



Scientific Panel on Food Contact Materials, Enzymes and Processing Aids (CEP)

MINUTES OF THE 16TH PLENARY MEETING

Held on 27-28 October 2020, by Teleconference

(Agreed on 09/11/2020)¹

Participants

■ Panel Members:

José Manuel Barat Baviera, Claudia Bolognesi, Andrew Chesson, Pier Sandro Cocconcelli, Riccardo Crebelli, David Michael Gott, Konrad Grob, Claude Lambré, Evgenia Lampi, Marcel Mengelers, Alicja Mortensen, Gilles Riviére, Vittorio Silano (Chair), Inger-Lise Steffensen, Christina Tlustos, Henk Van Loveren, Laurence Vernis and Holger Zorn

■ Hearing experts:

Ursula Gundert-Remy²

■ European Commission:

DG SANTE: Jonathan Briggs and Catherine Evrevin

■ EFSA:

Food Ingredients and Packaging (FIP) Unit: Jaime Aguilera, Zainab Al Harraq, Magdalena Andryszkiewicz, Eric Barthélémy, Cristina Croera, Fatima Den Ouden, Ana Gomes, Natalia Kovalkovicova, Alexandros Lioupis, Yi Liu, Simone Lunardi, Carla Martino³, Ivana Nikodinoska, Irene Nuin, Sandra Rainieri, Claudia Roncancio Peña, Stavroula Sampani and Katharina Volk

Scientific Committee Unit: Bernard Bottex² and Jean-Lou Dorne³

Data Unit: Sara Levorato³

AMU Unit: Fulvio Barizzzone² and José Cortinas Abrahantes²

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants in the meeting. Apologies were received from David Gott the first day and Andrew Chesson the second day from 10:00 to 12:30.

¹ Adopted by written procedure

² In agenda item 6.5 update on BPA re-evaluation

³ In agenda item 9 Other scientific topics for information and/or discussion



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 Independence⁴ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁵, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group 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 15th Plenary meeting held on 8-10 September 2020, Parma

The minutes of the 15th Plenary meeting held on 8-10 September 2020 were agreed by written procedure on 24th September 2020⁶.

5. Report on written procedures since 15th 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. Recycling process Severn Valley Polymers (Starlinger deCON) (EFSA-2019-00698)

The draft opinion on the safety assessment of the PET recycling process Severn Valley Polymers (Starlinger deCON) was presented to the members of the CEP Panel together with the main points for discussion. The CEP Panel discussed the different parts of the risk assessment and unanimously adopted the opinion, subject to incorporation of changes as suggested during the meeting.

6.2. Food enzyme dextranase from *Chaetomium gracile* (EFSA-2015-00231)

The draft opinion on the safety assessment of the food enzyme dextranase from *Chaetomium gracile* (renamed *Collariella gracilis*) was presented to the members of the CEP Panel together with the main points for discussion. The CEP Panel discussed the different parts of the risk assessment and unanimously adopted the opinion, subject to incorporation of changes as suggested during the meeting.

6.3. Food enzyme phospholipase A2 from a genetically modified strain of *Trichoderma reesei* (RF8793) (EFSA-2014-00411)

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁵ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

⁶ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/event/2020/13th-plenary-meeting-cep-panel-open-observers-minutes.pdf>



The draft opinion on the safety assessment of the food enzyme phospholipase A2 from a genetically modified strain of *Trichoderma reesei* (RF8793) was presented to the members of the CEP Panel together with the main points for discussion. The CEP Panel discussed the different parts of the risk assessment and unanimously adopted the opinion, subject to incorporation of changes as suggested during the meeting.

6.4. Food enzyme alpha-amylase from a genetically modified strain of *Bacillus licheniformis* (DP-Dzb45) (EFSA-2016-00143)

The draft opinion on the safety assessment of the food enzyme alpha-amylase from a genetically modified strain of *Bacillus licheniformis* (DP-Dzb45) was presented to the members of the CEP Panel together with the main points for discussion. The CEP Panel discussed the different parts of the risk assessment and unanimously adopted the opinion, subject to incorporation of changes as suggested during the meeting.

