

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL on Nutrition, Novel Foods and Food Allergens

167th Panel Plenary meeting



17 April 2026

09:00-13:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 24 April 2026

**Location:** Teleconference

**Attendees:**

- Panel Members:  
Torsten Bohn, Montaña Cámara, Stefaan de Henauw, Karen Ildico Hirsch-Ernst, Ángeles Jos, Alexandre Maciuk, Inge Mangelsdorf, Breige McNulty, Androniki Naska, Kristina Pentieva, Alfonso Siani, and Dominique Turck (Chair).
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:  
Not applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
EC: Rafael Perez Berbejal, Ivona Babic, and Athanasios Angelou.
- EFSA:  
Nutrition & Food Innovation (NIF) Unit: Elisa Beneventi, Ionut Craciun, Leng Heng, Marcello Laganaro, Maura Magani, 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 Jacqueline Castenmiller and Frank Thies.

## 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 matters 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.

## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 166th Panel Plenary meeting held on 4 March 2026, via teleconference

<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)



The [minutes](#) of the 166<sup>th</sup> Panel plenary meeting were agreed by written procedure on 19 March 2026.

## 5. Scientific outputs submitted for discussion/adoption

### 5.1 **Draft opinion on DHA-rich oil from Schizochytrium sp. A2 (NF 2024/21690, [EFSA-Q-2024-00272](#)) Applicant: Huve Nutraceuticals 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, ADME, nutritional information, toxicological information, human data and allergenicity. The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 17 April 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 Cannabidiol Isolate (NF 2021/2340; [EFSA-Q-2021-00282](#)) Applicant: CBD Industries LLC**

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. Comments received were incorporated. A revised draft will be submitted to the Panel for adoption by written procedure upon the resuming of the risk assessment.

### 5.3 **Draft opinion on Nonapeptide and Pentapeptide mixture (NF 2023 4623, [EFSA-Q-2023-00212](#)) Applicant: Caregen Co., 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 17 April 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

The feedback from the Scientific Committee plenary meeting held on [25-26 February](#) and the ad hoc meeting on the prioritization of development projects held on 10 April 2026 will be shared with the Panel together with the minutes of the NDA Plenary meeting.

## 8. Any other business

The Panel took note of the plenary meeting dates in 2027:

- 27-28 January (online);



- 3-4 March (online);
- 15 April (online);
- 26-27 May (Parma);
- 29-30 June (online);
- 31 August (online);
- 23-24 September (online);
- 27-28 October (Parma);
- 29-30 November (online);
- 16 December (online).

## **9. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 27 and 28 May 2026 in Madrid, Spain.