

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL on Plant Protection Products and their Residues

136<sup>th</sup> Panel Plenary meeting



22 (14:00-17:00)-23 April 2026 (9:00-12:30)

MINUTES - Agreed on 11 May 2026

**Location:** EFSA, Parma and teleconference

**Attendees:**

o Panel Members:

Adriaanse Pauline, Choi Judy, Coja Tamara, Finizio Antonio, Giraud Maeva, Kuhl Thomas, McVey Emily, Metruccio Francesca, Silvia Pieper, Scanziani Eugenio, Teodorovic Ivana, Van den Brink Paul, Wilks Martin

o Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:

Not applicable

o European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not applicable

o EFSA:

PREV Unit: Batista Leite Sofia, Bergsma Elodie, Binaglia Marco, Blazevic Marija, Castoldi Anna Federica, Chiusolo Arianna, Colas Mathilde, Crivellente Federica Adele, Gkountouras Dimitrios, Id Hammou Nawelle, Istace Frédérique, Kardassi Dimitra, Lanzoni Anna, Lousse Jochem, Mangas Iris, Mazzega Silvia, Mioč Andrea, Nomikou Christina, Parra Morte Juan Manuel, Santos Miguel, Scattareggia Marchese Adriana, Suontausta Annamaija, Theobald Anne, Tiramani Manuela

PLANTS Unit: Alvarez Fernando, Auteri Domenica, Fabrega Julia, Fait Gabriella, Ferilli Franco, Ippolito Alessio, Kienzler Aude, Linguadoca Alberto, Padilla Suarez Edith, Sharp Rachel Jane.

MESE Unit: Cattaneo Irene, Martino Laura

o Observers:

Not applicable

## 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Paparella Martin.

## 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 were 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 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>

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



## 4. Agreement of the minutes of the 135<sup>th</sup> PPR Panel Plenary meeting held on 19 February 2026, via teleconference

The minutes of the 135<sup>th</sup> PPR Panel plenary meeting were agreed by written procedure on 9 March 2026.

## 5. Update from Scientific Committee

The chair updated the Panel on ongoing activities of the Scientific Committee, including developments related to cross-cutting methodologies and guidance documents, including:

- Draft Guidance on default values
- Draft guidance on Margin of Exposure
- Draft guidance on risk assessment of Nanomaterials
- Draft Scoping Paper for development of a guidance on ADME and PBK modelling

In addition, information on the project for guidance architecture and prioritisation of developmental projects were also presented.

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

### 6.1 **Waiving the dog studies in the regulatory process for agrochemical approval ([EFSA-Q-2024-00199](#))**

An update on the progress of the draft Scientific Opinion was presented, including outcomes of the latest Working Group meeting. The revised structure of the draft Opinion and timelines for further review (Emily, Eugenio, Thomas) were outlined, with adoption foreseen during the next plenary meeting in June.

### 6.2 **Reviewing the literature on the methodologies available to study the long-term toxic and/or carcinogenic effects of PPP, in particular those resulting from interactions between components mixed in these products ([EFSA-Q-2024-00432](#))**

Progress on the systematic review of methodologies for long-term toxicity and carcinogenicity of PPP was presented, including preliminary findings from the screening phase, identified knowledge gaps and the proposed approach for further analysis. Planned next steps were outlined, including review of the draft opinion (Ivana, Judy, Martin P) ahead of endorsement in June and subsequent public consultation.

### 6.3 **Metabolites common to several active substances ([EFSA-Q-2024-00560](#))**

The Panel was informed of recent discussions and progress within the Working Group, including agreements reached during the last meeting, as well as upcoming activities, such as the organisation of technical hearing(s) with applicants and further work to support the mandate.

### 6.4 **Update of the guidance on Submission of scientific peer-reviewed open literature for the approval of pesticide active substances under Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 ([EFSA-Q-2024-00585](#))**



An update on the status of the mandate was provided, including the interpretation of the Terms of Reference, with input from the appointed reviewers (Francesca, Silvia, Thomas), and progress in the preparatory phase. The proposed approach and structure of the work were presented, together with planned next steps, including further drafting and upcoming consultation activities.

#### **6.5 Request for revision of Terrestrial Ecotoxicology Guidance ([EFSA-Q-2024-00463](#) and [EFSA-Q-2024-464](#))**

The Panel was updated on the draft statement on indirect effects, including ongoing review activities and comments received from the reviewers (Emily, Antonio, Paul). Key issues and proposed approaches were discussed, together with planned next steps, including finalisation of the draft, endorsement via written procedure in May, and subsequent public consultation.

## **7. Other mandates/projects**

### **7.1 EFSA Neurotoxicity programme progress**

An overview of the current status of the EFSA Neurotoxicity programme was presented, including ongoing activities related to the development and application of NAM-based approaches (e.g. in vitro assay batteries, AOP-informed IATAs and PBK modelling) for pesticide neurotoxicity risk assessment. Progress across key outsourced projects, EFSA [Neurotoxicity Working Group](#) and international collaborations was highlighted, together with planned next steps towards regulatory implementation and development of guiding documents and databases.

### **7.2 Fit-for-purpose risk assessment for low-concern active substances**

The Panel was informed about the outcomes of the related grant and the proposed stepwise approach for a fit-for-purpose risk assessment of low-concern active substances. The proposed methodology is based on problem formulation and pathway-to-harm concepts, allowing integration of multiple lines of evidence and supporting both qualitative and quantitative assessments. Key elements, including the use of generic pathways, analysis plans and likelihood-based assessment, were presented, together with expected benefits and next steps for further regulatory consideration.

## **8. AOB**

The Panel was briefly informed about upcoming activities, including a workshop on the roadmap implementation for pesticides and biocides planned for October 2026.

## **9. Next meeting**

The next meeting, open to observers, will be held on 17–18 June, via teleconference.