



NUTRITION UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

## MINUTES OF THE 103<sup>RD</sup> PLENARY MEETING

**Held on 11 June 2020 via web conference  
(Agreed on 18 June 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:

Stella D'Amore, Panagiotis Daskaleros, and Rafael Pérez Berbejal

■ EFSA:

NUTRI Unit: Valeriu Curtui, Domenico Azzollini, Celine Dumas, Andrea Germini, Tilemachos Goumperis, Leng Heng, Leonard Matijevic, Ariane Titz and Ermolaos Ververis

■ 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 without changes.

## 3. Declarations of Interest of Scientific Panel members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>1</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>2</sup>, 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 102<sup>nd</sup> Plenary meeting held on 05-06 May 2020

The minutes of the 102<sup>nd</sup> Plenary meeting held on 05-06 May 2020 were agreed by written procedure on 13 May 2020.

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

### 5.1 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 draft opinion was presented. All sections of the opinion were discussed in detail and amended as appropriate. The opinion was endorsed by the Panel on 11 June subject to the incorporation of editorial changes. The opinion will be available in the coming weeks for public consultation which will last about 6 weeks. Finalisation of the opinion is expected in September 2020.

To provide comments, please consult the link to the public consultation:  
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/calls/consultations>

## 6. New mandates

A new mandate was received related to total diet replacement for weight control (TDR). The European Commission (EC) asks EFSA to assess the scientific evidence provided by Total Diet & Meal Replacements Europe together with any other relevant new scientific evidence available and, if necessary, to update the conclusions of the former Scientific Opinion on the essential composition of TDR as regards the minimum values for linoleic acid and alpha-linoleic acid as well as the maximum level of magnesium in TDR (EFSA-Q-2020-00260). For information on the mandate and the status, please refer to [EFSA Register of Questions](#).

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](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

Postponed.

## 8. Other scientific topics for information and/or discussion

### 8.1. Presentation “The protein content of insects & products thereof”

The Panel was informed about the discussions and approaches of the EFSA Working Group on Novel Foods on the matter. More specifically, the advances regarding the calculation of the protein in insects as presented by the recent scientific literature have been discussed, focusing on the limitations and challenges in the field, as well as to the pragmatic implementation of the various proposals.

## 9. Any Other Business

The Panel was informed about the withdrawal of the internal mandate tasked by EFSA to the NDA Panel for reviewing the scientific basis to derive the uncertainty factor to establish a health-based guidance value for copper ([EFSA-Q-2019-00385](#)). This is because of the overlap with the new mandate from EC to EFSA Scientific Committee to provide an opinion on an Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI) for copper that can be used as a reference value in managing copper-containing regulated products, and to perform a new estimation of copper intake from all sources of exposure, including pesticide residues ([EFSA-Q-2020-00399](#)). The work completed by the NDA Panel will be handed over to the Scientific Committee to be used in responding to this new mandate.

The Panel was briefed about the European Commission [Farm to Fork Strategy](#) for a fair, healthy and environmentally friendly food system.

The next plenary meeting of the NDA Panel is scheduled on 30 June – 01 July 2020 via web conference.