

Scientific Panel on Plant Health Minutes of the 56th Plenary meeting

Held on 2nd – 3rd July, 2015, Parma (Italy)

(Agreed on 17 September 2015)

Participants

■ Panel Members

Claude Bragard, David Caffier, Elisavet Chatzivassiliou, Katharina Dehnen-Schmutz, Gianni Gilioli, Jean- Claude Gregoire, Joseph Anton Jacques Miret, Michael John Jeger, Alan MacLeod, Maria Navajas, Bjorn Niere, Stephen Parnell, Roel Potting, Trond Rafoss, Vittorio Rossi, Jan Schans, Gregor Urek, Ariena Van Bruggen, Stephan Winter, Wopke Van Der Werf, Jon West.

■ EFSA:

ALPHA Unit: Franck Berthe, Ciro Gardi, Gabor Hollo, Virag Kertesz, Svetla Kozelska, Tomasz Oszako, Marco Pautasso, Giuseppe Stancanelli, Sara Tramontini, Sybren Vos;

AMU Unit: Olaf Mosbach-Schulz;

LRA Unit: Citlali Pintado

■ European Commission representatives (observers)

Harry Arjis, Pasquale Di Rubbo (by videoconference)

■ European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation (EPPO) (observers)¹

Francoise Petter

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/stakeholders/observers.html>

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Giuseppe Stancanelli welcomed the new PLH Panel members to their first plenary meeting (56 PLH Panel plenary meeting) on behalf of the ALPHA Unit and the ALPHA PLH team.

Apologies were presented from Thierry Candresse who could not attend due to travel abroad.

2. Induction training

The PLH Panel members attended the Inaugural Meeting & Induction Training for members of the AHAW, CONTAM, NDA and PLH Scientific Panels and members of the Scientific Committee in the afternoon of 1 and the morning of 2 July. The agenda of the induction training is available on the EFSA website at

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/event/150701.htm>.

3. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

4. Declarations of Interest of Scientific Committee/Scientific Panel/ Members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest and the Specific Declarations of Interest filled in by the Scientific Panel Members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest 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. Information was provided to the Panel on the EFSA policy on independence and declaration of interests.

5. Round table presentation of PLH Panel members and EFSA PLH Team

The Panel members, the EFSA participants and the observers introduced themselves and provided information on their professional background and affiliations.

6. Presentation of PLH Panel mandate

Giuseppe Stancanelli presented the PLH panel remit, the types of the Panel scientific outputs as well as an overview of completed and ongoing mandates.

7. Presentation on roles and responsibilities of Panel Chair and Vice-chairs

Giuseppe Stancanelli presented the roles and responsibilities of the Panel chair and the Panel vice chairs.

8. Election of Panel Chair and Vice-Chairs

Citlali Pintado explained the rules pertaining to the election of the chair and the vice chairs of the EFSA Scientific Panels and oversaw the elections of the chair and vice chairs of the new PLH Panel. The PLH Panel elected Michael Jeger as Panel Chair and Thierry Candresse and Maria Navajas as Panel Vice Chairs.

9. Presentation of how the PLH Panel works – scientific opinion workflow, respective roles and responsibilities

Giuseppe Stancanelli gave a presentation on the workflow that is followed for the development of PLH Panel scientific opinions and explained the roles and responsibilities of the Panel members, of the Working Group Chair, of Working Group members and Hearing experts as well as of the PLH Team members at the different steps of this process. The activities of the EFSA scientific network for Plant Health Risk Assessment and the cooperation with Member States were presented. An overview of EFSA outsourcing activities in plant health area was presented.

10. Presentation of EFSA PLH Panel Guidances

Sybren Vos presented an overview of current four PLH Panel guidances focusing on how these guidances are relevant for the different types of PLH Panel scientific opinions.

11. Practical introduction to PLH Document Management System (DMS)

Sara Tramontini gave a practical demonstration of how to use the EFSA Document Management System (DMS) for the PLH Panel outputs, Panel and Working groups.

12. New mandates

The mandate to conduct the step 2 (pest risk assessment and risk reduction options) for seven plant pests listed in the Annexes of Directive 2000/29/EC was presented. It was clarified that there is no need for pest categorization in this step, as this was already done in step 1. For three of these pests (*Radophilus similis*, *Diaporthe vaccini*, *Eotetranychus lewisi*), surveys by some Member States are planned for 2016, therefore there is a challenge to deal with all steps of the pest risk assessment for these organisms when survey results are not yet available. For this reason, information on plans and data of surveys on these

seven pests has been requested by EFSA to the Commission. It was also discussed the possibility to provide scientific advice and general guidance on survey methodologies when needed by risk managers. Such work could start on the basis of the results of the EFSA Art . 36 project PERSEUS.

The Chair of the Panel nominated the WG Chairs for the Working Groups dealing with these seven pest: Vittorio Rossi was nominated for the WG on *Ceratocystis platani* and *Cryphonectria parasitica*; Maria Navajas for the WG on *Eotetranychus lewisi*; Ariela Van Bruggen for the WG on *Diaporthe vaccinii*; Jean Claude Gregoire for the WG on Grapevine Flavescence dorée; Gregor Urek for the WG on *Ditylenchus destructor* and *Radopholus similis*. Panel members were asked, based on their expertise, to express their interests and availability to take part in these Working Groups.

13. Feedback from the Scientific Committee/Scientific Panels, EFSA, the European Commission

An update on progress of activities by the PLH Panel Working Group "Directive 2000/29 Methods" was given. The aim of this WG is to develop fit for purpose risk assessment methodologies and process to update the EU listing of regulated plant pests. It was suggested that two of the seven risk assessment should be selected for testing the proposed methodology and the results obtained should be presented at the November 2015 Panel plenary meeting.

The ongoing activities of the Scientific Committee horizontal WGs were presented: Environmental Risk Assessment, Emerging Risks, Uncertainties, Statistical (cross cutting) and new Biological Relevance (e.g. dealing with particular impact of crop pests). The draft Guidances on Uncertainty in Scientific Assessment and on Environmental Risk Assessment were submitted to public consultation with commenting deadline at beginning of September (more details on EFSA home page). The draft guidance on Uncertainty was presented and the need to apply it since September in one of the PLH Panel opinion was discussed (the Scientific Committee guidances on environmental risk assessment were presented at 54th Panel plenary meeting).

Harry Arjis and Pasquale Di Rubbo from European Commission presented the plant health legislation and how the PLH Panel pest risk assessment were utilised to take risk management decisions. A risk assessment methodology fit for purpose was considered of high relevance particularly in preparation of the new plant health regime.

14. Any Other Business

The PLH Panel meetings calendar 2015-2018 was discussed and the following meeting dates were agreed (at EFSA in Parma, unless otherwise specified): 17-18 September 2015; 18-19 November 2015; 27-28 January 2016; 16-17 March 2016; 25-26 May 2016 (Bruxelles); 29-30 June 2016; 28-29 September 2016; 23-24 November 2016.