

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

## Minutes of the 71<sup>st</sup> Plenary meeting

Held on 28 February – 02 March 2017, Parma (Italy)

(Agreed on 14 March 2017)

### Participants

#### Panel Members

Fernando Aguilar, Riccardo Crebelli,<sup>1</sup> Alessandro Di Domenico, Birgit Dusemund,<sup>2</sup> Maria José Frutos, Pierre Galtier, David Gott, Ursula Gundert-Remy, Claude Lambré, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Oliver Lindtner,<sup>3</sup> Peter Moldeus, Alicja Mortensen, Pasquale Mosesso, Dominique Parent-Massin, Ivan Stankovic, Ine Waalkens-Berendsen, Rudolf Antonius Woutersen, Matthew Wright, and Maged Younes.

#### European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Andreia Alvarez Porto (DG SANTE E2)

#### EFSA:

FIP Unit: Anna Christodoulidou, Federica Lodi, Adamantia Papaioannou, Fabiola Pizzo, Ana Maria Rincon, Claudia Roncancio Peña, Camilla Smeraldi, Alexandra Tard, Stavroula Tasiopoulou.

NUTRI Unit: Andrea Germini

DATA Unit: Andrea Altieri

LA Unit: Simone Gabbi

FIN Unit: Jürgen De Maggio

### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed all participants.

Apologies were received from Agneta Oskarsson.

### 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<sup>4</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest,<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Participated physically on 01 and 02 March 2017

<sup>2</sup> Participated via web-conference on 02 March 2017

<sup>3</sup> Participated physically on 28 February and 01 March 2017

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

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 70th Plenary meeting held on 24-26 January 2017, Parma (Italy)**

The minutes of the 70<sup>th</sup> Plenary meeting held on 24-26 January 2017 were agreed by written procedure on 07 February 2017.<sup>6</sup>

#### **5. Report on the written procedures since 70<sup>th</sup> 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 lecithins (E 322) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00500](#))**

The draft opinion on the re-evaluation of the safety of lecithins (E 322) was presented to the members of the ANS Panel together with the main points for discussion.

The ANS Panel discussed the different parts of the risk assessment and adopted the opinion, subject to incorporation of changes as suggested during the meeting.

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

##### **6.2. Re-evaluation of acacia gum (E 414) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00513](#))**

The draft opinion on the re-evaluation of the safety of acacia gum (E 414) was presented to the members of the ANS Panel together with the main points for discussion.

The ANS Panel discussed the different parts of the risk assessment and adopted the opinion, subject to incorporation of changes as suggested during the meeting.

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

##### **6.3. Re-evaluation of polyglycerol polyricinoleate (E 476) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00565](#)) and extension of use in emulsified sauces ([EFSA-Q-2016-00373](#))**

The draft opinion on the re-evaluation of the safety of polyglycerol polyricinoleate (E 476) combined with a proposed extension of use in emulsified sauces was presented to the members of the ANS Panel together with the main points for discussion.

The ANS Panel discussed the different parts of the risk assessment and adopted the opinion, subject to incorporation of changes as suggested during the meeting.

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

---

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/event/170124>

#### **6.4. Guidance on safety evaluation of sources of nutrients or other ingredients and bioavailability of nutrient or other ingredient from the sources ([EFSA-Q-2016-00150](#))**

Further to the discussion held at the last plenary meeting, the ANS Panel received an update on the feedback received from the NDA Panel on the draft document. The comments received during this initial consultation with the NDA Panel had been reviewed by the Working Group and taken into account in a revised document.

The Panel noted that with the adoption of Commission Regulation (EU) No 2017/228<sup>7</sup> on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2017, the evaluation of nutrient sources and other substances with physiological effects added to food will be transferred to the future Panel on nutrition, novel foods and food allergens as of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018. This change will be reflected in the background to this guidance and the self-task mandate will be updated accordingly. In the light of these changes in the remit of the Panels, the already established collaboration with NDA Panel on the drafting of this guidance will be further strengthened.

The draft guidance document was presented to the members of the ANS Panel together with the main points for discussion.

The ANS Panel suggested some revisions of the guidance before it can be transmitted for comments and presented again to the next plenary meeting of the NDA Panel in April 2017.

Feedback on this second round of consultation with the NDA Panel will be presented at a forthcoming meeting of the ANS Panel.

