

# Scientific Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues

## Minutes of the 84<sup>th</sup> Plenary meeting

**Held on 14-15 December, 2016, Parma (Italy)**

**(Agreed on 19 January 2017)**

### Participants

■ Panel Members

Paulien Adriaanse, Philippe Berny (14 December), Sabine Duquesne, Sandro Grilli, Antonio Hernandez-Jerez, Susanne Hougaard Bennekou, Michael Klein, Thomas Kuhl, Ryszard Laskowski, Kyriaki Machera, Colin Ockleford, Olavi Pelkonen, Silvia Pieper, Robert Smith, Michael Stemmer, Ingvar Sundh, Ivana Teodorovic, Aaldrik Tiktak, Christopher Topping, Gerrit Wolterink.

■ Hearing Experts <sup>1</sup>:

Not Applicable

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not Applicable

■ EFSA:

Pesticides Unit: Maria Arena, Arianna Chiusolo, Federica Crivellente, Mark Egsmose, Marcella De Maglie, Paula Medina, Luc Mohimont, Franz Streissl, Andrea Terron.

■ Observers:

Not Applicable

■ Others:

Not Applicable

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<sup>1</sup> 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>.

## **1. Welcome, apologies for absence and adoption of the draft agenda.**

The Chair of the Panel, Colin Ockleford, welcomed the participants.

Apologies were received from Theodorus Brock and Philippe Berny (15 December).

## **2. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## **3. Declarations of Interest of Scientific Committee/Scientific Panel/ Members**

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest<sup>3</sup>, 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 83<sup>rd</sup> Plenary meeting held on 09-10 November 2016, Parma (Italy).**

The minutes of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Plenary meeting held on 09-10 November 2016, were agreed on 20 December and published on the EFSA website.<sup>4</sup>

## **5. Report on the written procedures since the 83<sup>rd</sup> Plenary meeting**

No written procedure took place since the 83<sup>rd</sup> Plenary meeting.

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencypolicy.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/event/161109-m.pdf>

## **6. Scientific outputs submitted for discussion and/or possible adoption**

### **6.1 EFSA Guidance on Dermal Absorption ([EFSA-Q-2015-00633](#))**

The draft EFSA guidance on dermal absorption was circulated by the Secretariat on 20 November 2016 and a member of the Panel peer-reviewed the document. The provided comments were considered by the EFSA Working Group and a revised version was circulated on 13 December.

The Secretariat presented this last version. The Panel indicated that the term 'bioavailability' would be a more appropriate term than 'absorption' but noted that, in the context of dermal absorption quantification in experimental studies, described in the guidance, the terminology of the regulation was used in the draft guidance. The Panel endorsed the document in view of its publication for public consultation.

### **6.2 Scientific Opinion addressing the state of the science on in-soil risk assessment ([EFSA-Q-2011-00978](#))**

A draft opinion, as amended after the public consultation, was circulated by the Secretariat on 22 November 2016. This draft was commented by the members of the Panel and the comments were considered by the Working Group.

The last changes to the document were presented and the Panel adopted the opinion.

A technical report on the public consultation will be published with the Scientific Opinion.

### **6.3 Commission request for a scientific opinion on pesticides in foods for infants and young children ([EFSA-Q-2016-00702](#))**

The Panel established a Working Group. Following consultation with the Secretariat, the Chair of the Panel nominated Gerrit Wolterink and Thomas Kuhl as Chair and vice-Chair of the Working Group, respectively.

#### **6.4 Scientific Opinion investigating experimental toxicological properties of plant protection products having a potential link to Parkinson's disease and childhood leukaemia ([EFSA-Q-2014-00480](#))**

The Secretariat presented the outcome of the public consultation and a draft of the technical report containing the replies to the submitted comments. The Panel was informed that Pesticide Action Network published a report 'AOP - The Trojan horse for industry lobby tools?', but did not submit any specific comment on the draft of this Scientific Opinion during the public consultation.

A draft of the Scientific Opinion including the changes resulting from the public consultation had been circulated on 8 December 2016. The Chair of the Working Group proposed additional changes resulting from the last comments of members of the Panel. The Panel adopted the Scientific Opinion.

#### **6.5 Scientific opinion on the follow-up of the findings of the External Scientific report 'Literature review on epidemiological studies linking exposure to pesticides and health effects' (University of Ioannina Medical School, 2013) ([EFSA-Q-2014-00481](#))**

The Secretariat informed the Panel that the request to extend the deadline for adoption of the opinion until 1 July 2017 was accepted by EFSA.

#### **6.6 Scientific Opinion of the PPR Panel on the state of Toxicokinetic/Toxicodynamic (TK/TD) and Simple Food Chain effects modeling for regulatory risk assessment of pesticides for aquatic organisms ([EFSA-Q-2012-00960](#))**

The Chair of the Working Group informed the Panel on the outcome of the first meeting of the Working Group.

#### **6.7 Scientific Opinion on the state of the science on pesticide risk assessment for amphibians and reptiles ([EFSA-QN-2011-00985](#))**

The Chair of the Working Group informed the Panel on the outcome of the last meeting of the Working Group and on the progress of the draft opinion. A revised draft will be circulated in view of its endorsement by the Panel in January 2017 before the public consultation.

## **7. Feedback from the Scientific Committee/Scientific Panels, EFSA, the European Commission**

### **7.1 Update on the activities of the Scientific Committee**

The Chair informed the Panel on the outcome of the last meeting of the Scientific Committee which took place on 16 and 17 November 2016 as an open meeting, and in particular on the adoption of the guidance on the Benchmark Dose (BMD) approach in risk assessment.

## **8. Any other business**

The following was brought to the attention of the Panel:

- A grant agreement was signed between EFSA and a consortium led by BfR (Germany) on a 'Database of processing techniques and processing factors compatible with the EFSA food classification and description system FoodEx 2'.
- EFSA adopted Authorship guidelines for scientific outputs in September 2016.
- EFSA and ECHA will imminently publish their outline of the draft guidance document for the implementation of the hazard-based criteria to identify endocrine disruptors.
- A concern was expressed by Panel members to the Secretariat about the risk assessment and the level of protection for bats. This will be considered by the Pesticides Unit in the context of the request of the EU commission to revise the EFSA guidance on the risk assessment for birds and mammals.