

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON CONTAMINANTS IN THE FOOD CHAIN

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting on Chlorate

01<sup>st</sup> June 2026

09:00-16:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 11 June 2026



**Location:** Webconference

- Working Group Members:  
Gisela Degen; Jean-Charles Leblanc; Annika Boye Petersen; Katharina Vejdovszky
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:  
Walid El Serry; Lidka Maslankiewicz; Katerina Gutovskaia
- Applicants participating in a technical hearing<sup>2</sup>:  
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
EC: Silvia Nicolau-Solano; Frans Verstraete (SANTE)
- EFSA:  
Feedco Unit: Hans Steinkellner (chair), Elena Zoe Bogensperger  
MESE Unit: Petra Gergelová
- Observers:  
Federico Cruciani

Federico Cruciani participated as an ISA (Individual Scientific Advisor) expert (EOI/EFSA/2022/01 - CT 30 FEEDCO) (via web conference)

## I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without any 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

<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/2025-11/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-25-11.pdf>



out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No conflicts of interest related to the matters discussed in were identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the Working Group members at the beginning of the meeting.

#### **IV. Agreement of the minutes of the 1st Working Group meeting held on April 2026, web-conference**

The minutes of the 1st Working Group (WG) meeting were agreed by written procedure on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April 2026.

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

##### **a. Draft opinion on Chlorate in Food and drinking water. ([EFSA-Q-2025-00706](#))**

The WG discussed the draft scientific opinion, in particular the publicly available data from ECHA explaining the background and content of the different documents. The WG chair noted that the support from ECHA was very much appreciated. The WG then discussed the specific sections of the EFSA opinion, especially previous assessment, toxicology sections, mode of action and lastly the Chlorate protocol. After amendments, the draft opinion will be presented at the next WG meeting for further discussion.

#### **VI. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 10 July 2026 via web conference.

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# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON Contamination in the Food Chain

## 1<sup>st</sup> Working Group meeting on Chlorate

10<sup>th</sup> April 2026 / 15<sup>th</sup> April 2026  
09:00-13:00 / 09:00-11:00  
MINUTES - Agreed on 23 April 2026



**Location:** Webconference

- Working Group Members:  
Degen Gisela; Leblanc Jean-Charles; Boye Petersen Annika; Vejdovszky Katharina; Terron Andrea
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:  
El Serry Walid; Maslankiewicz Lidia; Cruciani Federico  
Cruciani Federico participated as an ISA (Individual Scientific Advisor) expert (EOI/EFSA/2022/01 - CT 30 FEEDCO) (via teleconference)  
Applicants participating in a technical hearing<sup>2</sup>:  
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
EC: Nicolau-Solano Silvia; Verstraete Frans (Sante)  
EFSA:  
Feedco Unit: Hans Steinkellner, Elena Zoe Bogensperger  
MESE Unit: Gergelová Petra
- Observers:  
Not Applicable

## I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Roberts Julian.

## II. Adoption of agenda

The second day (15<sup>th</sup> April 2026) was held only with Leblanc Jean-Charles, Cruciani Federico, Terron Andrea, Hans Steinkellner and Elena Zoe Bogensperger.

## III. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

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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>

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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. No conflicts of interest related to the matters discussed in were identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the Working Group members at the beginning of the meeting.

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

**a. Draft opinion on Chlorate in Food and drinking water. ([EFSA-Q-2025-00706](#))**

The WG discussed the draft scientific opinion, and in particular discussed the previous Perchlorate (2025) and Chlorate (2015) Opinion, the occurrence data, the bibliographic date and an overview was given on the structure of the new Chlorate Opinion. After amendments, the draft opinion will be presented at the next WG meeting for further discussion.

#### **V. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 01 June 2026 via web conference.

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<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/2025-11/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-25-11.pdf>