Scientific Panel on Food Additives and Nutrient Sources added to Food (ANS)

Minutes of the 67th Plenary meeting

Held on 17-20 October 2016, Parma (Italy)

(Agreed on 7 November 2016)

Participants

a) Panel Members

Fernando Aguilar,[1] Riccardo Crebelli, Alessandro Di Domenico, Birgit Dusemund, Maria José Frutos, Pierre Galtier, David Gott, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Claude Lambré, Jean-Charles Leblanc,[2] Peter Moldeus,[3] Alicja Mortensen, Pasquale Mosesso[4], Agneta Oskarsson, Dominique Parent-Massin[5], Ivan Stankovic, Ine Waalkens-Berendsen,[6] Rudolf Antonius Woutersen, Matthew Wright,[7] Maged Younes

b) Hearing experts[8]

Cristina Fortes,[9] Piet Van Den Brandt,[9] Paul Tobback[10]

c) European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Andreia Alvarez Porto (DG SANTE E2)

d) EFSA:

- AMU (Assessment and Methodological Support) Unit: Federica Barucci, José Cortiñas Abrahantes
- DATA (Evidence Management) Unit: Davide Arcella
- FIP (Food Ingredients and Packaging) Unit: Anna Christodoulidou, Paolo Colombo, Federica Lodi, Ana Maria Rincon, Claudia Roncancio Peña, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard, Stavroula Tasiopoulou,

[1] Participated on the 18-20 October 2016
[2] Participated on the 17 PM and the 18 AM October 2016 via teleconference and from the 18 PM to 20 October 2016 physically
[3] Participated on the 17 PM via teleconference and from 18 PM to 20 October 2016 physically
[4] Absent on 20 October 2016
[5] Participated on the 18 and 19 October 2016 via teleconference
[6] Participated on the 17 PM October 2016 via teleconference and on 18-20 October 2016 physically
[7] Participated on the 17-19 AM October 2016 physically and on 20 AM October 2016 via web-conference
[8] As defined in Article 11 of the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest: http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf
[9] Participated on the 18 and 19 October 2016 via web-conference
[10] Participated on the 17 October 2016 via web-conference

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed all participants.

Apologies were received from Oliver Lindtner.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without any changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Scientific Panel Members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes[11] and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest,[12] 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.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 66th Plenary meeting held on 27-28 September 2016, Brussels (Belgium)

The minutes of the 66th Plenary meeting held on 27-28 September 2016 were agreed subject to the changes suggested.[13]

5. Report on the written procedures since 66th Plenary meeting

No scientific outputs were adopted by written procedure since the last plenary meeting.

6. Scientific outputs submitted for discussion and possible adoption

6.1 Re-evaluation of E 249 potassium nitrite and E 250 sodium nitrite (EFSA-Q-2011-00460) (EFSA-Q-2011-00461)

Experts of the WG on nitrates and nitrites introduced the draft opinion on the safety of nitrites (E 249-250) to the members of the ANS Panel and presented the main points for discussion. The ANS Panel mainly discussed ADME and toxicology data. The remaining parts of the opinion will be discussed at an upcoming ANS Plenary meeting.

6.2 Re-evaluation of E 251 sodium nitrate and E 252 potassium nitrate (EFSA-Q-2011-00462) (EFSA-Q-2011-00463)

Experts of the WG on nitrates and nitrites introduced the draft opinion on the safety of nitrates (E 251-252) to the members of the ANS Panel and presented the main points for discussion. The ANS Panel discussed different parts of the opinion namely: technical

[11] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf
[12] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf
[13] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/event/160927-m.pdf

data, exposure data, ADME and toxicology data and epidemiological studies. The remaining parts of the opinion will be discussed at an upcoming ANS Plenary meeting.

6.3 Re-evaluation of E 459 β-cyclodextrine (EFSA-Q-2011-00544)

The rapporteur introduced the draft opinion on the safety of β-cyclodextrin (E 459) to the members of the ANS Panel and presented the main points for discussion. The ANS Panel discussed the different parts of the opinion and adopted it subject to incorporation of changes as suggested during the meeting.

The full opinion will be available on the Authority's webpage.

6.4 Re-evaluation of E 406 agar (EFSA-Q-2011-00507)

The rapporteur introduced the draft opinion on the safety of agar (E 406) to the members of the ANS Panel and presented the main points for discussion The ANS Panel discussed parts of the opinion and the need for further clarification was noted. Final discussion on the opinion and adoption are deferred to an upcoming ANS Plenary meeting.

7. New Mandates

EFSA staff reported about a new mandate (EFSA-Q-2016-00627) on the "Commission request for a scientific opinion on the safety of green tea catechins" to be assigned to the "Standing Working Group on art. 8 of Regulation (EC) No 1925/2006".

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

8.1 Scientific Committee and Scientific Panel including their Working Groups

8.1.1 ANS SWG Re-evaluation of Food Additives other than Gums & Colours

8.1.2 ANS SWG Re-evaluation of Gums and Food Additives from natural sources

8.1.3 ANS SWG Re-evaluation of Starches, Celluloses and Pectins

8.1.4 ANS SWG of Nitrates and Nitrites

8.1.5 ANS SWG on Applications

8.1.6 ANS SWG on Exposure Assessment

8.1.7 ANS SWG on Nutrient Sources Guidance

8.2 EFSA including its Working Groups /Task Forces

The agenda items 8.1-8.2 were not discussed because of lack of time.

8.3 European Commission

The European Commission representative informed the ANS Panel members on the follow up from the scientific opinions adopted.

9. Other scientific topics for information and/or discussion

9.1 Approach to be followed for the refined exposure assessment as part of the safety assessment of food additives under re-evaluation

The Chair of the Working Group Exposure presented to the Panel members the approach and the scenarios to be applied to estimate the exposure of food additives, the experts will provide comments and further discussion will take place in one of the next plenaries.

9.2 Assessment of a new study on the carcinogenic potential of the food additive sucralose (E 955) (EFSA-Q-2016-00251)

The Chair of the Working Group on the assessment of carcinogenicity of sucralose reported about the state of play and informed the Panel members that a technical hearing with representatives of Ramazzini Institute will take place in November.

9.3 Re-evaluation of E 410 locust bean gum (EFSA-Q-2011-00510)

This agenda item was not discussed because of lack of time.

10. Any Other Business

The Head of FIP Unit informed the ANS Panel members about the preparation of the workprogramme 2017-2018 for the re-evaluation of food additives.