



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 102ND PLENARY MEETING

**Held on 05-06 May 2020 via web conference
(Agreed on 13 May 2020)**

Participants

■ Panel Members:

Jacqueline Castenmiller, Stefaan de Henauw, Karen Ildico Hirsch-Ernst, John Kearney, Helle Katrine Knutsen, Alexandre Maciuk, Inge Mangelsdorf, Harry J. McArdle, Androniki Naska, Carmen Pelaez, Kristina Pentieva, Alfonso Siani, Frank Thies, Sophia Tsabouri, Dominique Turck (Chair) and Marco Vinceti.

■ Hearing Experts:

Not Applicable

■ European Commission:

Ivona Babic, Stella D'Amore, Panagiotis Daskaleros, and Rafael Pérez Berbejal (for items 5.1, 5.2 and 8.1)

■ EFSA:

NUTRI Unit: Valeriu Curtui, Agnès de Sesmaisons-Lecarré, Céline Dumas, Wolfgang Gelbmann, Andrea Germini, Leng Heng, Leonard Matijevic and Emanuela Turla.

AMU Unit: Elisa Aiasa, Laura Martino (for item 7)

■ Others:

Not Applicable



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted with changes in the order of items discussed.

3. Declarations of Interest of Scientific Panel members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Panel members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. The minutes of the 101st Plenary meeting held on 20-21 April 2020

The **minutes** of the 101st Plenary meeting held on 20-21 April 2020 were agreed by written procedure on 28 April 2020.

5. Scientific outputs submitted for discussion and/or possible adoption

5.1 Draft opinion on selenite triglycerides as novel food and source of selenium. *Applicant: BioSEL Sp. z o.o. (EFSA-Q-2015-00343)*

The draft opinion was presented. All sections of the opinion were discussed in detail and amended as appropriate. The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 06 May subject to the incorporation of editorial changes. The full text of the opinion will be available in the coming weeks in the EFSA Journal via the following link: <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/6134>

5.2 Draft opinion on phytosterol esters (extension of use, cooking oils) as a novel food ingredient. *Applicant: Upfield (EFSA-Q-2014-00865)*

The draft opinion was presented. All sections of the opinion were discussed in detail and amended as appropriate. The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 05 May subject to the incorporation of editorial changes. The full text of the opinion will be available in the coming weeks in the EFSA Journal via the following link: <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/6135>

6. New mandates

Postponed.

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



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

The Panel was informed about the ongoing activity carried out by the Scientific Committee (SC) Working Group to integrate and harmonise the approach regarding the setting of Health Based Guidance Values (HBGV), such as ADI and UL, for regulated products that are also nutrients. Some nutrients are also used in products subject to regulatory assessment, e.g. phosphates as additives, copper in pesticides and feed additives. An outline of the Terms of Reference, the key concepts and the proposed approach was presented and discussed. A consultation will take place with Panel/Unit. A draft Statement will be presented to the SC for possible endorsement for release for public consultation at its Plenary in June.

The Panel was given an overview of the draft framework for protocol development for EFSA's non-application scientific assessments, which was endorsed by the SC. The document defined a series of principles for the scientific assessment process (impartiality, methodological rigour, transparency and engagement) and developed a 4-step approach (plan/do/verify/report) to facilitate their fulfilment. The methods for the scientific assessment must be planned upfront in a protocol to prevent data-driven decisions and to increase rigour and transparency of the process. A pilot (implementation) phase will start for EFSA's non-application assessments, allowing the various Panels to test the framework and report back on the experience for possible further improvement of the document.

8. Other scientific topics for information and/or discussion

8.1. Draft opinion on the overall dietary exposure and safety assessment of heat-treated chia seeds (*Salvia hispanica* L.) as a novel food (EFSA-Q-2019-00254)

The Panel was informed about the status of the draft opinion, and in particular, about the information on process contaminants in heat-treated chia seeds retrieved from the literature and received from a public call for data. The draft opinion will be presented at the next WG NF meeting for further discussion and will be submitted to the Panel³ for possible endorsement for release for public consultation.

9. Any Other Business

The Panel discussed and shared lessons learned from the peer reviewing/reviewing process introduced prior to plenary meetings to improve the quality of outputs and facilitate the Panel discussions/adoption.

The next plenary meeting of the NDA Panel is scheduled on 11 June 2020 via web conference.

³ At the NDA Panel Plenary meeting scheduled on 11 June 2020.