

14-15 April 2026

09:15-17:15 / 09:15-17:15

MINUTES - Agreed on 15 April 2026

Location: Teleconference

Attendees:

o Panel Members:

José Manuel Barat Baviera, Claudia Bolognesi, Francesco Catania, Gabriele Gadermaier, Ralf Greiner, Baltasar Mayo, Alicja Mortensen, Yrjö Roos, Hendrik van Loveren, Laurence Vernis, Holger Zorn (Chair)

o Hearing Experts¹:

Eleonora Marini participated as ISA (Individual Scientific Advisor) contractor (ref. EOI/EFSA/2022/01 – CT 45 FIP)

o European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

EC: Stylianos Koulouris

o EFSA:

Food Ingredients and Packaging (FIP) Unit: Jaime Aguilera, Magdalena Andryszkiewicz, Daniele Cavanna, Valeriu-Georghe Curtui, Ana Criado, Cristina Fernández-Fraguas, Ana Gomes, Natalia Kovalkovicova, Yi Liu, Simone Lunardi, Silvia Peluso, Valentina Tokić, Alessandro Manghi, Irene Bonino, Anna Ferrandis Rosell, Paula Veronica Podea

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

Apologies were received from Marize De Lourdes Marzo Solano.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Panel 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 Panel 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 matters discussed in these meetings were identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the Panel members at the beginning of these meetings.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 17th FEZ Panel Plenary meeting held on 10-12 March 2026.

The minutes of the 17th Panel plenary meeting were agreed on 12 March 2026.

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

³ https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-2024.pdf



5. Scientific outputs submitted for discussion/adoption

5.1 Draft opinion on the food enzyme protease *A. oryzae* - data package HBI Enzymes Inc. ([EFSA-Q-2022-00861](#))

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

5.2 Draft opinion on the food enzyme protease from *Aspergillus Sojae* strain ACP 112-311 - data package Shin Nihon Chemical Co., Ltd. ([EFSA-Q-2023-00246](#))

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

5.3 Draft opinion on the follow-up opinion linked to EFSA-Q-2015-00449 - Catalase from a non-genetically modified *Aspergillus tubingensis* strain AE-CN ([EFSA-Q-2025-00275](#))

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

5.4 Draft opinion on the food enzyme pectinase from *Aspergillus Tubingensis* strain GPA41 - data package Shin Nihon Chemical Co., Ltd. ([EFSA-Q-2023-00243](#))

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

5.5 Draft opinion on the food enzyme pectinase from *Aspergillus luchuensis* Strain GSP 4-404 - data package Shin Nihon Chemical Co., Ltd. ([EFSA-Q-2023-00265](#))

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

5.6 Draft opinion on the extension of use of the food enzyme glucoamylase from a genetically modified *Aspergillus niger* strain NZYM-BF ([EFSA-Q-2025-00622](#))

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

5.7 Draft opinion on the food enzyme phospholipase D from a genetically modified strain of *Streptomyces violaceoruber* (pPDN) ([EFSA-Q-2016-00206](#))

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

5.8 Draft opinion on the food enzyme amidase from a genetically modified *Escherichia coli* strain SP-a as a new food enzyme ([EFSA-Q-2024-00307](#))

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



5.9 Draft opinion on the food enzyme xylanase from a genetically modified *Bacillus licheniformis* strain NZYM-FX as a new food enzyme (EFSA-Q-2024-00453)

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

5.10 Draft opinion on the extension of use of the food enzyme xylanase from a genetically modified *Bacillus licheniformis* strain NZYM-FX (EFSA-Q-2025-00599)

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

5.11 Draft opinion on the food enzyme glucan 1,4-alpha-maltohydrolase from a genetically modified *Bacillus licheniformis* strain DP-Dzb115 as a new food enzyme (EFSA-Q-2025-00014)

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

5.12 Draft opinion on the food enzyme glutaminase from a genetically modified *Bacillus subtilis* strain Glu3-3 as a new food enzyme (EFSA-Q-2025-00232)

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

5.13 Draft opinion on the extension of use of the food enzyme alpha-amylase from a genetically modified *Bacillus licheniformis* strain NZYM-BC (EFSA-Q-2025-00523)

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

5.14 Draft opinion on the extension of use of the food enzyme subtilisin from a non-genetically modified *Bacillus licheniformis* strain NZYM-CX (EFSA-Q-2025-00621)

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

6. Update on new Mandates

None.

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

7.1 Scientific Committee

None.



7.2 European Commission

None.

7.3 Scientific Panel(s) including their Working Groups

None.

8. Any other business

- 8.1** The involved experts concluded that additional information is required in order to proceed with the safety assessment of this food enzyme. A request for additional information will be sent to the applicant for the following food enzyme dossiers:
- Cellulase and Endo-1,3(4)-beta-glucanase from *Trichoderma reesei* DP-Nzc104 - data package Genencor International, B.V. ([EFSA-Q-2023-00229](#))
 - Glucan 1,4- α -glucosidase from *Aspergillus niger* AE-GN - data package Amano Enzyme Inc. ([EFSA-Q-2023-00223](#))
 - Thermolysin from *Geobacillus caldoproteolyticus* (DP-Fzj32) ([EFSA-Q-2015-00682](#))
 - Nuclease from a genetically modified *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* strain GD-f as a new food enzyme ([EFSA-Q-2025-00150](#))
 - Pectinase From *Aspergillus niger* Strain CICC2214 - data package Erbslöh Geisenheim GmbH ([EFSA-Q-2023-00272](#))
- 8.2** An online information session on the review of 90-day toxicity studies in food enzyme risk assessment will be held on 18 May from 14:00 to 18:00. The agenda available at <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2026-04/Agenda%20template-Food%20enzymes.pdf>. The registration is open until 7 May at <https://events.efsa.europa.eu/event/ar/1057/online-stakeholder-meeting-on-food-enzymes>.

9. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 19-20 May 2026, via teleconference.