6.5. Update on Bisphenol A re-evaluation: Toxicokinetics and Weight of Evidence (EFSA-2016-00635)

With regard to the ongoing re-evaluation of the safety of Bisphenol A (BPA), the Chair of the WG provided an update of the revised methodological approach taken.

Discussion was held on the outcome of the assessment of the toxicokinetic studies on BPA published from 2013 till mid October 2018, developed by the WG, and the Panel provided indications on the way forward for its implementation in the opinion preparation.

An update on the weight of evidence approach and the criteria for the study selection for the Benchmark Dose-Response implemented in the BPA re-evaluation, was also given and discussed.

7. Feedback from the Scientific Committee/Panel(s), EFSA, European Commission

7.1. Scientific Committee/Panel(s) including their Working Groups

All the items discussed during the last Plenary of the Scientific Committee held by teleconference on 16-17 September 2020 were addressed by the Chair of the Panel.

7.2. EFSA including its Working Groups /Task Forces

7.2.1. CEP WG on Food Contact Materials

No additional issues were brought to the attention of the CEP Panel further to what is already recorded in the [minutes of the WG](#).

7.2.2. CEP WG on Recycling Plastic

No additional issues were brought to the attention of the CEP Panel further to what is already recorded in the [minutes of the WG](#).

7.2.3. CEP WG on Enzymes

No additional issues were brought to the attention of the CEP Panel further to what is already recorded in the [minutes of the WG](#).



7.2.4. CEP WG on the Update of the Guidance on Food Enzymes

No additional issues were brought to the attention of the CEP Panel further to what is already recorded in the [minutes of the WG](#).

7.2.5. CEP WG on BPA re-evaluation

No additional issues were brought to the attention of the CEP Panel further to what is already recorded in the [minutes of the WG](#).

7.3. EFSA

EFSA reported the impact of Covid-19 on food enzyme dossiers evaluation and the adjusted activities.

7.4. European Commission

Commission provided feedback on FCM, in particular on the status of: *i)* the amendment of the Regulation (EC) 282/2008 on recycled plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with foods and *ii)* the risk management that is following the opinion on styrene adopted in September 2020.

8. New mandates

8.1 New questions since the previous meeting

The following 10 new mandates have been received since the last Plenary meeting.

Food Sector	EFSA-Q-Number	Subject	Reception date
Food contact materials	EFSA-Q-2020-00561	Request for safety re-evaluation of ground sunflower seed hulls, FCM No 1060 for use as additive in plastics	14/08/2020
Food contact materials	EFSA-Q-2020-00560	Request for safety evaluation of the RCS Plastics recycling process (VACUNITE - EREMA basic and Polymetrix SSP V-leanN) to produce recycled plastic for food contact uses	19/08/2020
Food contact materials	EFSA-Q-2020-00554	Request for safety evaluation of the NOVAPET recycling process (Protec Process) to produce recycled plastic for food contact uses	06/08/2020
Food Hygiene	EFSA-Q-2020-00541	Request for a scientific opinion on the evaluation of the safety and efficacy of lactic acid to reduce microbiological surface contamination on carcasses from wild game and small stock	30/07/2020
Food contact materials	EFSA-Q-2020-00534	Request for safety evaluation of the Paccor Polska recycling process (KREYENBORG IR Clean +) for direct food contact application	27/07/2020
Food contact materials	EFSA-Q-2020-00526	Request for safety evaluation of rPET InWaste recycling process (NGR) to produce recycled plastic for food contact uses	24/07/2020



Food contact materials	EFSA-Q-2020-00519	Request for safety evaluation of Schwarz Produktion MEG Weißenfels recycling process (Starlinger HDPE) to produce recycled plastic for food contact uses	14/07/2020
Food contact materials	EFSA-Q-2020-00511	Request for safety evaluation of Schwarz Produktion MEG Weißenfels recycling process (Erema HDPE) to produce recycled plastic for food contact uses	14/07/2020
Food contact materials	EFSA-Q-2020-00458	Request for safety evaluation of Loop Polymer recycling process (Loop process) to produce recycled plastic for food contact uses	16/06/2020
Enzymes	EFSA-Q-2020-00456	Request for EFSA to perform a scientific risk assessment on the food enzyme maltogenic α -amylase produced by a genetically modified strain of <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> (strain M17906)	16/06/2020

8.2 Valid questions since the previous meeting

The following 11 questions have been considered valid for the start of the assessment since the last Plenary meeting.