### **7. New Mandates**

The Secretariat informed the members of the ANS Panel that since the last plenary meeting, the following mandates were received by EFSA and allocated to the ANS Panel:

- M-2017-0042: Request for an opinion of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) as regards the extension of use of lycopene (E 160d) to certain meat preparations, meat products, and fruit and vegetable preparations ([EFSA-Q-2017-00098](#))
- M-2017-0041: Request for an opinion of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) as regards the safety of nisin (E 234) as a food additive in the light of new toxicological data and the proposed extension of use ([EFSA-Q-2017-00097](#))

The two mandates are currently under consideration by the Application Desk (APDESK) Unit of EFSA.

The Secretariat also informed the members of the ANS Panel about the following applications, considered valid since the previous meeting:

- M-2017-0005: Request for EFSA to perform a risk assessment and to provide a scientific opinion on the safety in use of curdlan as a food additive ([EFSA-Q-2017-00024](#))

---

<sup>7</sup> Commission Regulation (EU) 2017/228 of 9 February 2017 amending Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the names and the areas of competence of the scientific panels of the European Food Safety Authority. OJ L 35, 10.2.2017, p. 10–11.

- M-2016-0247: Request for EFSA to perform a risk assessment and to provide a scientific opinion on the safety in use of low-substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose (L-HPC) as a food additive ([EFSA-Q-2016-00843](#))

The ANS SWG on Applications has been tasked with the drafting of the scientific opinions.

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

### **8.1. Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels including their Working Groups**

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

The Chair of the Working Group presented an update on the status of the ongoing assessments.

#### **8.1.2. ANS SWG on Procedures under Article 8 of Regulation (EC) No 1925/2006**

The Working Group sought the view of the Panel with respect to the approach to be followed for the assessment of the substances, in the case of these being subject of earlier reviews/opinions issued by other scientific bodies. The Panel was of the view that previous assessments, when relevant to the safety issues that triggered the Article 8 procedures, should be used as starting points for the scientific opinions. Since these procedures are triggered by safety concerns of either the European Commission or the Member States, it is the interpretation of the Panel that, when addressing the mandate, the issue of concern should be addressed as a first instance.

#### **8.1.3. ANS WG on Carcinogenicity of sucralose**

A presentation was given to the Panel on the on-going assessment of a new study performed by the Ramazzini Institute on the carcinogenic potential of the food additive sucralose (E 955), and subject of the scientific opinion under preparation. The Working Group will further elaborate the scientific opinion at its coming meeting on 2-3 March 2017, for discussion and possible adoption by the ANS Panel in April 2017.

### **8.2. European Commission**

The EC representative briefly updated the Panel on some of the activities undertaken as a follow-up of opinions previously adopted by the Panel.

The Panel was also informed that EC will send new mandates for the assessment of proposed amendments of the specifications of the food additive steviol glycosides. EFSA is expected to provide scientific opinions addressing such mandates.

## **9. Other scientific topics for information and/or discussion**

### **9.1. Re-evaluation of potassium nitrite (E 249) and sodium nitrite (E 250) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00460](#)); ([EFSA-Q-2011-00461](#))**

As previously agreed, the draft scientific opinion has been shared with the EFSA CONTAM (Contaminants in the Food Chain) Panel and the EFSA Scientific Committee to gather comments on the cross-sectional issues. The ANS Panel was updated on

the comments received so far. More comments were expected in the coming days. On the basis of the comments received, the ANS Panel suggested some revisions of the opinion to be addressed by the WG on Nitrates and Nitrites before its foreseen presentation for adoption at its next plenary meeting. The WG will consider the comments and elaborate possible revisions of the draft if needed.

**9.2. Re-evaluation of sodium nitrate (E 251) and potassium nitrate (E 252) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00462](#)); ([EFSA-Q-2011-00463](#))**

As previously agreed, the draft scientific opinion has been shared with the EFSA CONTAM Panel and the EFSA Scientific Committee to gather comments on the cross-sectional issues. The ANS Panel was updated on the comments received so far. More comments were expected in the coming days. On the basis of the comments received, the ANS Panel suggested some revisions of the opinion to be addressed by the WG on Nitrates and Nitrites before its foreseen presentation for adoption at its next plenary meeting. The WG will consider the comments and elaborate possible revisions of the draft if needed.

**9.3. Re-evaluation of tragacanth (E 413) ([EFSA-Q-2011-00512](#))**

This agenda item could not be discussed due to lack of time.

**10. Any Other Business**

The Panel received a presentation on the updated Expert's compensation guide. Several questions were asked on the implementation of certain provisions that would require further clarification from EFSA.