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**Scientific Panel on Food Contact Materials, Enzymes, Flavourings
and Processing Aids (CEF)**

Minutes of the 41st plenary meeting

Held on 26-28 11 2013

(agreed on 11 12 2013)

Participants

- **Panel Members:**

Ulla Beckman Sundh, Claudia Bolognesi, Leon Brimer, Laurence Castle, Alessandro Di Domenico, Roland Franz, Nathalie Gontard, Rainer Gürtler, Trine Husøy, Martine Kolf-Clauw, Klaus-Dieter Jany, Iona Pratt (Chair), Kettil Svensson, Fidel Toldrá and Detlef Wölflle.

- **Hearing Experts:**

Diane Benford¹

- **European Commission:**

None

- **EFSA:**

Food Ingredients and Packaging (FIP) Unit: Anna F. Castoldi, Cristina Croera, Claudia Heppner², and Alina Lupu

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the members to the 41st CEF plenary meeting. Apologies for absence were received from the following members of the CEP Panel: Mona-Lise Binderup, Karl-Heinz Engel, Wim Mennes, Maria Rosaria Milana and Fátima Poças for the full plenary meeting and from the European Commission: Annette Schäfer, Bastiaan Schupp, Sabine Osaer.

2. Adoption of agenda

The draft agenda was adopted without any changes.

3. Declarations of interest

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes³ and the Decision of the Executive Director implementing this Policy regarding

¹ Participated only on 26 November 2013

² Participated only from 26 to 27 November 2013

Declarations of Interests⁴, EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of interest and the Specific Declaration of interest filled in by the experts invited for the present meeting. No conflicts of interests related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes

4.1 Agreement minutes 40th CEF Panel meeting (22-25 October 2013)

The minutes of the 40th plenary meeting were agreed on the 27 November 2013. The minutes are available on the Authority's webpage⁵.

5. Report on written procedure since 40th plenary meeting

Since the last CEF Panel meeting (40th plenary meeting) two scientific opinions related recycling processes based on grouped applications using the same technology, namely draft opinion on Octal ([EFSA-Q-2009-00965](#)), Pregis ([EFSA-Q-2009-00963](#)), Sabert ([EFSA-Q-2010-00050](#)), Linpac ([EFSA-Q-2010-00067](#)), Holfeld ([EFSA-Q-2010-00146](#)), Huhtamaki ([EFSA-Q-2010-00214](#)), Snelcore ([EFSA-Q-2010-00089](#)) ExtrPET ([EFSA-Q-2010-00051](#)), Selenis ([EFSA-Q-2010-00103](#)), Re-PET ([EFSA-Q-2012-00236](#)) (Erema Basic) and draft opinion on Kruschitz ([EFSA-Q-2009-00849](#)), Vogtland ([EFSA-Q-2009-00850](#)), Veolia ([EFSA-Q-2009-00865](#)), ITW Polyrecycling ([EFSA-Q-2009-00918](#)), Texplast ([EFSA-Q-2009-00958](#)), Alimpet ([EFSA-Q-2010-00026](#)), Essox Prodimpex ([EFSA-Q-2010-00066](#)) (Erema Advanced) were successfully adopted by written procedure on 4 November 2013.

6. Scientific outputs submitted for discussion and possible adoption

The Chair of the CEF Panel expressed her appreciation for the work on the scientific outputs discussed at this meeting, to the working groups (WGs) on Bisphenol A exposure and Bisphenol A toxicology and to the EFSA staff members involved in these WGs.

6.1 Draft opinion on bisphenol A (BPA) ([EFSA-Q-2012-00423](#))

The members of the CEF Panel agreed on the proposed numerical changes related to the draft exposure assessment of BPA following the comments received during the public consultation process between July and September 2013. In addition, concerning hazard identification and characterisation the members of the CEF Panel discussed and revised the chapters on toxicokinetics, general toxicity, neurobehavioural toxicity, reproductive and developmental toxicity, and carcinogenicity. Furthermore, the Panel discussed in detail the rationale for the choice of the point of departure to be used to set a health based guidance value for BPA and agreed on the approach for risk characterisation. The members of the CEF Panel provided further steering to the WG BPA exposure and WG toxicology to finalise the draft opinion on BPA.

