



Scientific Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain

Minutes of the 109th Plenary meeting

Audio-web conference, 17 June 2020

(Agreed on 29 June 2020)

Participants

■ Panel Members:

Margherita Bignami, Laurent Bodin, Jesús Del Mazo, Christer Hogstrand, Ron Hoogenboom, Jean-Charles Leblanc, Elsa Nielsen, Evangelia Ntzani, Annette Petersen, Dieter Schrenk, Tanja Schwerdtle, Christiane Vleminckx and Heather Wallace.

■ Hearing Experts¹:

Not Applicable.

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Frans Verstraete (European Commission, DG Health and Food Safety, Unit E2).

■ EFSA:

BIOCONTAM Unit:

Katleen Baert, Marco Binaglia, Anna Christodoulidou, Federico Cruciani, Ernesto Liebana Criado, Karen Mackay, Luisa Ramos Bordajandi, Hans Steinkellner and Carina Wenger.

■ Observers:

NA

■ Others:

Not Applicable.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

¹ As defined in Article 17 of the Decision of the Executive Director concerning the selection of members of the Scientific Committee, the Scientific Panels, and the selection of external experts to assist EFSA with its scientific work: http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/expertselection.pdf

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Kevin Chipman, Bettina Grasl-Kraupp, Carlo Nebbia and Salomon Sand (CONTAM Panel), Marina Marini (European Commission, DG Health and Food Safety, unit D1) and Veerle Vanheusden (European Commission, DG Health and Food Safety, Unit E2).

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence² and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management³, 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. Agreement of the minutes of the 108th plenary meeting held on 11.06.2020

The minutes of the 108th Plenary meeting held on 11 June 2020 were not finalised and will be sent to the CONTAM Panel together with the minutes of this meeting and the 107th meeting.

5. Report on written procedures since the 108th plenary meeting held on 11.06.2020

A new request from the European Commission for a scientific opinion on the efficacy and safety of high pressure processing of food was distributed to the CONTAM Panel by written procedure on 15 June 2020. The Panel agreed with the approach proposed by EFSA and Annette Petersen agreed to join the WG on high pressure processing set up by the Panel on Biological Hazards.

6. Scientific outputs submitted for discussion and possible adoption

6.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the risks to human health related to the presence of perfluoroalkyl substances in food (EFSA-Q-2017-00549)⁴

The Chair of the WG on PFAS in food presented the draft public consultation report with the responses drafted by the WG to address several comments received during the public consultation of the opinion. The Panel agreed with the proposals of the WG and provided further advice in relation to possible

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

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

⁴ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2017-00549>

changes in the hazard characterization approach. The opinion will be presented for possible adoption at the 110th CONTAM Panel meeting in July 2020.

7. Any other business

Not applicable