Parma, 27 September 2011

MINUTES OF THE 22nd PLENARY MEETING of the

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON FOOD CONTACT MATERIALS, ENZYMES, FLAVOURINGS AND PROCESSING AIDS (CEF)

2nd Mandate – Inaugural meeting[1]

Held in Parma on 06-07 July 2011

Adopted on 27 September 2011

AGENDA:

Table of Contents

1. Welcome and opening of the meeting 3
2. Information on the role of the Panel members and EFSA support 3
   2.1. Scientific Evaluation of regulated Products (REPRO) Directorate: general presentation. 3
   2.2. Risk Assessment and Scientific Assistance (RASA) Directorate: general presentation. 3
   2.3. Scientific Strategy and Coordination Directorate and Scientific Committee (SCISTRAT): general presentation and role. 3
   2.4. Legal aspects. 3
   2.5. Independence- declaration of interest. 3
   2.6. Financial aspects – expert compensation guide. 3
   2.7. Communication guidance for Panel Members. 4
3. Scientific presentations on The FACET EU project (Flavourings, Additives, and Food Contact Materials Exposure tasks): developments, tools & practical applications. 4
4. Round table presentation of CEF Panel members and secretariat 4
5. Election of Chair and Vice Chairs of the CEF Panel 4
6. Working Programme 2011-2014 4
7. Organisation of Working Groups 4
8. Support by the CEF Unit 5
9. Meeting dates 5
10. Any other business 5

[1] Inaugural meeting for the CEF Panel with a mandate from July 2011 to June 2014

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PARTICIPANTS

Panel Members:

Ulla Beckman Sundh, Mona-Lise Binderup (1st day), Leon Brimer, Laurence Castle, Karl-Heinz Engel, Roland Franz, Nathalie Gontard, Trine Husøy, Klaus-Dieter Jany, Catherine Leclercq, Jean-Claude Lhuguenot, Wim C. Mennes, Maria Rosaria Milana, Iona Pratt, Kettil Svensson, Fidel Toldrá (1st day), Detlef Wölfle.

Invited Experts, hearing experts:

Apologies: Rainer Gürtler

European Commission: Josiane Houins-Roulet

EFSA: Riitta Maijala, Claudia Heppner, Djien Liem, Dirk Detken, Juergen De Maggio, Anne Laure Gassin (all on 1st day meeting), Marco Castaldini (2nd day meeting)

CEF Unit:

Scientific staff: Alexandre Feigenbaum, Dimitrios Spyropoulos, Anne Theobald, Eric Barthélémy, Cristina Croera, Kim Rygaard Nielsen; Anna Castoldi, Alina Lupu, Andrea Terron, Maria Carfi.

Administrative staff: Eva Maria Ferrari, Marco Lannutti, Ilse Koenig, Hanne Pedersen, Egle Serrao.

6 JULY 2011 AFTERNOON SESSION (14.00-18.00)

This session was held in common between ANS and CEF Panels.

1. WELCOME AND OPENING OF THE MEETING

The Director of the Scientific Evaluation of Regulated Products (REPRO) Directorate, Riitta Maijala, welcomed the members of the EFSA Panel on Food Contact Materials, Enzymes, Flavourings and Processing Aids (CEF Panel) and on Food Additives and Nutrient Sources added to food (ANS Panel) to the inauguration meeting.

2. INFORMATION ON THE ROLE OF THE PANEL MEMBERS AND EFSA SUPPORT

A series of general introductory presentations were given providing the experts with an overview of the organisational structure of the Authority, as well as EFSA strategies, policies and procedures.

2.1. Scientific Evaluation of regulated Products (REPRO) Directorate: general presentation.
The Director, Riitta Maijala, provided the participants with information on the activities of the REPRO Directorate.

2.2. Risk Assessment and Scientific Assistance (RASA) Directorate: general presentation.
On behalf of the Director of the Risk Assessment and Scientific Assistance Directorate, Claudia Heppner, Head of the Contaminants Unit, provided the participants with information on the activities of the Risk Assessment and Scientific Assistance (RASA) Directorate, assessment methodology and exposure methodology assistance.

2.3. Scientific Strategy and Coordination Directorate and Scientific Committee (SCISTRAT): general presentation and role.
Djien Liem, Head of the Scientific Committee Unit, provided the participants with information on the activities of the SCISTRAT Directorate on the role of the Scientific Committee and on EFSA science strategy. It was mentioned that a public consultation on the draft opinion on "Exploring options for providing preliminary advice about possible human health risks based on the concept of Threshold of Toxicological Concern (TTC)" will be launched.

2.4. Legal aspects.
Dirk Detken, Head of the Legal and Regulatory Affairs Unit, informed the participants on some legal aspects regarding confidentiality, liability, etc.

2.5. Independence- declaration of interest.
Dirk Detken informed the participants on the EFSA Policy on Declarations of Interests, as well as EFSA updates processes for handling Declarations of Interest.
The participants were informed that a public consultation on the "Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes of the European Food Safety Authority" will be launched soon.

2.6. Financial aspects – expert compensation guide.
Juergen De Maggio of the Finance Unit presented some aspects of the EFSA financial framework that are of interests for Panel members.

2.7. Communication guidance for Panel Members.
Anne Laure Gassin, Director of Communications, provided the participants with an overview of the communications strategy.

3. SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS ON THE FACET EU PROJECT (FLAVOURINGS, ADDITIVES, AND FOOD CONTACT MATERIALS EXPOSURE TASKS): DEVELOPMENTS, TOOLS & PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS.

ANS and CEF Panel members presented the following aspects of the FACET EU project:

3.1 Introduction to the project
3.2 The case of food additives
3.3 The case of flavourings
3.4 The case of food contact materials

7 July 2011 MORNING SESSION (9.00-13.00)

This session was held separately for the ANS and CEF Panels.

4. ROUND TABLE PRESENTATION OF CEF PANEL MEMBERS AND SECRETARIAT

The Head of the CEF unit welcomed the CEF Panel members to the 22nd CEF Panel meeting. Apologies for absence of some Panel members were noted.
During the round table presentation Panel members briefly introduced themselves, focusing on their areas of interest and expertise. Also the staff of CEF unit introduced themselves explaining their individual role/tasks in the unit.

5. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIRS OF THE CEF PANEL

The election of a Chair person and of two vice chairs for the CEF Panel took place following the procedure established by EFSA. Dr. Iona Pratt was elected as Chair. Dr. Wim Mennes and Dr. Catherine Leclercq were elected as first and second vice Chairs respectively.

6. WORKING PROGRAMME 2011-2014

The Head of the CEF unit gave a presentation on the mandate and remit of the CEF Panel, the organisation of the work related to current established working groups including information on the EFSA unit and staff involved.

7. ORGANISATION OF WORKING GROUPS

The distribution of Panel members in each working group was agreed.
In addition, the Head of the CEF unit outlined which requests from the European Commission are to be expected in the near future.

8. SUPPORT BY THE CEF UNIT

The Head of CEF unit briefly presented the administrative and scientific support for the Panel.

9. MEETING DATES

The Panel and WGs meeting date for 2011 were presented. The proposed meeting date for 2011 and 2012 were agreed.

9.1 For 2011:

- Panel (27-29 September and 22-24 November)
- Recycling WG (12-13 September and 7-8 November)
- Food Contact Materials WG (14-15 September and 9-10 November)
- Flavouring WG (18-20 October).

9.2 For 2012 Panel meetings:

- 31 January-2 February
- 20-22 March
- 22-24 May
- 3-5 July
- 25-27 September
- 20-22 November

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.