *In vitro* studies from the literature were also considered as well as prediction from quantitative structure activity relationship models. The workplan was amended and tasks were distributed.

VI. Any Other Business

Not applicable

VII. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 13, 14 and 16 May 2025, via web conference.

19, 20 and 21 February 2025

9:00-13:00 CET, 14:00-18:00 CET and 9:00-13:00 CET

MINUTES - Agreed on 21 February 2025

Location: Webconference

Attendees:

- Working Group Members:
Gunther Antonissen, Valérie Fessard, Stefano Landi and Kyriaki Machera (Vice-Chair)
- Hearing Experts¹:
Doris Marko
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Frans Verstraete
- EFSA:
Feed and Contaminants unit (FEEDCO unit): Maria Anastassiadou (Chair) and Tuuli Tauriainen
Methodology and Scientific Support unit (MESE unit): José Ángel Gómez Ruiz
Nutrition and Food Innovation unit (NIF unit): Annamaria Rossi
- Others:
Federico Cruciani (ISA² Expert)

I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

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 Independence³ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁴, 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.

IV. Agreement of the minutes of the previous Working Group meeting

The [minutes of the 3rd Working Group meeting](#) were agreed by written procedure on 22 January 2025.

¹ 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>

² Individual Scientific Advisor

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



V. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

The members of the working group (WG) finalised the draft on Section 1.3 'Supporting information for the assessment' that will be submitted for possible endorsement by the CONTAM Panel at a forthcoming meeting. Ways to assess the reliability of toxicity studies, the structure of the section on toxicokinetics as well as the occurrence data to be considered in the assessment were also discussed at the meeting. In addition, the WG considered results from studies in experimental animals for possible BMD estimation. The invited hearing expert gave updates on the progress of the work on *Alternaria* toxins that are performed under the Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals (PARC). The experts provided feedback on *Alternaria* toxins for which there are data gaps on genotoxicity and could be considered under the PARC framework. The workplan was amended and tasks were distributed.

VI. Any Other Business

Not applicable

VII. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held in Parma and via webconference from 31 March to 2 April 2025.

13, 14 and 15 January 2025

14:00-18:00 CET, 9:00-16:00 CET and 9:00-13:00 CET

MINUTES - Agreed on 22 January 2025

Location: Webconference

Attendees:

- Working Group Members:
Gunther Antonissen¹, Valérie Fessard, Stefano Landi and Kyriaki Machera² (Vice-Chair)
- Hearing Experts³:
Doris Marko
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Frans Verstraete
- EFSA:
Feed and Contaminants unit (FEEDCO unit): Maria Anastassiadou (Chair) and Tuuli Tauriainen
Methodology and Scientific Support unit (MESE unit): José Ángel Gómez Ruiz
- Others:
Federico Cruciani (ISA⁴ Expert)

I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

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 Independence⁵ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁶, 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.

IV. Agreement of the minutes of the previous Working Group meeting

The [minutes of the 2nd Working Group meeting](#) were agreed by written procedure on 13 November 2024.

¹ Attended on 13 January from 14:00 to 18:00 CET, on 14 January from 10:00 to 16:00 CET and on 15 January from 9:00 to 13:00 CET

² Attended on 13 January from 14:00 to 18:00 CET, on 14 January from 9:00 to 15:00 CET and on 15 January from 9:00 to 13:00 CET

³ 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>

⁴ Individual Scientific Advisor

⁵ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁶ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



V. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

The members of the working group (WG) were informed on the appointment of Kyriaki Machera as a Vice-Chair of the WG and on the endorsement of the Protocol of the Opinion by the CONTAM Panel at its 147th meeting. The WG discussed the first draft on Sections 1.2 'Interpretation of the Terms of Reference', 1.3 'Supporting information for the assessment', 2.2 'Data and Methodologies'/ 'Hazard identification and characterisation', 3.1.2 'Toxicity in experimental animals' and 3.1.5 'Mode of Action'. The available data on toxicokinetics, genotoxicity, information from *in silico* predictions and the occurrence data to be considered in the assessment were also discussed at the meeting. The invited hearing expert gave updates on the progress of the work on *Alternaria* toxins that are performed under the Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals (PARC). The workplan was amended and tasks were distributed.

VI. Any Other Business

Not applicable

VII. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held via webconference from 19 to 21 February 2025.

5 and 6 November 2024

14:00-18:00 CET and 9:00-13:00 CET

MINUTES - Agreed on 13 November 2024

Location: Webconference

Attendees:

- Working Group Members:
Gunther Antonissen, Valérie Fessard¹, Stefano Landi and Kyriaki Machera
- Hearing Experts²:
Doris Marko
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Frans Verstraete
- EFSA:
Feed and Contaminants unit (FEEDCO unit): Maria Anastassiadou (Chair) and Tuuli Tauriainen
Methodology and Scientific Support unit (MESE unit): José Ángel Gómez Ruiz
- Others:
Federico Cruciani (ISA³ Expert)

I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

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 Independence⁴ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁵, 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.

IV. Agreement of the minutes of the previous Working Group meeting

The [minutes of the 1st Working Group meeting](#) were agreed by written procedure on 2 October 2024.

¹ Attended on 5 November

² 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>

³ Individual Scientific Advisor

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁵ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



V. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

The members of the working group (WG) discussed the latest modifications of the draft protocol and agreed on the version to be submitted for discussion and possible endorsement by the CONTAM Panel at a forthcoming meeting. Each WG member gave an overview of the outcome of the review of the articles retrieved in the literature in their respective areas. An overview of the occurrence data submitted to EFSA was also given at the meeting. The invited hearing expert presented the ongoing studies on *Alternaria* toxins that are performed under the Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals (PARC). Tasks were distributed.

VI. Any Other Business

Not applicable

VII. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held via webconference from 13 to 15 January 2025.

26 September 2024

14:00-18:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 2 October 2024

Location: Webconference

Attendees:

- Working Group Members:
Gunther Antonissen, Valérie Fessard, Stefano Landi and Kyriaki Machera
- Hearing Experts¹:
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
- EFSA:
Feed and Contaminants unit (FEEDCO unit): Maria Anastassiadou (Chair) and Tuuli Tauriainen
Methodology and Scientific Support unit (MESE unit): José Ángel Gómez Ruiz
- Others:
Federico Cruciani (ISA² Expert)

I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Frans Verstraete.

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 Independence³ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁴, 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.

IV. Agreement of the minutes of the previous Working Group meeting

Not applicable

V. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

¹ 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>

² Individual Scientific Advisor

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



The members of the working group discussed the terms of reference of the mandate, the literature search and the protocol of the draft Scientific Opinion on the update of the risks for animal and public health related to the presence of *Alternaria* toxins in feed and food. Tasks were distributed.

VI. Any Other Business

Not applicable

VII. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held from 5 to 6 November 2024 via web conference.
