

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON
Nutrition, Novel Foods and Food Allergens
170th NDA Panel Plenary meeting



31 August 2026

09:00-16:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 7 September 2026

Location: Web conference

Attendees:

o Panel Members:

Montaña Cámara, Jacqueline Castenmiller, Stefaan de Henauw, Karen Ildico Hirsch-Ernst, Ángeles Jos, Alexandre Maciuk, Inge Mangelsdorf, Breige McNulty, Androniki Naska, Kristina Pentieva, Alfonso Siani, Frank Thies, and Dominique Turck (Chair).

o Hearing Experts¹:

Pablo Rodríguez Fernández (item 5.5)

o European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

EC: Stephanie Bodenbach, Olga Goulaki (item 6.1), Barbara Rous (item 5.4), Natassa Alvizou (item 5.4), Ivona Babic, Ana Rodriguez Perez (item 5.4), and Frans Verstraete (item 5.4).

o EFSA:

Nutrition & Food Innovation (NIF) Unit: Ana Afonso, Reinhard Ackerl, Océane Albert, Domenico Azzollini, Sebastian Berrio Cruz, Andrea Germini, Leng Heng, Marcello Laganaro, Maura Magani, Salvatore Mutari, Estefanía Noriega Fernández, Gabriela Precup, Carolina Roperro, Annamaria Rossi, Francesca Seminati, Angeliki Sofroniou, and Silvia Valtueña Martinez.

Legal Affairs Services (LA) Unit: Francesca Volpi (item 5.4)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

Apologies were received from Torsten Bohn.

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 Management,³ 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 the meeting have been identified during the screening process.

Certain interests were declared orally by some members before the beginning of the meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Oral Declaration of Interest made at the beginning of this meeting, please refer to the Annex.

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



4. Agreement of the minutes of the 169th Plenary meeting held on 1-2 July 2026

The [minutes](#) of the 169th Panel plenary meeting were agreed by written procedure on 14 July 2026.

The opinion on "Safety of benfotiamine as a Novel food pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2015/2283 and the bioavailability of benfotiamine as a source of thiamin in the context of Directive 2002/46/EC on food supplements" ([EFSA-Q-2024-00115](#)) was adopted by written procedure on 06/08/2026. The full text of the scientific opinion will be available in the coming weeks in the EFSA Journal.

5. Scientific outputs submitted for discussion/possible adoption

5.1 Draft opinion on Frozen paste from blanched, whole migratory locust (*Locusta migratoria*) (NF 2018/0395; [EFSA-Q-2018-00513](#)) Applicant: Belgian Insect Industry Federation (BiiF)

The Panel reviewed and discussed the draft scientific opinion, and particularly the sections regarding compositional data, specifications, nutritional information, proposed uses, and allergenicity. The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 31 August 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 isolated Cannabidiol (CBD) (NF 2020/2066; [EFSA-Q-2021-00352](#)) Applicant: Pharmahemp

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, proposed uses, toxicological information and allergenicity. The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 31 August 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.

5.3 Draft opinion on Cannabis sativa L. extract (NF 2020/2177; [EFSA-Q-2021-00456](#)) Applicant: Pharmahemp

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, proposed uses, toxicological information and allergenicity. The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 31 August 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.

5.4 Draft opinion on Synthetic cannabidiol (NF 2020/1670; [EFSA-Q-2020-00257](#)) Applicant: Chanelle McCoy CBD LTD

The Panel agreed to withdraw the scientific opinion adopted on 27 May 2026. A revised draft scientific opinion was reviewed and discussed, with particular attention to the data used to establish the safety of the novel food. The revised scientific opinion was adopted by the Panel on 31 August 2026, subject to the incorporation of editorial changes. The full text of the scientific opinion will be available in the EFSA Journal in the coming weeks.



5.5 Draft opinion on powdered *Xanthobacter* sp. SoF1 biomass (NF 2021/1730; [EFSA-Q-2022-00140](#)) Applicant: Solar Foods Oy

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, proposed uses, toxicological information and allergenicity. The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 31 August 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 /endorsement

6.1 Draft opinion on Appethyl® as part of a meal prolongs satiety/reduces cravings after that meal ([EFSA-Q-2022-00096](#))

The Panel reviewed and discussed the draft scientific opinion, with particular focus on the section concerning the relevance of the claimed effect to human health, taking into consideration the applicant's replies to EFSA's additional data requests. Feedback from the Panel was received. A revised draft scientific opinion will be further elaborated and will be submitted to the Panel for possible adoption at the next plenary meeting.

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

Postponed.

8. Any other business

None.

9. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 29-30 September 2026 online.



Annex

Interests and actions resulting from the Oral Declaration of Interest done at the beginning of the meeting

With regard to this meeting, Montaña Cámara declared the following interest: involvement in a research project on the nutritional and bioactive compounds characterisation of blood oranges and their derivatives, inventor of a patent held by the Complutense University of Madrid, and Codirector of a PhD Thesis on 'Public image and consumer perception of food innovations. Novel foods in the EU'. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence⁴ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁵, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, the interest above was not deemed to represent a conflict of interest for the expert concerned.

With regard to this meeting, Kristina Pentieva declared the following interest: member of the Working Group on 'Neonatal Nutrition—Bioactive Nutrients' within the European Paediatric Association and the Union of National European Paediatric Societies/Associations (EPA-UNEPSA), and Editor-in-Chief of Nutrition Research Reviews for the Nutrition Society (UK & Ireland) peer-reviewed scientific journals. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence⁶ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁷, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, the interest above was not deemed to represent a conflict of interest for the expert concerned.

With regard to this meeting, Alexandre Maciuk declared the following interest: involvement in the ANSES's Working Group Plants for the Risk assessment at national level on risks associated to the consumption of plants as food including food supplements. In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence⁸ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁹, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, the interest above was not deemed to represent a conflict of interest for the expert concerned.

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

⁶ https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/independence-policy-2024.pdf

⁷ <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2025-11/decision-ed-on-competing-interest-management-25-11.pdf>

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