7. New Mandates

Since the 40th CEF plenary meeting, overall 17 new requests were received by EFSA which fall within the remit of the CEF Panel. These requests concern five applications related to food enzymes ([EFSA-Q-2013-00895](#), [EFSA-Q-2013-00896](#), [EFSA-Q-2013-00897](#), [EFSA-Q-2013-00876](#) and [2013-00877](#)), three applications related to substances used in food contact materials ([EFSA-Q-2013-00887](#), [EFSA-Q-2013-00903](#) and [EFSA-Q-2013-00641](#)), two applications related to recycling processes ([EFSA-Q-2013-00754](#) and [EFSA-Q-2013-00724](#)),

³ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

⁴ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules.pdf>

⁵ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/event/131022a-m.pdf>

and additional data related to seven re-evaluations of flavouring substances ([EFSA-Q-2013-00992](#) and [993](#), [EFSA-Q-2013-00866](#) to [00873](#), [EFSA-Q-2013-00865](#), [EFSA-Q-2013-00861](#) to [864](#), [EFSA-Q-2013-00860](#), [EFSA-Q-2013-00853](#) to [00859](#) and [EFSA-Q-2013-00845](#) to [00852](#)). For the majority of these requests the APDESK unit is currently carrying out the completeness check and the registration is not yet completed. The original requests and its status can be viewed in the [online register of questions database](#).

8. Feedback from the Scientific Committee/the Scientific Panel, Working Groups, EFSA, the European Commission

8.1 Scientific Committee

A meeting of the 64th Scientific Committee (SC) was held on 13-14 November 2013 in Parma. The Panel was informed that the opinion on Qualified Presumption of Safety (QPS) approach for botanicals was not adopted and will be presented for possible adoption during the next extraordinary meeting of the SC which will take place on 17 December 2013. In addition, the SC discussed the use of benchmark dose approach for quantal data in the safety assessment of chemicals in the light of the opinion of the SC on benchmark dose modelling issued in 2009⁶ and different approaches taken by the Scientific Panels of EFSA. The members of the SC proposed to discuss this issue further during a future SC meeting. The SC received also an update on the work of the Plant Health Panel, the EFSA draft report on the use of emerging methodologies e.g. Omics in the risk assessment carried out by EFSA, and received an update on the draft opinion on carvone. In addition the members of the SC were informed by EFSA on EFSA's draft multiannual program on international scientific co-operation, and new format of scientific opinions.

8.2 Working Groups

8.2.1 WG BPA Exposure

No additional information was provided as this item was already discussed under agenda item 6.1.

8.2.2 WG BPA Tox

No additional information was provided as this item was already discussed under agenda item 6.1.

8.2.3 WG FCM Recycling

Due to lack of time this item was not discussed and deferred to the next upcoming CEF Panel meeting.

8.2.4 WG FCM Substances

Due to lack of time this item was not discussed and deferred to the next upcoming CEF Panel meeting.

8.2.5 WG Enzymes

Due to lack of time this item was not discussed and deferred to the next upcoming CEF Panel meeting.

8.2.6 WG Flavourings

The WG chair reported on the progress made during the last WG meeting.

⁶ Available at URL: <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/doc/1150.pdf>

8.3 EFSA

8.3.1 General matters

The Head of the FIP Unit informed the members of the CEF Panel on the following topics; the 50th meeting of the members of the Advisory Forum (AF) which will be held on 5.12.2013 in Parma, the resignation of the director of communications, Anne-Laure Gassin as of 15.12.2013, the first meeting of the discussion group on chemical occurrence data under the EFSA consultative platform which took place on 19.11.2013 in Brussels, the ongoing ANS/CEF Panels renewal (mandate 2014-2017), the different training courses for Panel members in the area of risk assessment and systematic review which will be offered in 2014, an update of the work of the CEF Panel which was given by EFSA at the Fresenius conference on 20 to 21 November 2013 in Cologne, Germany. In addition, the members of the CEF Panel were informed that EFSA in agreement with DG Sanco decided to launch the public consultation on the endorsed draft guidance on food contact materials which was endorsed by the members of the CEF Panel during the 40th CEF Panel meeting only after the report of the Art. 36 grant related to “implications on requirements for submission of toxicological information, restrictions and administrative consequences” is available. Within this context the Panel was also informed that the deadline for submission of grant proposals was extended to 29 November 2013.

8.4 European Commission

No update was provided by the European Commission.

9. Other scientific topics for information and/or discussions

No other scientific topic was discussed.

10. Any other business

The members of the CEF Panel decided to anticipate the 1st meeting of the CEF Panel in 2014 from 11 to 13 February to 28 to 30 January 2014.