



NUTRITION UNIT

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

## MINUTES OF THE 105<sup>TH</sup> PLENARY MEETING

**Held on 31 August 2020 via web conference  
(Agreed on 04 September 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 and Stella D'Amore

■ EFSA:

NUTRI Unit: Valeriu Curtui, Lucien Ferreira, Wolfgang Gelbmann, Andrea Germini, Leng Heng, Leonard Matijevic and Silvia Valtueña Martinez

■ 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 104<sup>th</sup> Plenary meeting held on 30 June – 01 July 2020

The **minutes** of the 104<sup>th</sup> Plenary meeting held on 30 June – 01 July 2020 were agreed by written procedure on 07 July 2020.

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

### 5.1 Draft opinion on Schizochytrium sp. oil as a novel food (NF 2019/0983) - Applicant: Progress Biotech BV (EFSA-Q-2019-00306)

The draft opinion was presented. The Panel reviewed and discussed the sections regarding identity of the NF, composition, production process, specifications, proposed uses and use levels, anticipated daily intake, nutritional information, toxicology and allergenicity of the Novel Food. The opinion was adopted by the Panel on 31 August 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/6242>

### 5.2 Draft opinion on the safety of chia seeds (*Salvia hispanica* L.) subject to thermal processing in relation to the formation of process contaminants as a novel food for extended uses (EFSA-Q-2019-00254) and Outcome of public consultation (EFSA-Q-2020-00451)

The outcome of the public consultation<sup>3</sup> was presented, summarising the comment received and how it was addressed.

The draft technical report and the draft opinion were respectively endorsed and adopted by the Panel on 31 August, subject to the incorporation of editorial changes. The full text of both outputs will be available in the coming weeks in the EFSA Journal via the following links:

Opinion: <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/6243>

Technical report: <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/supporting/pub/en-1925>

<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)

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/consultations/call/pc-draft-opinion-thermal-processed-chia-seeds>



## 6. New mandates

Postponed. For information on the mandates and the status, please refer to [EFSA Register of Questions](#).

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

Postponed.

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

### 8.1 Draft opinion on dried fruits of *Synsepalum dulcificum* as a novel food - Applicant: Baia Food Co. (Medicinal Gardens S.L.) ([EFSA-Q-2018-01032](#))

The Panel was informed about the status of the draft opinion, and in particular, about the information on the production process, compositional data, stability, specifications, proposed uses and use levels, history of use and toxicology of the Novel Food.

Upon reception of the requested additional information from the applicant, the draft opinion will be presented at one of the upcoming WG NF meetings for further discussion.

## 9. Any Other Business

The Panel took note of the following:

- The need for setting a new working group (WG) on Alpha-lipoic acid for the mandate related to the safety of alpha-lipoic acid in food ([EFSA-Q-2020-00457](#)). Alexandre Maciuk has been appointed as the chair of the WG. The full composition of the WG, once established, will be published on the EFSA website.
- With reference to the mandate for a scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars ([EFSA-Q-2016-00414](#)), EFSA has agreed with the mandate requestors on a deadline extension. The draft opinion will be endorsed for public consultation by July 2021 and adopted in its final version during the NDA Plenary meeting of December 2021. It is also planned to hold a second stakeholders meeting during the public consultation.

The next plenary meeting of the NDA Panel is scheduled on 22 – 23 September 2020 via web conference.