Food Sector	EFSA-Q-Number	Subject	Reception date
Enzymes	EFSA-Q-2020-00456	Request for EFSA to perform a scientific risk assessment on the food enzyme maltogenic α -amylase produced by a genetically modified strain of <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> (strain M17906)	31/07/2020
Food contact materials	EFSA-Q-2020-00432	Request for safety evaluation of Martogg Group recycling process (EREMA advanced) to produce recycled plastic for food contact uses	11/08/2020
Food contact materials	EFSA-Q-2020-00418	Request for safety evaluation of PET Verpackungen Deutschland GmbH recycling process (EREMA basic and Polymetrix SSP leaN) to produce recycled plastic for food contact uses	11/08/2020
Food contact materials	EFSA-Q-2020-00357	Request for safety evaluation of the HIROYUKI INDUSTRIES (M) SDN BHD recycling process (Starlinger iV+) to produce recycled plastic for food contact uses	17/07/2020
Food contact materials	EFSA-Q-2020-00336	Request for safety evaluation of the RECICLADOS INDUSTRIALES DE PRAVIA S.L. (RECINPRA) recycling process (Starlinger iV+) to produce recycled plastic for food contact uses	20/07/2020
Food contact materials	EFSA-Q-2020-00334	Request for safety evaluation of the PET STAR RECYCLING SRL recycling process (Starlinger iV+) to produce recycled plastic for food contact uses	20/07/2020
Food contact materials	EFSA-Q-2020-00329	Request for safety evaluation of the DY Polymer recycling process (PET direct iV+) to produce recycled plastic for food contact uses	13/07/2020
Food contact materials	EFSA-Q-2020-00231	Request for safety evaluation of the deSter BVBA recycling process (deSter closed loop) to produce recycled plastic for food contact uses	10/07/2020



Food contact materials	EFSA-Q-2020-00129	Request for safety evaluation of the SGR Société Générale de Recyclage recycling process (POLYMETRIX V-LEAN)	27/07/2020
Food contact materials	EFSA-Q-2019-00488	Request for safety evaluation of the SGR Société Générale de Recyclage recycling process (EREMA Basic)	23/06/2020
Food contact materials	EFSA-Q-2019-00377	Request for safety evaluation of the SML Maschinengesellschaft recycling process (SML)	04/09/2020

9. Other scientific topics for information and/or discussion

Jean Lou Dorne from the Scientific Committee and Emerging Risk (SCER) unit presented the activities on "Risk Assessment of Combined Exposure to Multiple Chemicals: Methodological Development @ EFSA's Scientific Committee (SC)". In particular, the draft scientific opinion currently under development by the SC working group on "scientific criteria for grouping chemicals into assessment groups for human risk assessment of combined exposure to multiple chemicals" was presented. The draft scientific opinion explores harmonised and flexible methodologies to apply scientific criteria for grouping chemicals into assessment groups and prioritisation methods for human risk assessment of combined exposure to multiple chemicals. A framework is proposed to apply hazard-driven criteria for grouping chemicals into assessment groups using toxicity information (mode of action/adverse outcome pathways, specific effect on target organs or a common adverse outcome) as well as toxicokinetic data. The application of the hazard-driven criteria is performed using a weight of evidence approach. A framework for applying prioritisation methods using risk-based and exposure-driven approaches is also described in the document to identify low priority chemicals and reduce the number of chemicals in an assessment group.

The Working Group of the SC proposed to produce a guidance document instead of a scientific opinion to further support harmonisation of methodologies for grouping chemicals into assessment groups within EFSA panels and internationally. EFSA units and Panels are being consulted on this proposal.

10. Any Other business

Training was given on the use of Teams in EFSA work.